

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

Legislative Document

No. 1255

H.P. 855

House of Representatives, April 7, 2015

An Act To Improve Rural Utility Service through the Use of Microgrids

Reference to the Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative CAMPBELL of Orrington.
Cosponsored by Senator DILL of Penobscot and
Representatives: DUNPHY of Embden, HOBBS of Saco, Senators: DAVIS of Piscataquis,
HASKELL of Cumberland.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA c. 39-A** is enacted to read:

3 **CHAPTER 39-A**

4 **MICROGRIDS**

5 **§3951. Microgrids**

6 **1. Definitions.** As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the
7 following terms have the following meanings.

8 A. "Microgrid" means a group of interconnected electricity loads and electric
9 generation resources with clearly defined electrical boundaries that act as a single
10 controllable entity with respect to the electric grid and that can connect and
11 disconnect from the electric grid.

12 **2. Rules.** The commission shall adopt rules to regulate the creation and operation of
13 microgrids. Rules must include standards relating to the connection of microgrids to
14 transmission and distribution utilities. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are
15 major substantive rules as described in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

16 **3. Commission approval.** The commission shall approve a petition to operate a
17 microgrid if it finds the operation of the microgrid meets the requirements and standards
18 established in rules adopted pursuant to subsection 2.

19 **SUMMARY**

20 This bill creates a new chapter in the laws concerning public utilities for microgrids
21 and defines what constitutes a microgrid. It provides the Public Utilities Commission the
22 authority to adopt major substantive rules to regulate the creation and operation of
23 microgrids.