NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
AMENDMENT
House Bill 951

H951-ARI-39 [v.8]

Amends Title [NO] Second Edition

Representative _________________

moves to amend the bill on page 48, lines 15 and 16,
by inserting between those lines:

"LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROCEDURES REQUIRED FOR REZONING CHANGES TO
ALLOW USE FOR SOLAR PROJECTS"

SECTION 8.1 Article 9 of Chapter 160D of the General Statutes is amended by
adding a new section to read:

"§ 160D-914.1 Regulation of solar projects.
(a) Any local government policy or regulation governing that may be applicable to
petitions to change a zoning district to authorize siting and operation of a solar project, a local
government shall require placement of standard zoning signage along all roadways bordering the
proposed project, except that such signage shall include the words "SOLAR INSTALLATION"
conspicuously placed on each sign. In addition, the local government shall advertise, through the
same means as any other zoning change, the time and date of a public meeting of the governing
board to be held exclusively to discuss such a zoning change. At each such meeting, the
governing board shall make available a sign-up sheet to document all those in attendance who
wish to speak, and shall allow such persons a minimum of two minutes each to speak on the
matter. Should the meeting exceed the time that the governing board typically allows for public
hearings on rezoning matters, additional meeting(s) shall be scheduled to complete the list of
speakers signed-up to speak at the original meeting. The governing board shall advertise the time
and date when the board will vote on the proposed zoning change.
(b) Any person, company, or organization owning or leasing land where a solar project
is proposed to be sited shall provide for a bond or other irrevocable financial instrument in an
amount equal to the cost of removal of the solar project and restoration of the land to its original
condition, to be calculated on the basis of the cost estimate for removal and restoration at the
time an application to site the project is submitted, along with an accumulated inflation rate as
determined by the CPI for a period of 30 years, with each year calculated separately. The financial
instrument shall run in favor of the local government with jurisdiction over the property where
the solar project is proposed to be sited, which would have responsibility for such property, real
and personal, should the property be foreclosed upon by the local government, and ownership
transferred to the local government. Such financial instrument shall be maintained until cessation of operation of the solar project, the project has removed, and the land restored.

(c) For purposes of this section the term "solar project" means a ground-mounted photovoltaic (PV), concentrating photovoltaic (CPV), or concentrating solar power (CSP) or solar thermal) project directly connected to the electrical transmission grid for sale to wholesale customers. The term includes the solar arrays, accessory buildings, transmission facilities, and any other infrastructure necessary for the operation of the project."

SIGNED

Amendment Sponsor

SIGNED

Committee Chair if Senate Committee Amendment

ADOPTED FAILED TABLED