

Press Release

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Contact: Whitney Douglas; wdouglas@psc.dc.gov, 202-626-9177

DCPSC Announces Ongoing Growth of Solar Energy Adoption Across the District

(Washington, D.C.) The Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia (Commission) issued its Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard (RPS) Report for compliance year 2023 to the D.C. Council. This year's report, now open for public review, highlights the notable growth of RPS-certified solar facilities despite various market fluctuations, including lingering supply-chain issues.

Within the compliance year, the Commission approved 2,106 new solar energy systems, including 1,718 District systems, of which 66 were community renewable energy facilities (CREFs). Additionally, as of year-end 2023, the Commission has certified 13,533 solar energy systems in the District, representing 214.5 megawatts of capacity, of which 367 were CREFs.

The report notes a total of 17,208 solar energy systems certified for RPS. Other highlights from the report include:

- Total RPS-certified solar capacity of 268.4 MW at year-end 2023 exceeded the estimated solar capacity of 210.2 MW required to meet the 3% solar requirement for 2023,
- District RPS-eligible solar energy systems are in all eight wards, and
- Total estimated cost of renewable energy credits retired by retail suppliers was \$166.8 million, up from \$129.1 million for the 2022 compliance year.

"We're proud of the strides made over the past year. The Commission remains dedicated to collaborating with District leadership and the community to achieve our renewable energy objectives. We eagerly anticipate furthering our support for and advancement of the District's ambitious climate goals," said Commission Chairman Emile C. Thompson. Chairman Thompson recently testified before the D.C. Council's Committee on Business and Economic Development, where he confirmed the Commission's focus on reduction of greenhouse gas and other harmful emissions in FY2024.

Every year, the Commission is required to provide an update on the status of RPS implementation. The report includes data on the number of renewable energy generators approved by the Commission and the availability of renewable resources in the District. The report also includes the number of renewable energy credits (RECs) retired by the electricity suppliers to meet the RPS requirements. Finally, the report provides data on the compliance fees paid by electricity suppliers that did not acquire enough RECs, including solar RECs, to meet the RPS requirements. This RPS report fulfills the reporting requirements of the Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard Act and as amended by the CleanEnergy DC Omnibus Amendment Act of 2018.

Learn more about the Commission's clean energy efforts.