

SB 65-FN - VERSION ADOPTED BY BOTH BODIES

03/06/2025 0738s
1May2025... 1594h

2025 SESSION

25-0966
06/05

SENATE BILL ***65-FN***

AN ACT relative to stormwater management for solar arrays.

SPONSORS: Sen. Pearl, Dist 17

COMMITTEE: Energy and Natural Resources

ANALYSIS

This bill exempts solar arrays from additional requirements not applicable to other types of development, requires a permit only if over 100,000 square feet of earthmoving or timber harvesting is involved, and renders unenforceable any contradictory administrative rules.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
 Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struckthrough]~~
 Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Five

AN ACT relative to stormwater management for solar arrays.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 1 Terrain Alteration; Rulemaking. RSA 485-A:17, II-a is repealed and reenacted to read as
2 follows:

3 II-a. By January 1, 2026, the department shall adopt rules to establish a permit by
4 notification for alteration of terrain that is limited to the installation of solar panels and related
5 structures if the generating capacity of the installed panels is less than or equal to 5 MW. These
6 rules shall exclude projects located within protected shore-land areas pursuant to RSA 483-B from
7 permit by notification and shall instead require such projects to undergo the standard alteration of
8 terrain permit review process. Until completion of such rulemaking, the department shall consider
9 waivers from the rules adopted pursuant to RSA 485-A:17, I, on a per case basis. Approval of such
10 waivers shall not unreasonably be withheld.

11 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

LBA
25-0966
5/13/25

SB 65-FN- FISCAL NOTE
AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE (AMENDMENT #2025-1594h)

AN ACT relative to stormwater management for solar arrays.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Office of Legislative Budget Assistant states this bill has no fiscal impact on state, county and local expenditures or revenue.

AGENCIES CONTACTED:

None