

Greg Robie
Highland Mills/Winslow/Southn China
LD 1321

Re LD 1321, particularly the April 8, 2025 amendment. ONTP

The 4/8/2025 amendment changing a 20 MW limit to 60 MW would appear to be integral to the hydrogen electrolysis plant(s). In the 131st legislature 3 20 MW plants were proposed, but only 1 of them became law (LD 1775). Three sponsoring Legislators of LD 1321 voted against even this one plant.

One can deduce that the current amendment is to accommodate the other two 20 MW plants which Summit Ridge Energy, LLC, with its various stacks of subsidiary LLCs wants, and this relative to the net metering projects it bought from Revision Energy and Longroad Energy, LLC. Reading the fine print in LD 1321 it seems integral to existing grandfathered net metering projects of the 5 MW variety.

This last minute amending is, in my experience, how the hydrogen snookering via horse trading gets turned into law.

Summary regarding what I know: solar is having its subsidizing removed (differently in different states). Since the 2021 net metering moratorium solar ‘farms’ – and as net metering projects – are less than 2 MW. As far as I have thought the economics, projects less than 2 MW are economically challenged to compete with the larger grandfathered 5 MW projects. So solar, independent of hydrogen, is rapidly becoming a thing of the past with the hydrogen tax credits in the IRA.

...and then there is this from two days ago and an amended executive order:
America's Beautiful Clean Coal.

I do not know how all of this adds up within the framework one should use to think about our future, but my take is that with the IRS form 7210 and the parallel rulemaking behind it, the greenwashing of all things renewable is, but for the details (such as this bill), complete. We’ve been snookered.

=)

Greg