

APPENDIX II-B

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE BUDGET ASSISTANT
REQUEST FOR FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT (FIS)

FIS Number _____

Rule Number _____

1. Agency Name & Address

**Public Utilities Commission
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, New Hampshire 03301**

2. RSA Authority: RSA 362-A:9, XIV; 362-A:1-a, II-b;
362-F:10, IV (2013 N.H. Laws Ch. 266 (SB 98)).

3. Federal Authority: _____

4. Type of Action:

Adoption _____

Amendment _____

Repeal _____

Readoption _____

Readoption w/amendment _____

Interim rule X

5. Have the rules expired? Yes ___ No X

5. Short Title: **Puc 909 GROUP NET METERING**

6. Contact Person:

Name: **Michael Sheehan**
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Concord, NH 03301**

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or

**TTY/TDD Access: Relay
NH 1-800-735-2964 or dial 711
(in NH)**

Remember:

- (a) A copy of the proposed rule or an annotated copy of the amended rule must accompany this form. The annotated copy shall use [brackets] to indicate deleted material, and underlining for added material, or any other annotation style allowed in Section 5.4 in Chapter 4 of the Drafting and Procedure Manual for Administrative Rules.
- (b) If calculations are required in the preparation of this request, attach a worksheet showing the methodology.
- (c) This form may be replicated to expedite preparation.
- (d) Please allow 10 working days from the day of receipt for the Office of Legislative Budget Assistant to complete the fiscal impact statement. Additional information about this form is in Section 2.3 in Chapter 3 of the Drafting and Procedure Manual for Administrative Rules.

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(e) Please provide the following information and attach additional sheets if necessary:

(1) Summarize the rule.

This rule implements 2013 N.H. Laws Ch. 266 (SB 98), “An act authorizing group net metering for limited electrical energy producers,” by adopting new Puc 909 and by adding and amending definitions in Puc 902.

(2) Is the cost associated with this rule mandated by the rule or by state statute? If the cost is mandated by statute, then the rule itself may not have a cost or benefit associated with it. Please state either the statute or chapter law that is instigating this rule.

The possible financial costs associated with this rule are mandated by statute: “Group hosts shall be responsible for any costs necessary to upgrade a utility’s information systems in order to implement this paragraph, as determined by the commission.” RSA 362-A:9, XIV (d).

The recordkeeping and reporting requirements associated with this rule are also mandated by statute (although the details of those requirements are specified in these proposed interim rules): “The host shall provide a list of the group members to the commission ... all members of the group [shall] have executed an agreement ... the commission shall ... register the group. The commission shall establish the process for registering hosts, including periodic re-registration, and the process by which changes in membership are allowed and administered.” RSA 362-A:9, XIV(a). And, “the commission shall make an annual report” to legislative oversight committees including information “on net metered group host registrations and the associated customer groups, including number and location of group host facilities, generation by renewable source and size of facility, and group load served by such facilities.” RSA 362-F:10, IV.

Neither the financial costs or the recordkeeping and reporting requirements are mandated by these proposed rules.

(3) Compare the cost of the proposed rule with the cost of the existing rule, if there is an existing rule.

NA. There is no existing rule.

(4) Describe the costs and benefits to the state general fund which would result from this rule.

There are no costs or benefits to the general fund.

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- (5) Explain and cite the federal mandate for the proposed rule, if there is such a mandate. How would the mandate affect state funds?

There is no federal mandate for this proposed rule.

- (6) Describe the cost and benefits to any state special fund which would result.

There is no cost or benefit to any state special fund.

- (7) Describe the costs and benefits to the political subdivisions of the state.

There is no cost to the political subdivisions of the state. There may be benefits to political subdivisions of the state should a municipality or other governmental entity choose to take advantage of the energy savings intended by group net metering.

- (8) Describe the costs and benefits to the citizens of the state.

There are no costs to the citizens of the state except for those who choose to become group hosts who may be required to pay the “costs necessary to upgrade a utility’s information systems” as quoted above, and who will have certain recordkeeping and reporting obligations.

Those who take advantage of group net metering may benefit from lower energy costs.

The remaining citizens of the state may benefit by the increased use of renewable energy that this statute and rule are intended to encourage.

- (9) Describe the costs and benefits to any independently owned business, including a description of the specific reporting and recordkeeping requirements upon those employing fewer than 10 employees.

There are no costs to independently owned businesses unless they become a host. If such a business (of whatever size) becomes a host, it may incur the “costs necessary to upgrade a utility’s information systems,” as quoted above, and it will incur the reporting and recordkeeping requirements imposed on hosts . Hosts must collect information from its members, must complete the registration application, and must submit annual reports. If such a business (of whatever size) becomes a member, it must sign an agreement and provide the required information.

The benefits for independently owned business who become hosts or members are possibly lower energy costs.