

SENATE BILL NO. 182—SENATOR SCHNEIDER

FEBRUARY 21, 2011

Referred to Committee on Commerce, Labor and Energy

SUMMARY—Makes various changes concerning renewable energy systems. (BDR 58-286)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.  
Effect on the State: Yes.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to renewable energy; revising certain provisions governing the Solar Thermal Systems Demonstration Program; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel’s Digest:**

1 **Section 1** of this bill revises provisions governing the Solar Thermal Systems  
2 Demonstration Program to remove the requirement that each solar thermal system  
3 have a meter or other measuring device installed. **Section 2** of this bill revises  
4 provisions governing the performance certifications which must be obtained to  
5 establish eligibility for a rebate from a utility under the Solar Thermal Systems  
6 Demonstration Program.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN  
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 **Section 1.** NRS 701B.336 is hereby amended to read as  
2 follows:  
3 701B.336 1. The Commission shall establish the Solar  
4 Thermal Systems Demonstration Program to carry out the intent of  
5 the Legislature to promote the installation of at least 3,000 solar  
6 thermal systems in homes, businesses, schools and other  
7 governmental buildings throughout this State by 2019.  
8 2. The Demonstration Program must have four categories of  
9 participants as follows:  
10 (a) School property;  
11 (b) Public and other property;



- 1 (c) Private residential property; and  
2 (d) Small business property.
- 3 3. To be eligible to participate in the Demonstration Program, a  
4 person must:
- 5 (a) Apply to a utility on a form prescribed by the Commission;  
6 (b) Meet the qualifications established pursuant to subsection 5  
7 and be approved by the utility;  
8 (c) When installing a solar thermal system, use an installer who  
9 has been issued ~~[a classification C-1 license with]~~ the appropriate  
10 ~~[subclassification]~~ **license** by the State Contractors' Board ;  
11 ~~[pursuant to the regulations adopted by the Board;]~~ and  
12 (d) If the person participates in the category of school property  
13 or public and other property, provide for the public display of the  
14 solar thermal system, including, without limitation, providing for  
15 public demonstrations of the solar thermal system and for hands-on  
16 experience of the solar thermal system by the public.
- 17 4. The utility shall notify each applicant who is approved to  
18 participate in the Demonstration Program not later than 10 days  
19 after the approval.
- 20 5. The Commission shall adopt regulations which must  
21 include, without limitation, provisions which:
- 22 (a) Establish the qualifications an applicant must meet to qualify  
23 to participate in the Demonstration Program.  
24 (b) Establish specifications for the design, installation, energy  
25 output and displacement standards of the solar thermal systems that  
26 qualify for the Demonstration Program.  
27 (c) Require that the components of any solar thermal system be  
28 new and unused.  
29 (d) Require that any solar thermal collector have a warranty  
30 against defects and undue degradation of not less than 10 years.  
31 (e) Require that a solar thermal system be installed in a building  
32 which is connected to the existing distribution system of a utility in  
33 this State.  
34 (f) ~~[Require that a solar thermal system have a meter or other~~  
35 ~~measuring device installed to monitor and measure the performance~~  
36 ~~of the system and the quantity of energy generated or displaced by~~  
37 ~~the system.~~  
38 ~~—(g)]~~ Require that a solar thermal system be installed in  
39 conformity with the manufacturer's specifications and all applicable  
40 codes and standards.  
41 ~~[(h)]~~ (g) Establish siting and installation requirements for solar  
42 thermal systems to ensure efficient and appropriate installation and  
43 to promote maximized performance of such systems.
- 44 6. As used in this section, "applicant" means a person who  
45 applies to the utility to participate in the Demonstration Program.



1     **Sec. 2.** NRS 701B.342 is hereby amended to read as follows:  
2     701B.342 1. The Commission shall adopt regulations  
3 establishing program milestones and a rebate program for a  
4 participant who installs a solar thermal system. The rebates provided  
5 by ~~[the Commission]~~ *a utility pursuant to this section* must:

- 6     (a) Decline over time as the program milestones are reached;  
7     (b) Be structured to reduce the cost of solar thermal systems;  
8 and  
9     (c) Be based on the actual energy savings or predicted energy  
10 savings of the solar thermal system as determined by the  
11 Commission.

12     2. The regulations must require that to be eligible for a rebate  
13 pursuant to the Demonstration Program, a solar thermal system must  
14 have received an *OG-100 or OG-300* performance certification from  
15 the Solar Rating and Certification Corporation ~~H~~ *or any other*  
16 *performance certification approved by the Commission.*

17     3. In determining the amount of the rebates provided through  
18 the Demonstration Program, the Commission shall consider any  
19 federal tax credits and other incentives available to participants.

20     **Sec. 3.** (Deleted by amendment.)

21     **Sec. 4.** (Deleted by amendment.)

22     **Sec. 5.** (Deleted by amendment.)

23     **Sec. 6.** (Deleted by amendment.)

24     **Sec. 7.** (Deleted by amendment.)

25     **Sec. 8.** (Deleted by amendment.)

26     **Sec. 9.** The Public Utilities Commission of Nevada shall adopt  
27 any regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of this act on  
28 or before December 31, 2011.

29     **Sec. 10.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2011.

