

HB-7616  
PUC  
Suggestion



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## STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

### Public Utilities Commission

Chairman Ronald T. Gerwatowski  
Commissioner Abigail Anthony  
Commissioner John C. Revens, Jr.

March 21, 2024

The Honorable Joseph J. Solomon, Jr.  
Chair, House Corporations Committee  
State House  
Providence, RI 02903

Re: House Bill 7616 – Renewable Ready Program

Dear Chair Solomon:

On behalf of the Public Utilities Commission (PUC), I am submitting the following comments on H-7616, which proposes to create a Renewable Ready Fund in the Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank to assist with interconnection costs for renewable energy development in certain locations.

The PUC notes that the Infrastructure Bank funding will be available to developers to use for costs assessed by the electric distribution company for interconnection costs. There are certain instances where a developer may be eligible for cost sharing with other customers/developers or reimbursement in the future (See R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-26.3-4.1(b)-(c)). The bill is silent on this and there should be some provision that such future reimbursement to the customer/developer be remitted back to the Renewable Ready Fund.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions at 401-780-2147 or [cynthia.wilsonfrias@puc.ri.gov](mailto:cynthia.wilsonfrias@puc.ri.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Cynthia G. Wilson-Frias".

Cynthia G. Wilson-Frias  
Chief of Legal Services

Copy: Representative Speakman