SCORECARD
IREC'S NATIONAL SHARED RENEWABLES SCORECARD

California Enhanced Community Renewables Program

IREC developed the National Shared Renewables Scorecard to provide policymakers, regulators, and other stakeholders with a tool for evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of state shared renewable energy programs. IREC graded ***California's Enhanced Community Renewables Program*** using the Scorecard's full criteria* and found that the program currently receives a **D-** because it **does not comport with numerous best practices necessary for program success**.

KEY	*One star (★) indicates an especially important criterion for a state program.* *Two stars (★★) indicate one of the most heavily weighted and critical criteria for program success.*

Category	Criterion	Description	Program Grade
General Program Details	Aggregate Capacity Limit	Does the program have an **unlimited aggregate capacity**?	✗
	Tracking & Reporting Requirements	★ Does the program specifically require the utility or other relevant entity to **collect and make publicly available data** regarding installed and queued capacity (e.g., via regularly updated public queue or annual public reports)?	✓
	Low- to Moderate-Income (LMI) Consumer Participation	★ Does the program have specific component(s) **to promote LMI customer participation** (e.g., capacity carve-out or target)?	✓
		Does the program **explicitly address financial barriers** faced by LMI participants (e.g., incentives or on-bill financing)?	✗
		Does the program have specific requirements regarding LMI customer **marketing, education and outreach?**	✓
Customers and Subscriptions	Eligibility	Are **all customer classes** eligible for the program?	✓
	Portability	★ Does the program explicitly permit **portability** (i.e., allows participants to move within the utility service territory and take their subscription with them)?	✓
	Transferability	★ Does the program explicitly permit **transferability** (i.e., allows participants to leave the program or service territory and transfer their subscriptions to others)?	✗
Generation Systems	System Capacity Limit	Is the system size limit **at least 5 megawatts** (MW)?	✓
	Siting Requirements	★★ Does the program allow **both on-site and off-site** facilities?	✓
		Can the facility and customers be **located anywhere** within the utility service territory?	✗
		Do the program rules explicitly address whether facilities can be **co-located**?	✗
	Ownership & Management	Are **third-party facility ownership** and **management** permitted?	✓
Bill Credits	Valuation	★★ Is the bill credit valuation (whether embedded cost, value-based or other) **above the short-term avoided energy cost rate** for the utility?	✗
		★ Is the valuation methodology **clearly articulated** in the statute, rule and/or tariff?	✗
	Unsubscribed Generation	Is **unsubscribed generation** clearly treated and valued at least at an avoided cost rate?	✓
Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)	Subscribed RECs	Are **subscribed RECs** clearly treated?	✓
	Unsubscribed RECs	Are **unsubscribed RECs** clearly treated?	✓
		State Program Grade:	***D-***

Program Strengths

- ✓ Allows shared renewable energy facilities to be located either on-site or off-site.
- ✓ Explicitly permits customers to keep their subscriptions if they move within the same utility's service territory.
- ✓ Promotes LMI customer participation via a 100 MW capacity carve-out (20% of program capacity) for disadvantaged communities.

Opportunities for Improvement

- ➢ ***Increase the credit rate for customers' share of facility output to ensure it is above the short-term avoided energy cost rate for the utility.*** This is one of the most heavily weighted and critical criteria for program success. Under the current program, customers only receive bill credits based on the class average generation rate.
- ➢ ***Clarify the valuation methodology to ensure that it is clearly articulated and easy to understand.*** The current program's language regarding valuation methodology is unclear, and one must look to tariffs/rates for a fuller understanding.
- ➢ ***Explicitly allow a customer's subscription to be transferred to another customer or back to the subscription organization.*** Transferability is not specified within the current regulations.
- ➢ ***Allow the facility and customers to be located anywhere within the utility service territory.*** Currently, the facility must be located in the same municipality or county as subscribers or within 10 miles of subscribers.

**Note: The criteria above are a subset of the full criteria used to arrive at the state grades, but reflect the most substantial program design components. For more information about the Scorecard, including the full criteria applied to grade state programs and definitions for many of the terms within the criteria, see https://sharedrenewablesscorecard.org/.*

May 2017

SCORECARD
IREC'S NATIONAL SHARED RENEWABLES SCORECARD

California Virtual Net Metering Program

IREC developed the National Shared Renewables Scorecard to provide policymakers, regulators, and other stakeholders with a tool for evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of state shared renewable energy programs. IREC graded ***California's Virtual Net Metering Program*** using the Scorecard's full criteria* and found that the program currently receives a **C+** because it **lacks many of the key components necessary for program success**.

KEY	*One star (★) indicates an especially important criterion for a state program.* *Two stars (★★) indicate one of the most heavily weighted and critical criteria for program success.*

Category	Criterion	Description	Program Grade
General Program Details	Aggregate Capacity Limit	Does the program have an **unlimited aggregate capacity**?	✓
	Tracking & Reporting Requirements	★ Does the program specifically require the utility or other relevant entity to **collect and make publicly available data** regarding installed and queued capacity (e.g., via regularly updated public queue or annual public reports)?	✓
	Low- to Moderate-Income (LMI) Consumer Participation	★ Does the program have specific component(s) **to promote LMI customer participation** (e.g., capacity carve-out or target)?	✓
		Does the program **explicitly address financial barriers** faced by LMI participants (e.g., incentives or on-bill financing)?	✓
		Does the program have specific requirements regarding LMI customer **marketing, education and outreach?**	✓
Customers and Subscriptions	Eligibility	Are **all customer classes** eligible for the program?	✓
	Portability	★ Does the program explicitly permit **portability** (i.e., allows participants to move within the utility service territory and take their subscription with them)?	✗
	Transferability	★ Does the program explicitly permit **transferability** (i.e., allows participants to leave the program or service territory and transfer their subscriptions to others)?	✓
Generation Systems	System Capacity Limit	Is the system size limit **at least 5 megawatts** (MW)?	✓
	Siting Requirements	★★ Does the program allow **both on-site and off-site** facilities?	✗
		Can the facility and customers be **located anywhere** within the utility service territory?	✗
		Do the program rules explicitly address whether facilities can be **co-located**?	✗
	Ownership & Management	Are **third-party facility ownership** and **management** permitted?	✓
Bill Credits	Valuation	★★ Is the bill credit valuation (whether embedded cost, value-based or other) **above the short-term avoided energy cost rate** for the utility?	✓
		★ Is the valuation methodology **clearly articulated** in the statute, rule and/or tariff?	✓
	Unsubscribed Generation	Is **unsubscribed generation** clearly treated and valued at least at an avoided cost rate?	✓
Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)	Subscribed RECs	Are **subscribed RECs** clearly treated?	✓
	Unsubscribed RECs	Are **unsubscribed RECs** clearly treated?	✓
		State Program Grade:	***C+***

Program Strengths

- ✓ ***Values shared renewable energy generation at the retail rate minus non-bypassable charges, which is above the short-term avoided energy cost rate for the utility.*** This is one of the most heavily weighted, critical criteria for program success.
- ✓ Clearly articulates the valuation methodology.
- ✓ Promotes expanded access to low- to moderate-income customers, with components addressing financial barriers and requirements related to LMI customer marketing, education and outreach.
- ✓ Explicitly allows customer subscriptions to be transferred to another customer or back to the subscription organization.

Opportunities for Improvement

- ➢ ***Allow the facility to be located either on- or off-site***. The current rules state that facilities must be located on-site. This is one of the most heavily weighted and critical criteria for program success.
- ➢ ***Explicitly permit customer subscriptions to be moved with the customer within a utility's service territory***. Portability is not specified within the current rules.
- ➢ ***Allow the facility and customers to be located anywhere within the utility service territory***. Under the current program, the facility and subscribers must be located on same multi-tenant or multi-meter property.

**Note: The criteria above are a subset of the full criteria used to arrive at the state grades, but reflect the most substantial program design components. For more information about the Scorecard, including the full criteria applied to grade state programs and definitions for many of the terms within the criteria, see https://sharedrenewablesscorecard.org/.*

May 2017

SCORECARD
IREC'S NATIONAL SHARED RENEWABLES SCORECARD

Colorado Community Solar Gardens Program

IREC developed the National Shared Renewables Scorecard to provide policymakers, regulators, and other stakeholders with a tool for evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of state shared renewable energy programs. IREC graded ***Colorado's Community Solar Gardens Program*** using the Scorecard's full criteria* and found that the program currently receives a **B+** because it **reflects many shared renewables best practices,** offering a solid foundation for shared renewable energy development.

KEY	*One star (★) indicates an especially important criterion for a state program.* *Two stars (★★) indicate one of the most heavily weighted and critical criteria for program success.*

Category	Criterion	Description	Program Grade
General Program Details	Aggregate Capacity Limit	Does the program have an **unlimited aggregate capacity**?	✗
	Tracking & Reporting Requirements	★ Does the program specifically require the utility or other relevant entity to **collect and make publicly available data** regarding installed and queued capacity (e.g., via regularly updated public queue or annual public reports)?	✓
	Low- to Moderate-Income (LMI) Consumer Participation	★ Does the program have specific component(s) **to promote LMI customer participation** (e.g., capacity carve-out or target)?	✓
		Does the program **explicitly address financial barriers** faced by LMI participants (e.g., incentives or on-bill financing)?	✗
		Does the program have specific requirements regarding LMI customer **marketing, education and outreach?**	✗
Customers and Subscriptions	Eligibility	Are **all customer classes** eligible for the program?	✓
	Portability	★ Does the program explicitly permit **portability** (i.e., allows participants to move within the utility service territory and take their subscription with them)?	✓
	Transferability	★ Does the program explicitly permit **transferability** (i.e., allows participants to leave the program or service territory and transfer their subscriptions to others)?	✓
Generation Systems	System Capacity Limit	Is the system size limit **at least 5 megawatts** (MW)?	✗
	Siting Requirements	★★ Does the program allow **both on-site and off-site** facilities?	✓
		Can the facility and customers be **located anywhere** within the utility service territory?	✗
		Do the program rules explicitly address whether facilities can be **co-located**?	✓
	Ownership & Management	Are **third-party facility ownership** and **management** permitted?	✓
Bill Credits	Valuation	★★ Is the bill credit valuation (whether embedded cost, value-based or other) **above the short-term avoided energy cost rate** for the utility?	✓
		★ Is the valuation methodology **clearly articulated** in the statute, rule and/or tariff?	✓
	Unsubscribed Generation	Is **unsubscribed generation** clearly treated and valued at least at an avoided cost rate?	✓
Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)	Subscribed RECs	Are **subscribed RECs** clearly treated?	✓
	Unsubscribed RECs	Are **unsubscribed RECs** clearly treated?	✓
		State Program Grade:	***B+***

Program Strengths

- ✓ ***Values shared renewable energy generation at the "Total Aggregate Retail Rate," which is above the short-term avoided energy cost rate for the utility.*** This is one of the most heavily weighted and critical criteria for program success.
- ✓ Clearly articulates the valuation methodology in the statute, rules, and tariff.
- ✓ ***Allows shared renewable energy facilities to be located either on-site or off-site.*** This is another heavily weighted criterion.
- ✓ Explicitly permits customer subscriptions to be moved with the customer within a utility's service territory, as well as transferred to another customer or back to the subscription organization.

Opportunities for Improvement

- ➢ ***Increase the system size limit to at least 5 megawatts***. Currently, the system capacity limit is 2 megawatts.
- ➢ ***Add provisions to expand access to low- to moderate-income customers, such as a financing component or requirements related to LMI customer marketing, education and outreach.*** The program does not currently have such components.
- ➢ ***Allow the facility and customers to be located anywhere within the utility service territory***. Currently, the facility must be located in the same municipality or county as subscribers, within some exceptions.

**Note: The criteria above are a subset of the full criteria used to arrive at the state grades, but reflect the most substantial program design components. For more information about the Scorecard, including the full criteria applied to grade state programs and definitions for many of the terms within the criteria, see https://sharedrenewablesscorecard.org/.*

May 2017

SCORECARD
IREC'S NATIONAL SHARED RENEWABLES SCORECARD

Connecticut Virtual Net Metering Program

IREC developed the National Shared Renewables Scorecard to provide policymakers, regulators, and other stakeholders with a tool for evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of state shared renewable energy programs. IREC graded ***Connecticut's Virtual Net Metering Program*** using the Scorecard's full criteria* and found that the program currently receives a **C** because it **lacks many of the key components necessary for program success**.

KEY	*One star (★) indicates an especially important criterion for a state program.* *Two stars (★★) indicate one of the most heavily weighted and critical criteria for program success.*

Category	Criterion	Description	Program Grade
General Program Details	Aggregate Capacity Limit	Does the program have an **unlimited aggregate capacity**?	✗
	Tracking & Reporting Requirements	★ Does the program specifically require the utility or other relevant entity to **collect and make publicly available data** regarding installed and queued capacity (e.g., via regularly updated public queue or annual public reports)?	✗
	Low- to Moderate-Income (LMI) Consumer Participation	★ Does the program have specific component(s) **to promote LMI customer participation** (e.g., capacity carve-out or target)?	✗
		Does the program **explicitly address financial barriers** faced by LMI participants (e.g., incentives or on-bill financing)?	✗
		Does the program have specific requirements regarding LMI customer **marketing, education and outreach?**	✗
Customers and Subscriptions	Eligibility	Are **all customer classes** eligible for the program?	✗
	Portability	★ Does the program explicitly permit **portability** (i.e., allows participants to move within the utility service territory and take their subscription with them)?	✗
	Transferability	★ Does the program explicitly permit **transferability** (i.e., allows participants to leave the program or service territory and transfer their subscriptions to others)?	✓
Generation Systems	System Capacity Limit	Is the system size limit **at least 5 megawatts** (MW)?	✗
	Siting Requirements	★★ Does the program allow **both on-site and off-site** facilities?	✓
		Can the facility and customers be **located anywhere** within the utility service territory?	✓
		Do the program rules explicitly address whether facilities can be **co-located**?	✗
	Ownership & Management	Are **third-party facility ownership** and **management** permitted?	✓
Bill Credits	Valuation	★★ Is the bill credit valuation (whether embedded cost, value-based or other) **above the short-term avoided energy cost rate** for the utility?	✓
		★ Is the valuation methodology **clearly articulated** in the statute, rule and/or tariff?	✓
	Unsubscribed Generation	Is **unsubscribed generation** clearly treated and valued at least at an avoided cost rate?	✓
Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)	Subscribed RECs	Are **subscribed RECs** clearly treated?	✗
	Unsubscribed RECs	Are **unsubscribed RECs** clearly treated?	✗
		State Program Grade:	***C***

Program Strengths

- ✓ ***Values shared renewable energy generation at a rate above the short-term avoided energy cost rate for the utility.*** This is one of the most heavily weighted, critical criteria for program success.
- ✓ ***Allows shared renewable energy facilities to be located either on-site or off-site.*** This is another heavily weighted criterion.
- ✓ Explicitly permits customers to transfer their subscriptions if they leave the program or service territory.

Opportunities for Improvement

- ➢ ***Add specific components to promote access for low- to moderate-income customer participation, including components related to financing, marketing, education or outreach.*** The current program does not have any such components.
- ➢ ***Add specific tracking and reporting requirements for data regarding installed and queued capacity.*** The current program does not require the utility or other relevant entity to collect and make publicly available such data.
- ➢ ***Increase the system size limit to at least 5 megawatts.*** Currently, the system capacity limit is 3 megawatts.
- ➢ ***Explicitly permit customers to keep their subscriptions if they move within the same utility's service territory.*** Portability is not addressed in the current rules.

**Note: The criteria above are a subset of the full criteria used to arrive at the state grades, but reflect the most substantial program design components. For more information about the Scorecard, including the full criteria applied to grade state programs and definitions for many of the terms within the criteria, see https://sharedrenewablesscorecard.org/.*

May 2017

SCORECARD
IREC'S NATIONAL SHARED RENEWABLES SCORECARD

Delaware Community Net Metering Program

IREC developed the National Shared Renewables Scorecard to provide policymakers, regulators, and other stakeholders with a tool for evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of state shared renewable energy programs. IREC graded ***Delaware's Community Net Metering Program*** using the Scorecard's full criteria* and found that the program currently receives a **B** because it **reflects many shared renewables best practices,** offering a solid foundation for shared renewable energy development.

KEY	*One star (★) indicates an especially important criterion for a state program.* *Two stars (★★) indicate one of the most heavily weighted and critical criteria for program success.*

Category	Criterion	Description	Program Grade
General Program Details	Aggregate Capacity Limit	Does the program have an **unlimited aggregate capacity**?	✗
	Tracking & Reporting Requirements	★ Does the program specifically require the utility or other relevant entity to **collect and make publicly available data** regarding installed and queued capacity (e.g., via regularly updated public queue or annual public reports)?	✓
	Low- to Moderate-Income (LMI) Consumer Participation	★ Does the program have specific component(s) **to promote LMI customer participation** (e.g., capacity carve-out or target)?	✗
		Does the program **explicitly address financial barriers** faced by LMI participants (e.g., incentives or on-bill financing)?	✗
		Does the program have specific requirements regarding LMI customer **marketing, education and outreach?**	✗
Customers and Subscriptions	Eligibility	Are **all customer classes** eligible for the program?	✓
	Portability	★ Does the program explicitly permit **portability** (i.e., allows participants to move within the utility service territory and take their subscription with them)?	✗
	Transferability	★ Does the program explicitly permit **transferability** (i.e., allows participants to leave the program or service territory and transfer their subscriptions to others)?	✓
Generation Systems	System Capacity Limit	Is the system size limit **at least 5 megawatts** (MW)?	✗
	Siting Requirements	★★ Does the program allow **both on-site and off-site** facilities?	✓
		Can the facility and customers be **located anywhere** within the utility service territory?	✓
		Do the program rules explicitly address whether facilities can be **co-located**?	✗
	Ownership & Management	Are **third-party facility ownership** and **management** permitted?	✓
Bill Credits	Valuation	★★ Is the bill credit valuation (whether embedded cost, value-based or other) **above the short-term avoided energy cost rate** for the utility?	✓
		★ Is the valuation methodology **clearly articulated** in the statute, rule and/or tariff?	✓
	Unsubscribed Generation	Is **unsubscribed generation** clearly treated and valued at least at an avoided cost rate?	✗
Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)	Subscribed RECs	Are **subscribed RECs** clearly treated?	✓
	Unsubscribed RECs	Are **unsubscribed RECs** clearly treated?	✗
		State Program Grade:	***B***

Program Strengths

- ✓ ***Values shared renewable energy generation at a rate above the short-term avoided energy cost rate for the utility.*** This is one of the most heavily weighted, critical criteria for program success.
- ✓ Clearly articulates the valuation methodology.
- ✓ ***Allows shared renewable energy facilities to be located either on-site or off-site.*** This is another heavily weighted criterion.
- ✓ Explicitly permits customers to transfer their subscriptions if they leave the program or service territory.

Opportunities for Improvement

- ➢ ***Add specific components to promote access for low- to moderate-income customer participation.*** The current program does not have any such components.
- ➢ ***Explicitly permit customers to keep their subscriptions if they move within the same utility's service territory.*** Portability is not addressed in the current rules.
- ➢ ***Increase the system size limit to at least 5 megawatts.*** Currently, the system capacity limit varies by customer but the maximum limit is 2 megawatts.

**Note: The criteria above are a subset of the full criteria used to arrive at the state grades, but reflect the most substantial program design components. For more information about the Scorecard, including the full criteria applied to grade state programs and definitions for many of the terms within the criteria, see https://sharedrenewablesscorecard.org/.*

May 2017

SCORECARD
IREC'S NATIONAL SHARED RENEWABLES SCORECARD

District of Columbia Community Renewable Energy Facilities Program

IREC developed the National Shared Renewables Scorecard to provide policymakers, regulators, and other stakeholders with a tool for evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of state shared renewable energy programs. IREC graded the ***District of Columbia's Community Renewable Energy Facilities Program*** using the Scorecard's full criteria* and found that the program currently receives an **A** because it **incorporates the majority of shared renewables best practices**, offering a strong foundation for shared renewable energy development.

KEY	*One star (★) indicates an especially important criterion for a state program.* *Two stars (★★) indicate one of the most heavily weighted and critical criteria for program success.*

Category	Criterion	Description	Program Grade
General Program Details	Aggregate Capacity Limit	Does the program have an **unlimited aggregate capacity**?	✓
	Tracking & Reporting Requirements	★ Does the program specifically require the utility or other relevant entity to **collect and make publicly available data** regarding installed and queued capacity (e.g., via regularly updated public queue or annual public reports)?	✓
	Low- to Moderate-Income (LMI) Consumer Participation	★ Does the program have specific component(s) **to promote LMI customer participation** (e.g., capacity carve-out or target)?	✗
		Does the program **explicitly address financial barriers** faced by LMI participants (e.g., incentives or on-bill financing)?	✗
		Does the program have specific requirements regarding LMI customer **marketing, education and outreach?**	✗
Customers and Subscriptions	Eligibility	Are **all customer classes** eligible for the program?	✓
	Portability	★ Does the program explicitly permit **portability** (i.e., allows participants to move within the utility service territory and take their subscription with them)?	✓
	Transferability	★ Does the program explicitly permit **transferability** (i.e., allows participants to leave the program or service territory and transfer their subscriptions to others)?	✓
Generation Systems	System Capacity Limit	Is the system size limit **at least 5 megawatts** (MW)?	✓
	Siting Requirements	★★ Does the program allow **both on-site and off-site** facilities?	✓
		Can the facility and customers be **located anywhere** within the utility service territory?	✓
		Do the program rules explicitly address whether facilities can be **co-located**?	✗
	Ownership & Management	Are **third-party facility ownership** and **management** permitted?	✓
Bill Credits	Valuation	★★ Is the bill credit valuation (whether embedded cost, value-based or other) **above the short-term avoided energy cost rate** for the utility?	✓
		★ Is the valuation methodology **clearly articulated** in the statute, rule and/or tariff?	✓
	Unsubscribed Generation	Is **unsubscribed generation** clearly treated and valued at least at an avoided cost rate?	✓
Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)	Subscribed RECs	Are **subscribed RECs** clearly treated?	✓
	Unsubscribed RECs	Are **unsubscribed RECs** clearly treated?	✓
		State Program Grade:	***A***

Program Strengths

- ✓ ***Values shared renewable energy generation at a rate that is above the short-term avoided energy cost rate for the utility.*** This is one of the most heavily weighted, critical criteria for program success.
- ✓ ***Allows shared renewable energy facilities to be located either on-site or off-site.*** This is another heavily weighted criterion.
- ✓ Explicitly permits customer subscriptions to be moved with the customer within a utility's service territory, as well as transferred to another customer or back to the subscription organization.
- ✓ Requires utility to submit biannual reports to the Commission on installed capacity and other information.

Opportunities for Improvement

- ➢ ***Add specific components to promote access for low- to moderate-income customer participation, including components related to financing, marketing, education or outreach.*** The current program does not have any such components.
- ➢ ***Explicitly address whether facilities can be co-located.*** Co-location is not addressed in the current rules.

**Note: The criteria above are a subset of the full criteria used to arrive at the state grades, but reflect the most substantial program design components. For more information about the Scorecard, including the full criteria applied to grade state programs and definitions for many of the terms within the criteria, see https://sharedrenewablesscorecard.org/.*

May 2017

SCORECARD
IREC'S NATIONAL SHARED RENEWABLES SCORECARD

Maine Community Net Metering Program

IREC developed the National Shared Renewables Scorecard to provide policymakers, regulators, and other stakeholders with a tool for evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of state shared renewable energy programs. IREC graded ***Maine's Community Net Metering Program*** using the Scorecard's full criteria* and found that the program currently receives a **C+** because it **lacks many of the key components necessary for program success**.

KEY	*One star (★) indicates an especially important criterion for a state program.* *Two stars (★★) indicate one of the most heavily weighted and critical criteria for program success.*

Category	Criterion	Description	Program Grade
General Program Details	Aggregate Capacity Limit	Does the program have an **unlimited aggregate capacity**?	✓
	Tracking & Reporting Requirements	★ Does the program specifically require the utility or other relevant entity to **collect and make publicly available data** regarding installed and queued capacity (e.g., via regularly updated public queue or annual public reports)?	✓
	Low- to Moderate-Income (LMI) Consumer Participation	★ Does the program have specific component(s) **to promote LMI customer participation** (e.g., capacity carve-out or target)?	✗
		Does the program **explicitly address financial barriers** faced by LMI participants (e.g., incentives or on-bill financing)?	✗
		Does the program have specific requirements regarding LMI customer **marketing, education and outreach?**	✗
Customers and Subscriptions	Eligibility	Are **all customer classes** eligible for the program?	✓
	Portability	★ Does the program explicitly permit **portability** (i.e., allows participants to move within the utility service territory and take their subscription with them)?	✗
	Transferability	★ Does the program explicitly permit **transferability** (i.e., allows participants to leave the program or service territory and transfer their subscriptions to others)?	✓
Generation Systems	System Capacity Limit	Is the system size limit **at least 5 megawatts** (MW)?	✗
	Siting Requirements	★★ Does the program allow **both on-site and off-site** facilities?	✓
		Can the facility and customers be **located anywhere** within the utility service territory?	✓
		Do the program rules explicitly address whether facilities can be **co-located**?	✗
	Ownership & Management	Are **third-party facility ownership** and **management** permitted?	✓
Bill Credits	Valuation	★★ Is the bill credit valuation (whether embedded cost, value-based or other) **above the short-term avoided energy cost rate** for the utility?	✓
		★ Is the valuation methodology **clearly articulated** in the statute, rule and/or tariff?	✓
	Unsubscribed Generation	Is **unsubscribed generation** clearly treated and valued at least at an avoided cost rate?	✗
Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)	Subscribed RECs	Are **subscribed RECs** clearly treated?	✗
	Unsubscribed RECs	Are **unsubscribed RECs** clearly treated?	✗
		State Program Grade:	***C+***

Program Strengths

- ✓ ***Values shared renewable energy generation at a rate above the short-term avoided energy cost rate for the utility.*** This is one of the most heavily weighted, critical criteria for program success.
- ✓ Clearly articulates the valuation methodology.
- ✓ ***Allows shared renewable energy facilities to be located either on-site or off-site.*** This is another heavily weighted criterion.
- ✓ Explicitly permits customers to transfer their subscriptions if they leave the program or service territory.

Opportunities for Improvement

- ➢ ***Add specific components to promote access for low- to moderate-income customer participation.*** The current program does not have any such components.
- ➢ ***Explicitly permit customers to keep their subscriptions if they move within the same utility's service territory.*** Portability is not addressed in the current rules.
- ➢ ***Increase the system size limit to at least 5 megawatts.*** Currently, the system capacity limit depends on the utility, but the maximum limit is 660 kilowatts.

**Note: The criteria above are a subset of the full criteria used to arrive at the state grades, but reflect the most substantial program design components. For more information about the Scorecard, including the full criteria applied to grade state programs and definitions for many of the terms within the criteria, see https://sharedrenewablesscorecard.org/.*

May 2017

SCORECARD
IREC'S NATIONAL SHARED RENEWABLES SCORECARD

Maryland Community Solar Energy Generation Systems Pilot Program

IREC developed the National Shared Renewables Scorecard to provide policymakers, regulators, and other stakeholders with a tool for evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of state shared renewable energy programs. IREC graded ***Maryland's Community Solar Energy Generating Systems Pilot Program*** using the Scorecard's full criteria* and found that the program currently receives an **A-** because it **incorporates the majority of shared renewables best practices**, offering a strong foundation for shared renewable energy development.

KEY	*One star (★) indicates an especially important criterion for a state program.* *Two stars (★★) indicate one of the most heavily weighted and critical criteria for program success.*

Category	Criterion	Description	Program Grade
General Program Details	Aggregate Capacity Limit	Does the program have an **unlimited aggregate capacity**?	✗
	Tracking & Reporting Requirements	★ Does the program specifically require the utility or other relevant entity to **collect and make publicly available data** regarding installed and queued capacity (e.g., via regularly updated public queue or annual public reports)?	✓
	Low- to Moderate-Income (LMI) Consumer Participation	★ Does the program have specific component(s) **to promote LMI customer participation** (e.g., capacity carve-out or target)?	✓
		Does the program **explicitly address financial barriers** faced by LMI participants (e.g., incentives or on-bill financing)?	✗
		Does the program have specific requirements regarding LMI customer **marketing, education and outreach?**	✗
Customers and Subscriptions	Eligibility	Are **all customer classes** eligible for the program?	✓
	Portability	★ Does the program explicitly permit **portability** (i.e., allows participants to move within the utility service territory and take their subscription with them)?	✓
	Transferability	★ Does the program explicitly permit **transferability** (i.e., allows participants to leave the program or service territory and transfer their subscriptions to others)?	✓
Generation Systems	System Capacity Limit	Is the system size limit **at least 5 megawatts** (MW)?	✗
	Siting Requirements	★★ Does the program allow **both on-site and off-site** facilities?	✓
		Can the facility and customers be **located anywhere** within the utility service territory?	✓
		Do the program rules explicitly address whether facilities can be **co-located**?	✓
	Ownership & Management	Are **third-party facility ownership** and **management** permitted?	✓
Bill Credits	Valuation	★★ Is the bill credit valuation (whether embedded cost, value-based or other) **above the short-term avoided energy cost rate** for the utility?	✓
		★ Is the valuation methodology **clearly articulated** in the statute, rule and/or tariff?	✓
	Unsubscribed Generation	Is **unsubscribed generation** clearly treated and valued at least at an avoided cost rate?	✓
Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)	Subscribed RECs	Are **subscribed RECs** clearly treated?	✓
	Unsubscribed RECs	Are **unsubscribed RECs** clearly treated?	✗
		State Program Grade:	***A-***

Program Strengths

- ✓ ***Values shared renewable energy generation at the full retail rate, which is above the short-term avoided energy cost rate for the utility.*** This is one of the most heavily weighted and critical criteria for program success.
- ✓ Clearly articulates the valuation methodology.
- ✓ ***Allows shared renewable energy facilities to be located either on- or off-site.*** This is another heavily weighted criterion.
- ✓ Explicitly permits customer subscriptions to be moved with the customer within a utility's service territory as well as transferred to another customer or back to the subscription organization.

Opportunities for Improvement

- ➢ ***Increase the system size limit to at least 5 megawatts***. Currently, the system capacity limit is 2 megawatts.
- ➢ ***Add provisions to expand access to low- to moderate-income customers, such as a financing component or requirements related to LMI customer marketing, education and outreach***. The program does not currently have such components.

**Note: The criteria above are a subset of the full criteria used to arrive at the state grades, but reflect the most substantial program design components. For more information about the Scorecard, including the full criteria applied to grade state programs and definitions for many of the terms within the criteria, see https://sharedrenewablesscorecard.org/.*

May 2017

SCORECARD
IREC'S NATIONAL SHARED RENEWABLES SCORECARD

Massachusetts Neighborhood Net Metering Program

IREC developed the National Shared Renewables Scorecard to provide policymakers, regulators, and other stakeholders with a tool for evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of state shared renewable energy programs. IREC graded ***Massachusetts's Neighborhood Net Metering Program*** using the Scorecard's full criteria* and found that the program currently receives a **C+** because it **lacks many of the key components necessary for program success**.

KEY	*One star (★) indicates an especially important criterion for a state program.* *Two stars (★★) indicate one of the most heavily weighted and critical criteria for program success.*

Category	Criterion	Description	Program Grade
General Program Details	Aggregate Capacity Limit	Does the program have an **unlimited aggregate capacity**?	✗
	Tracking & Reporting Requirements	★ Does the program specifically require the utility or other relevant entity to **collect and make publicly available data** regarding installed and queued capacity (e.g., via regularly updated public queue or annual public reports)?	✓
	Low- to Moderate-Income (LMI) Consumer Participation	★ Does the program have specific component(s) **to promote LMI customer participation** (e.g., capacity carve-out or target)?	✓
		Does the program **explicitly address financial barriers** faced by LMI participants (e.g., incentives or on-bill financing)?	✓
		Does the program have specific requirements regarding LMI customer **marketing, education and outreach?**	✗
Customers and Subscriptions	Eligibility	Are **all customer classes** eligible for the program?	✓
	Portability	★ Does the program explicitly permit **portability** (i.e., allows participants to move within the utility service territory and take their subscription with them)?	✗
	Transferability	★ Does the program explicitly permit **transferability** (i.e., allows participants to leave the program or service territory and transfer their subscriptions to others)?	✗
Generation Systems	System Capacity Limit	Is the system size limit **at least 5 megawatts** (MW)?	✗
	Siting Requirements	★★ Does the program allow **both on-site and off-site** facilities?	✓
		Can the facility and customers be **located anywhere** within the utility service territory?	✗
		Do the program rules explicitly address whether facilities can be **co-located**?	✗
	Ownership & Management	Are **third-party facility ownership** and **management** permitted?	✓
Bill Credits	Valuation	★★ Is the bill credit valuation (whether embedded cost, value-based or other) **above the short-term avoided energy cost rate** for the utility?	✓
		★ Is the valuation methodology **clearly articulated** in the statute, rule and/or tariff?	✓
	Unsubscribed Generation	Is **unsubscribed generation** clearly treated and valued at least at an avoided cost rate?	✗
Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)	Subscribed RECs	Are **subscribed RECs** clearly treated?	✓
	Unsubscribed RECs	Are **unsubscribed RECs** clearly treated?	✗
		State Program Grade:	***C+***

Program Strengths

- ✓ ***Values shared renewable energy generation at a rate that is above the short-term avoided energy cost rate for the utility.*** This is one of the most heavily weighted, critical criteria for program success.
- ✓ Clearly articulates the valuation methodology.
- ✓ ***Allows shared renewable energy facilities to be located either on-site or off-site.*** This is another heavily weighted criterion.
- ✓ Allows the facility and customers to be located anywhere within the utility service territory.

Opportunities for Improvement

- ➢ ***Explicitly permit customers to keep their subscriptions if they move within the same utility's service territory, and to transfer their subscriptions to other customers or back to the subscription organization***. Neither portability nor transferability is not addressed in the current rules.
- ➢ ***Allow the facility and customers to be located anywhere within the utility service territory***. Currently, the facility must be located in the same "neighborhood" as subscribers.
- ➢ ***Expand access to low- to moderate-income customers through additional requirements related to LMI customer marketing, education and outreach.*** The program does not currently have such components.

**Note: The criteria above are a subset of the full criteria used to arrive at the state grades, but reflect the most substantial program design components. For more information about the Scorecard, including the full criteria applied to grade state programs and definitions for many of the terms within the criteria, see https://sharedrenewablesscorecard.org/.*

May 2017

SCORECARD
IREC'S NATIONAL SHARED RENEWABLES SCORECARD

Massachusetts Virtual Net Metering Program

IREC developed the National Shared Renewables Scorecard to provide policymakers, regulators, and other stakeholders with a tool for evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of state shared renewable energy programs. IREC graded ***Massachusetts's Virtual Net Metering Program*** using the Scorecard's full criteria* and found that the program currently receives a **B** because it **reflects many shared renewables best practices,** offering a solid foundation for shared renewable energy development.

KEY	*One star (★) indicates an especially important criterion for a state program.* *Two stars (★★) indicate one of the most heavily weighted and critical criteria for program success.*

Category	Criterion	Description	Program Grade
General Program Details	Aggregate Capacity Limit	Does the program have an **unlimited aggregate capacity**?	✗
	Tracking & Reporting Requirements	★ Does the program specifically require the utility or other relevant entity to **collect and make publicly available data** regarding installed and queued capacity (e.g., via regularly updated public queue or annual public reports)?	✓
	Low- to Moderate-Income (LMI) Consumer Participation	★ Does the program have specific component(s) **to promote LMI customer participation** (e.g., capacity carve-out or target)?	✓
		Does the program **explicitly address financial barriers** faced by LMI participants (e.g., incentives or on-bill financing)?	✓
		Does the program have specific requirements regarding LMI customer **marketing, education and outreach?**	✗
Customers and Subscriptions	Eligibility	Are **all customer classes** eligible for the program?	✓
	Portability	★ Does the program explicitly permit **portability** (i.e., allows participants to move within the utility service territory and take their subscription with them)?	✗
	Transferability	★ Does the program explicitly permit **transferability** (i.e., allows participants to leave the program or service territory and transfer their subscriptions to others)?	✗
Generation Systems	System Capacity Limit	Is the system size limit **at least 5 megawatts** (MW)?	✓
	Siting Requirements	★★ Does the program allow **both on-site and off-site** facilities?	✓
		Can the facility and customers be **located anywhere** within the utility service territory?	✓
		Do the program rules explicitly address whether facilities can be **co-located**?	✗
	Ownership & Management	Are **third-party facility ownership** and **management** permitted?	✓
Bill Credits	Valuation	★★ Is the bill credit valuation (whether embedded cost, value-based or other) **above the short-term avoided energy cost rate** for the utility?	✓
		★ Is the valuation methodology **clearly articulated** in the statute, rule and/or tariff?	✓
	Unsubscribed Generation	Is **unsubscribed generation** clearly treated and valued at least at an avoided cost rate?	✗
Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)	Subscribed RECs	Are **subscribed RECs** clearly treated?	✓
	Unsubscribed RECs	Are **unsubscribed RECs** clearly treated?	✗
		State Program Grade:	***B***

Program Strengths

- ✓ ***Values shared renewable energy generation at a rate that is above the short-term avoided energy cost rate for the utility.*** This is one of the most heavily weighted, critical criteria for program success.
- ✓ Clearly articulates the valuation methodology.
- ✓ ***Allows shared renewable energy facilities to be located either on-site or off-site.*** This is another heavily weighted criterion.
- ✓ Allows the facility and customers to be located anywhere within the utility service territory.

Opportunities for Improvement

- ➢ ***Explicitly permit customers to keep their subscriptions if they move within the same utility's service territory, and to transfer their subscriptions to other customers or back to the subscription organization***. Neither portability nor transferability is not addressed in the current rules.
- ➢ ***Expand access to low- to moderate-income customers through additional requirements related to LMI customer marketing, education and outreach.*** The program does not currently have such components.

**Note: The criteria above are a subset of the full criteria used to arrive at the state grades, but reflect the most substantial program design components. For more information about the Scorecard, including the full criteria applied to grade state programs and definitions for many of the terms within the criteria, see https://sharedrenewablesscorecard.org/.*

May 2017

SCORECARD
IREC'S NATIONAL SHARED RENEWABLES SCORECARD

Minnesota Community Solar Gardens Program

IREC developed the National Shared Renewables Scorecard to provide policymakers, regulators, and other stakeholders with a tool for evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of state shared renewable energy programs. IREC graded ***Minnesota's Community Solar Gardens Program*** using the Scorecard's full criteria* and found that the program currently receives a **B** because it **reflects many shared renewables best practices,** offering a solid foundation for shared renewable energy development.

KEY	*One star (★) indicates an especially important criterion for a state program.* *Two stars (★★) indicate one of the most heavily weighted and critical criteria for program success.*

Category	Criterion	Description	Program Grade
General Program Details	Aggregate Capacity Limit	Does the program have an **unlimited aggregate capacity**?	✓
	Tracking & Reporting Requirements	★ Does the program specifically require the utility or other relevant entity to **collect and make publicly available data** regarding installed and queued capacity (e.g., via regularly updated public queue or annual public reports)?	✓
	Low- to Moderate-Income (LMI) Consumer Participation	★ Does the program have specific component(s) **to promote LMI customer participation** (e.g., capacity carve-out or target)?	✗
		Does the program **explicitly address financial barriers** faced by LMI participants (e.g., incentives or on-bill financing)?	✗
		Does the program have specific requirements regarding LMI customer **marketing, education and outreach?**	✗
Customers and Subscriptions	Eligibility	Are **all customer classes** eligible for the program?	✓
	Portability	★ Does the program explicitly permit **portability** (i.e., allows participants to move within the utility service territory and take their subscription with them)?	✓
	Transferability	★ Does the program explicitly permit **transferability** (i.e., allows participants to leave the program or service territory and transfer their subscriptions to others)?	✓
Generation Systems	System Capacity Limit	Is the system size limit **at least 5 megawatts** (MW)?	✗
	Siting Requirements	★★ Does the program allow **both on-site and off-site** facilities?	✓
		Can the facility and customers be **located anywhere** within the utility service territory?	✗
		Do the program rules explicitly address whether facilities can be **co-located**?	✓
	Ownership & Management	Are **third-party facility ownership** and **management** permitted?	✓
Bill Credits	Valuation	★★ Is the bill credit valuation (whether embedded cost, value-based or other) **above the short-term avoided energy cost rate** for the utility?	✓
		★ Is the valuation methodology **clearly articulated** in the statute, rule and/or tariff?	✓
	Unsubscribed Generation	Is **unsubscribed generation** clearly treated and valued at least at an avoided cost rate?	✓
Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)	Subscribed RECs	Are **subscribed RECs** clearly treated?	✓
	Unsubscribed RECs	Are **unsubscribed RECs** clearly treated?	✓
		State Program Grade:	***B***

Program Strengths

- ✓ ***Values shared renewable energy generation at the Value of Solar (VOS) rate, which is above the short-term avoided energy cost rate for the utility.*** This is one of the most heavily weighted, critical criteria for program success.
- ✓ ***Allows shared renewable energy facilities to be located either on-site or off-site.*** This is another heavily weighted criterion.
- ✓ Explicitly permits customers to keep their subscriptions if they move within the same utility's service territory.

Opportunities for Improvement

- ➢ ***Increase the system size limit to at least 5 megawatts***. Currently, the system capacity limit is 1 megawatt.
- ➢ ***Add specific components to promote access for low- to moderate-income customer participation, including components related to financing, marketing, education or outreach.*** The current program does not have any such components.
- ➢ ***Allow the facility and customers to be located anywhere within the utility service territory***. Currently, the facility must be located in the same county or contiguous county as subscribers.

**Note: The criteria above are a subset of the full criteria used to arrive at the state grades, but reflect the most substantial program design components. For more information about the Scorecard, including the full criteria applied to grade state programs and definitions for many of the terms within the criteria, see https://sharedrenewablesscorecard.org/.*

May 2017

SCORECARD
IREC'S NATIONAL SHARED RENEWABLES SCORECARD

New Hampshire Group Net Metering Program

IREC developed the National Shared Renewables Scorecard to provide policymakers, regulators, and other stakeholders with a tool for evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of state shared renewable energy programs. IREC graded ***New Hampshire's Group Net Metering Program*** using the Scorecard's full criteria* and found that the program currently receives a **B** because it **reflects many shared renewables best practices,** offering a solid foundation for shared renewable energy development.

KEY	*One star (★) indicates an especially important criterion for a state program.* *Two stars (★★) indicate one of the most heavily weighted and critical criteria for program success.*

Category	Criterion	Description	Program Grade
General Program Details	Aggregate Capacity Limit	Does the program have an **unlimited aggregate capacity**?	✗
	Tracking & Reporting Requirements	★ Does the program specifically require the utility or other relevant entity to **collect and make publicly available data** regarding installed and queued capacity (e.g., via regularly updated public queue or annual public reports)?	✓
	Low- to Moderate-Income (LMI) Consumer Participation	★ Does the program have specific component(s) **to promote LMI customer participation** (e.g., capacity carve-out or target)?	✗
		Does the program **explicitly address financial barriers** faced by LMI participants (e.g., incentives or on-bill financing)?	✗
		Does the program have specific requirements regarding LMI customer **marketing, education and outreach?**	✗
Customers and Subscriptions	Eligibility	Are **all customer classes** eligible for the program?	✓
	Portability	★ Does the program explicitly permit **portability** (i.e., allows participants to move within the utility service territory and take their subscription with them)?	✗
	Transferability	★ Does the program explicitly permit **transferability** (i.e., allows participants to leave the program or service territory and transfer their subscriptions to others)?	✓
Generation Systems	System Capacity Limit	Is the system size limit **at least 5 megawatts** (MW)?	✗
	Siting Requirements	★★ Does the program allow **both on-site and off-site** facilities?	✓
		Can the facility and customers be **located anywhere** within the utility service territory?	✓
		Do the program rules explicitly address whether facilities can be **co-located**?	✗
	Ownership & Management	Are **third-party facility ownership** and **management** permitted?	✓
Bill Credits	Valuation	★★ Is the bill credit valuation (whether embedded cost, value-based or other) **above the short-term avoided energy cost rate** for the utility?	✓
		★ Is the valuation methodology **clearly articulated** in the statute, rule and/or tariff?	✓
	Unsubscribed Generation	Is **unsubscribed generation** clearly treated and valued at least at an avoided cost rate?	✓
Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)	Subscribed RECs	Are **subscribed RECs** clearly treated?	✓
	Unsubscribed RECs	Are **unsubscribed RECs** clearly treated?	✓
		State Program Grade:	***B***

Program Strengths

- ✓ ***Values shared renewable energy generation at a rate above the short-term avoided energy cost rate for the utility.*** This is one of the most heavily weighted, critical criteria for program success.
- ✓ ***Allows shared renewable energy facilities to be located either on-site or off-site.*** This is another heavily weighted criterion.
- ✓ Explicitly permits customers to transfer their subscriptions if they leave the program or service territory.

Opportunities for Improvement

- ➢ ***Increase the system size limit to at least 5 megawatts***. Currently, the system capacity limit is 1 megawatt.
- ➢ ***Add specific components to promote access for low- to moderate-income customer participation, including components related to financing, marketing, education or outreach.*** The current program does not have any such components.
- ➢ ***Allow the facility and customers to be located anywhere within the utility service territory***. Currently, the facility must be located in the same county or contiguous county as subscribers.

**Note: The criteria above are a subset of the full criteria used to arrive at the state grades, but reflect the most substantial program design components. For more information about the Scorecard, including the full criteria applied to grade state programs and definitions for many of the terms within the criteria, see https://sharedrenewablesscorecard.org/.*

May 2017

SCORECARD
IREC'S NATIONAL SHARED RENEWABLES SCORECARD

New York Community Distributed Generation Program

IREC developed the National Shared Renewables Scorecard to provide policymakers, regulators, and other stakeholders with a tool for evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of state shared renewable energy programs. IREC graded ***New York's Community Distributed Generation Program*** using the Scorecard's full criteria* and found that the program currently receives a **B+** because it **reflects many shared renewables best practices,** offering a solid foundation for shared renewable energy development.

KEY	*One star (★) indicates an especially important criterion for a state program.* *Two stars (★★) indicate one of the most heavily weighted and critical criteria for program success.*

Category	Criterion	Description	Program Grade
General Program Details	Aggregate Capacity Limit	Does the program have an **unlimited aggregate capacity**?	✓
	Tracking & Reporting Requirements	★ Does the program specifically require the utility or other relevant entity to **collect and make publicly available data** regarding installed and queued capacity (e.g., via regularly updated public queue or annual public reports)?	✓
	Low- to Moderate-Income (LMI) Consumer Participation	★ Does the program have specific component(s) **to promote LMI customer participation** (e.g., capacity carve-out or target)?	✓
		Does the program **explicitly address financial barriers** faced by LMI participants (e.g., incentives or on-bill financing)?	✓
		Does the program have specific requirements regarding LMI customer **marketing, education and outreach?**	✗
Customers and Subscriptions	Eligibility	Are **all customer classes** eligible for the program?	✓
	Portability	★ Does the program explicitly permit **portability** (i.e., allow participants to move within the utility service territory and take their subscription with them)?	✗
	Transferability	★ Does the program explicitly permit **transferability** (i.e., allows participants to leave the program or service territory and transfer their subscriptions to others)?	✓
Generation Systems	System Capacity Limit	Is the system size limit **at least 5 megawatts** (MW)?	✗
	Siting Requirements	★★ Does the program allow **both on-site and off-site** facilities?	✓
		Can the facility and customers be **located anywhere** within the utility service territory?	✓
		Do the program rules explicitly address whether facilities can be **co-located**?	✓
	Ownership & Management	Are **third-party facility ownership** and **management** permitted?	✓
Bill Credits	Valuation	★★ Is the bill credit valuation (whether embedded cost, value-based or other) **above the short-term avoided energy cost rate** for the utility?	✓
		★ Is the valuation methodology **clearly articulated** in the statute, rule and/or tariff?	✓
	Unsubscribed Generation	Is **unsubscribed generation** clearly treated and valued at least at an avoided cost rate?	✗
Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)	Subscribed RECs	Are **subscribed RECs** clearly treated?	✓
	Unsubscribed RECs	Are **unsubscribed RECs** clearly treated?	✗
		State Program Grade:	***B+***

Program Strengths

- ✓ ***Values shared renewable energy generation at a rate that is above the short-term avoided energy cost rate for the utility.*** This is one of the most heavily weighted, critical criteria for program success.
- ✓ ***Allows shared renewable energy facilities to be located either on-site or off-site.*** This is another heavily weighted criterion.
- ✓ Explicitly permits customers to transfer their subscriptions if they leave the program or service territory.

Opportunities for Improvement

- ➢ ***Increase the system size limit to at least 5 megawatts***. Currently, the system capacity limit is 2 megawatts.
- ➢ ***Value unsubscribed generation at least at an avoided cost rate.*** The program allows the facility host to accumulate and redistribute unsubscribed generation, but any undistributed credits are forfeited at the end of the year.
- ➢ ***Explicitly permit customers to keep their subscriptions if they move within the same utility's service territory***. Portability is not addressed in the current rules.

**Note: The criteria above are a subset of the full criteria used to arrive at the state grades, but reflect the most substantial program design components. For more information about the Scorecard, including the full criteria applied to grade state programs and definitions for many of the terms within the criteria, see https://sharedrenewablesscorecard.org/.*

May 2017

SCORECARD
IREC'S NATIONAL SHARED RENEWABLES SCORECARD

Vermont Group Net Metering Program

IREC developed the National Shared Renewables Scorecard to provide policymakers, regulators, and other stakeholders with a tool for evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of state shared renewable energy programs. IREC graded ***Vermont's Group Net Metering Program*** using the Scorecard's full criteria* and found that the program currently receives a **C+** because it **lacks many of the key components necessary for program success**.

KEY	*One star (★) indicates an especially important criterion for a state program.* *Two stars (★★) indicate one of the most heavily weighted and critical criteria for program success.*

Category	Criterion	Description	Program Grade
General Program Details	Aggregate Capacity Limit	Does the program have an **unlimited aggregate capacity**?	✓
	Tracking & Reporting Requirements	★ Does the program specifically require the utility or other relevant entity to **collect and make publicly available data** regarding installed and queued capacity (e.g., via regularly updated public queue or annual public reports)?	✗
	Low- to Moderate-Income (LMI) Consumer Participation	★ Does the program have specific component(s) **to promote LMI customer participation** (e.g., capacity carve-out or target)?	✗
		Does the program **explicitly address financial barriers** faced by LMI participants (e.g., incentives or on-bill financing)?	✗
		Does the program have specific requirements regarding LMI customer **marketing, education and outreach?**	✗
Customers and Subscriptions	Eligibility	Are **all customer classes** eligible for the program?	✓
	Portability	★ Does the program explicitly permit **portability** (i.e., allows participants to move within the utility service territory and take their subscription with them)?	✗
	Transferability	★ Does the program explicitly permit **transferability** (i.e., allows participants to leave the program or service territory and transfer their subscriptions to others)?	✓
Generation Systems	System Capacity Limit	Is the system size limit **at least 5 megawatts** (MW)?	✗
	Siting Requirements	★★ Does the program allow **both on-site and off-site** facilities?	✓
		Can the facility and customers be **located anywhere** within the utility service territory?	✓
		Do the program rules explicitly address whether facilities can be **co-located**?	✓
	Ownership & Management	Are **third-party facility ownership** and **management** permitted?	✓
Bill Credits	Valuation	★★ Is the bill credit valuation (whether embedded cost, value-based or other) **above the short-term avoided energy cost rate** for the utility?	✓
		★ Is the valuation methodology **clearly articulated** in the statute, rule and/or tariff?	✓
	Unsubscribed Generation	Is **unsubscribed generation** clearly treated and valued at least at an avoided cost rate?	✗
Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)	Subscribed RECs	Are **subscribed RECs** clearly treated?	✓
	Unsubscribed RECs	Are **unsubscribed RECs** clearly treated?	✗
		State Program Grade:	***C+***

Program Strengths

- ✓ ***Values shared renewable energy generation at a rate that is above the short-term avoided energy cost rate for the utility.*** This is one of the most heavily weighted, critical criteria for program success.
- ✓ ***Allows shared renewable energy facilities to be located either on-site or off-site.*** This is another heavily weighted criterion.
- ✓ Explicitly permits customers to transfer their subscriptions if they leave the program or service territory.

Opportunities for Improvement

- ➢ ***Increase the system size limit to at least 5 megawatts***. Currently, the system capacity limit is 500 kilowatts.
- ➢ ***Add specific components to promote access for low- to moderate-income customer participation, including components related to financing, marketing, education or outreach*****.** The current program does not have any such components.
- ➢ ***Value unsubscribed generation at least at an avoided cost rate.*** The program stipulates that any excess generation is forfeited to the utility at the end of the year.
- ➢ ***Explicitly permit customers to keep their subscriptions if they move within the same utility's service territory***. Portability is not addressed in the current rules.

**Note: The criteria above are a subset of the full criteria used to arrive at the state grades, but reflect the most substantial program design components. For more information about the Scorecard, including the full criteria applied to grade state programs and definitions for many of the terms within the criteria, see https://sharedrenewablesscorecard.org/.*

May 2017