The FPSC's Interconnection and Net Metering Rule for Customer-Owned Renewable Generation Rule 25-6.065, Florida Administrative Code

The Commission amended its interconnection and net metering rule in April 2008. The rule previously applied to residential solar photovoltaics with capacity up to 10 kilowatts.

The amended rule requires the investor-owned electric utilities to offer standard interconnection agreements, an expedited interconnection process and net metering to all customers who own renewable generation systems.

Interconnection

All renewable energy technologies up to a capacity of 2,000 kilowatts are eligible under the rule.

The rule requires that nationally recognized safety standards be adhered to in the interconnection of renewable systems to the electric grid. Also, the rule provides explicit due dates for action by the utility and the customer to ensure that interconnection is achieved in an expedited manner.

Small systems (up to 10 kilowatts) are exempt from application fees, liability insurance coverage and other costs. Customers seeking to install larger systems are subject to these fees and obligations.

Net Metering

A customer primarily benefits from a renewable generation system by using the energy for their own purposes and reducing electricity purchases from the utility.

The rule provides the customer additional benefits through net metering. This requires any energy generated in excess of the customer's needs and delivered to the utility, to be credited to the next month's utility bill. This is done at the equivalent of the retail rate. At the end of the calendar year, any excess energy is credited on the bill at the utility's cost of producing energy (fuel).

The utility is responsible for installing, at their expense, any meters required to enable net metering of excess energy.

Other Provisions

The Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) associated with a customer's renewable generation will be retained by the customer.

All electric utilities, including munis and coops, are to report annually relevant information about interconnection and net metering activity.