

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 30, 2023

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 9, 2023

SENATE BILL

No. 83

Introduced by Senator Wiener
(Coauthor: Assembly Member Wood)

January 13, 2023

An act to add Chapter 8.3 (commencing with Section 2845) to Part 2 of Division 1 of the Public Utilities Code, relating to public utilities.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 83, as amended, Wiener. Public utilities: electrical distribution grid: interconnection.

Existing law authorizes the Public Utilities Commission to establish an expedited distribution grid interconnection dispute resolution process with the goal of resolving disputes over interconnection applications within the jurisdiction of the commission in no more than 60 days from the time the dispute is formally brought to the commission.

This bill would require an electrical corporation to interconnect a development project with the electrical corporation's electrical distribution grid within 8 weeks of receiving a notification from a development project applicant that ~~a green tag, as defined, has been received by the development project applicant.~~ *the development project is interconnection ready, as defined. The bill would specify that this 8-week period does not apply if an issue specific to the development project or the project site arises that would prevent the electrical corporation from safely completing the interconnection within the 8-week time period and would require the electrical corporation to work with the development project applicant to establish an alternative time period.* The bill would require each electrical corporation to

annually report to the commission the number of applications for interconnection with the electrical corporation's distribution grid and the time period in which the electrical corporation interconnects the development project with its electrical distribution grid after the electrical corporation was notified that a green tag was received by the development project applicant. *was interconnection ready.* The bill would require ~~the commission to require~~ an electrical corporation to compensate a development project applicant for failing to meet the 8-week time period described ~~above.~~ *above or the alternative time period, as specified. The bill would require the commission to arbitrate any dispute related to the claim for compensation.*

Under existing law, a violation of an order, decision, rule, direction, demand, or requirement of the commission is a crime.

Because a violation of an order or decision of the commission implementing the above-described requirement would be a crime, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 8.3 (commencing with Section 2845) is
2 added to Part 2 of Division 1 of the Public Utilities Code, to read:

3

4 CHAPTER 8.3. ELECTRICAL DISTRIBUTION GRID

5

6 Article 1. General Provisions

7

8 2845. For purposes of this chapter, the following definitions
9 apply:

10 (a) "Development project" means a project for the construction
11 of a new structure or the modification of an existing structure.

12 ~~(b) "Green tag" means a confirmation by a governmental agency~~
13 ~~that all work and approvals necessary to facilitate the~~
14 ~~interconnection of a development project to the electrical~~

1 ~~distribution grid have been completed and received by a~~
2 ~~development project applicant.~~

3 (e)

4 (b) “Interconnect” means to physically connect a development
5 project to the electrical distribution grid of an electrical corporation,
6 including providing all work necessary to make the interconnection
7 effective.

8 (c) “Interconnection ready” means the phase in a development
9 project in which all critical dependencies, including all necessary
10 inspections, certifications, and permits needed for an
11 interconnection, have been completed and the project site is
12 accessible to an electrical corporation’s construction resources.

13 14 Article 2. Interconnection

15
16 2846. (a) Within eight weeks of receiving a notification from
17 a development project applicant that ~~a green tag is received~~, *the*
18 *development project is interconnection ready*, an electrical
19 corporation shall interconnect the development project with the
20 electrical corporation’s electrical distribution grid.

21 (b) *If, after a development project is interconnection ready, an*
22 *issue specific to the project or project site arises that would prevent*
23 *the electrical corporation from safely completing the*
24 *interconnection as required by subdivision (a), the electrical*
25 *corporation is exempt from the requirements of subdivision (a)*
26 *and shall work with the development project applicant to establish*
27 *an alternative time period.*

28 29 Article 3. Reporting and Enforcement

30
31 2847. Each electrical corporation shall annually report to the
32 commission the number of applications for interconnection with
33 the electrical corporation’s electrical distribution grid received in
34 the previous 12 months and the time period in which the electrical
35 corporation interconnects the development project with the
36 electrical distribution grid after receiving the notification specified
37 in Section 2846.

38 ~~2847.5. The commission shall require an~~ *An* electrical
39 corporation ~~to~~ *shall* compensate a development project applicant
40 for failing to meet the requirement ~~of Section 2846.~~ *of subdivision*

1 *(a) of Section 2846 or the alternative time period agreed to under*
2 *subdivision (b) of Section 2846 at a rate of twenty-five cents (\$0.25)*
3 *per square foot of the area covered by the development project*
4 *per day of delay if the development project applicant files a claim*
5 *for compensation with the electrical corporation. Compensation*
6 *paid pursuant to this section shall not be recovered from ratepayers.*
7 *The electrical corporation may dispute the claim for compensation*
8 *with the commission and the commission shall arbitrate the dispute.*

9 SEC. 2. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to
10 Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because
11 the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school
12 district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or
13 infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty
14 for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of
15 the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within
16 the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California
17 Constitution.