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ABP Question

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Alex,
Here is a revised copy.

Hello,

I have a question/clarification on a qualified person for a distributed generation solar install under the Illinois Adjustable Block Program and guide book.

To get a Distributed Generation Installer Certification with the Illinois ICC, **Section 468.50 (f)(2) Required Application Information** requires an affidavit by each qualifying person attesting to having satisfactorily completed at least five installations of distributed generation facilities.

<http://www.ilga.gov/commission/jcar/admincode/083/083004680000500R.html>

Section 468.60 (d)(1) Certification Requirements require that The applicant certifies that every installation of a distributed generation facility will be performed only by a qualified person.

<http://www.ilga.gov/commission/jcar/admincode/083/083004680000600R.html>

Under **Section 468.20 Definitions** a "Qualified person" means a person who performs installations on behalf of the certificate holder and who has either satisfactorily completed at least five installations of a specific distributed generation technology or has completed at least one of the following programs requiring lab or field work and received a certification of satisfactory completion: an apprenticeship as a journeyman electrician from a DOL registered electrical apprenticeship and training program; a North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners (NABCEP) distributed generation technology certification program; an Underwriters Laboratories (UL) distributed generation technology certification program; an Electronics Technicians Association (ETA) distributed generation technology certification program; or an Associate in Applied Science degree from an Illinois Community College Board approved community college program in the appropriate distributed generation technology. To be considered a "qualified person", the experience and/or training relied upon must be with the same type of distributed generation technology for which the qualification status is sought.

<http://www.ilga.gov/commission/jcar/admincode/083/083004680000200R.html>

That being said, a person meeting the requirements along with an affidavit of completion of 5 installs, are eligible to become a Certified Distributed Generation Installer according to the Illinois Commerce Commission.

In section **2.3.2.4. Installer Requirements** of the Long Term Renewable Resources Procurement Plan it says how

In Docket No. 17-0268, the Illinois Commerce Commission adopted its Title 83, Part 461 administrative rules for the installation of new utility-scale photovoltaic generating projects under Section 16-128A of the PUA. In that proceeding, the Commission adopted the following definition for the term "qualified person" for new utility-scale solar installations:

"Qualified person" means a person who performs installations on behalf of the certificate holder and who has completed at least one of the following programs requiring lab or field work and received a certification of satisfactory completion: an apprenticeship as a journeyman electrician from a USDOL-registered or an applicable state-agency-registered electrical apprenticeship and training program; a North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners (NABCEP) distributed generation technology certification program; an electrical training program for in-house employees established and administered by an electric utility regulated by the Commission; or an Associate in Applied Science degree from an Illinois Community College Board-approved community college program in solar generation technology.

*which this clarifies in **Section 461.10 Definitions** along with the definitions of "Utility-scale solar project" and "New solar projects".*

"New solar projects" means utility-scale solar projects for which the installation begins on or after June 1, 2017.

<http://www.ilga.gov/commission/jcar/admincode/083/083004610000100R.html>

in ILCS (20 ILCS 3855/1-10) Definitions, a "Utility-scale solar project" means a electric generating facility that:

(1) generates electricity using photovoltaic cells:

and

(2) has a nameplate capacity that is greater than 2,000 kilowatts

<http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/fulltext.asp?DocName=002038550K1-10>

That being said, the requirements for Distributed Generation Certification qualified person are different than the requirements for a "Utility-scale solar project" (systems greater than 2,000KW) qualified person.

Under Section 4: System Eligibility on page 11 of the Adjustable Block Program Guidebook,

under Installer Requirements number 2 the definition used there of a "qualified person" is the ICC definition of a qualified person for system installs greater than 2,000 Kilowatts.

To follow all of this up, is a solar business that applied with the ICC and received a DG Installer Certification, as both owners who are actual system installers, are qualified persons by meeting the requirements of installing at least 5 previous systems per ICC requirements, now not eligible to install solar array's (less than 2000KW) in the Adjustable Block Program?

According to the Guidebook, a person would not be a "qualified person" even for solar array's less than 2,000KW? Is this maybe a possible mistake or oversight, as I know the definitions are somewhat confusing, as they are actually under two different sections of TITLE 83: PUBLIC UTILITIES code. Section 461 and 468

<ftp://www.ilga.gov/jcar/admincode/083/083parts.html>

That being said, is a person that is considered a "Qualified Person" and certified as Distributed Generation Installer by the ICC per their Section 468 requirements, not permitted to install Solar Arrays less than the "Utility-Scale" size (Greater than 2,000 KW) for the ABP program?

Thank you for any information/clarification on this matter.

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