

Subject Solar energy  
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## Overview

House File 257, as amended, specifies the restrictions a homeowners association may place on a homeowner installing a solar energy generating system. It also requires a utility to provide a customer with the customer's electricity usage data when needed to facilitate the interconnection of a solar system, and modifies the process by which nongenerating utilities are reimbursed by their utility suppliers for energy purchased from small power producers.

## Summary

Section	Description
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| 1 | <p><b>[216B.164] Cogeneration and small power production.</b></p> <p><b>Subd. 3. Purchases; small facilities.</b> Allows all nongenerating utilities to elect to be reimbursed proportionally by their energy suppliers for the purchase of energy from a qualifying facility (small energy generator), regardless of the number of those suppliers.</p>  |
| 2 | <p><b>[216B.164] Cogeneration and small power production.</b></p> <p><b>Subd. 12. Customer's access to electricity use data.</b> Requires a utility to provide a customer with the customer's own electricity use data upon request if relevant to the interconnection of a qualifying facility, such as a solar energy system.</p>   |
| 3 | <p><b>[500.216] Limits on certain residential solar energy systems prohibited.</b></p> <p><b>Subd. 1. General rule.</b> Prohibits a homeowners association from refusing to allow installation of a rooftop solar energy system except as provided in this section.</p> <p><b>Subd. 2. Applicability.</b> Provides that this section applies to single family dwellings where the owner is responsible for maintenance and insurance of the roof.</p> <p><b>Subd. 3. Definitions.</b></p> |

**Section**   **Description**

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**Subd. 4. Allowable conditions.** Describes restrictions a homeowners association may impose on a homeowner installing a rooftop solar energy system. Additional restrictions may be imposed provided they do not decrease the energy generated by the solar energy system by more than 20 percent or increase its cost by more than \$2,000 for a photovoltaic system or 20 percent for a solar water heater. The approval process for a solar energy system must be the same as for an architectural modification to the property.

**4      [515.07] Compliance with covenants, bylaws, and rules.**

Provides that section 3 applies to a condominium association created before 1994.

**5      [515B.2-103] Construction and validity of declaration and bylaws.**

Provides that the declaration and bylaws of a condominium association created after 1994 are subject to section 3.

**6      [515B.3-102] Powers of unit owners association.**

Provides that the powers exercised under this section by a condominium association created after 1994 must comply with section 3.



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