

By Representative Crouse

1 **HB 2334** - H COMM AMDS **TTE ADOPTED 2-10-00**

2 By Committee on Technology, Telecommunications & Energy

3 On page 1, strike everything after the enacting clause and
4 insert the following:

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 80.60.010 and 1998 c 318 s 2 are each amended to read
6 as follows:

7 The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter
8 unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

9 (1) "Commission" means the utilities and transportation
10 commission.

11 (2) "Customer-generator" means a user of a net metering system.

12 (3) "Electrical company" means a company owned by investors that
13 meets the definition of RCW 80.04.010.

14 (4) "Electric cooperative" means a cooperative or association
15 organized under chapter 23.86 or 24.06 RCW.

16 (5) "Electric utility" means any electrical company, public
17 utility district, irrigation district, port district, electric
18 cooperative, or municipal electric utility that is engaged in the
19 business of distributing electricity to retail electric customers in
20 the state.

21 (6) "Irrigation district" means an irrigation district under
22 chapter 87.03 RCW.

23 (7) "Municipal electric utility" means a city or town that owns or
24 operates an electric utility authorized by chapter 35.92 RCW.

25 (8) "Net metering" means measuring the difference between the
26 electricity supplied by an electric utility and the electricity
27 generated by a customer-generator that is fed back to the electric
28 utility over the applicable billing period.

29 (9) "Net metering system" means a fuel cell or a facility for the
30 production of electrical energy that:

31 (a) Uses as its fuel either solar, wind, or hydropower;

1 (b) Has a generating capacity of not more than twenty-five
2 kilowatts;

3 (c) Is located on the customer-generator's premises;

4 (d) Operates in parallel with the electric utility's transmission
5 and distribution facilities; and

6 (e) Is intended primarily to offset part or all of the customer-
7 generator's requirements for electricity.

8 (10)"Port district" means a port district within which an
9 industrial development district has been established as authorized by
10 Title 53 RCW.

11 (11)"Public utility district" means a district authorized by
12 chapter 54.04 RCW.

13 **Sec. 2.** RCW 80.60.020 and c 318 s 3 are each amended to read as
14 follows: An electric utility:

15 (1) Shall offer to make net metering available to eligible
16 customers-generators on a first-come, first-served basis until the
17 cumulative generating capacity of net metering systems equals 0.1
18 percent of the utility's peak demand during 1996 of which not less than
19 .05 percent shall be attributable to net metering systems that use as
20 its fuel either solar, wind or hydropower;

21 (2) Shall allow net metering systems to be interconnected using a
22 standard kilowatt-hour meter capable of registering the flow of
23 electricity in two directions, unless the commission, in the case of an
24 electrical company, or the appropriate governing body, in the case of
25 other electric utilities, determines, after appropriate notice and
26 opportunity for comment:

27 (a) That the use of additional metering equipment to monitor the
28 flow of electricity in each direction is necessary and appropriate for
29 the interconnection of net metering systems, after taking into account
30 the benefits and costs of purchasing and installing additional metering
31 equipment; and

32 (b) How the cost of purchasing and installing an additional meter
33 is to be allocated between the customer-generator and the utility;

34 (3) Shall charge the customer-generator a minimum monthly fee that
35 is the same as other customers of the electric utility in the same rate
36 class, but shall not charge the customer-generator any additional
37 standby, capacity, interconnection, or other fee or charge unless the

1 commission, in the case of an electrical company, or the appropriate
2 governing body, in the case of other electric utilities, determines,
3 after appropriate notice and opportunity for comment that:

4 (a) The electric utility will incur direct costs associated with
5 interconnecting or administering net metering systems that exceed any
6 offsetting benefits associated with these systems; and

7 (b) Public policy is best served by imposing these costs on the
8 customer-generator rather than allocating these costs among the
9 utility's entire customer base.-

EFFECT: Fuel cells are added to the definition of net metering systems. In addition, the .1 percent available for net metering (cumulative generating capacity) is divided to allocate .05 percent to renewable net metering systems.