

## PROGRAM DEFINITIONS

1. **Affordable Housing Provider** - a building owner where a minimum of 66% of units are occupied by low-income households (defined at 80% AMI or below) [[Section 216B.1641, subd. 7.](#)]
2. **Backup Subscriber** - an individual or entity that temporarily assumes all or a portion of a community solar garden subscription in the event a Subscriber exits the community solar garden or is delinquent in paying the Subscriber's utility bill. [Section [216B.1641, subd. 2\(b\)](#)]
3. **Capacity** - the number of megawatts alternating current (AC) at the point of interconnection between a distributed generation facility and a utility's electric system. [Section [216B.164, subd. 2a\(c\)](#)]
4. **Community Solar Garden** - a facility (1) that generates electricity by means of a ground-mounted or roof-mounted solar photovoltaic device, (2) that is owned and operated by a subscriber organization, and (3) for which subscribers receive a bill credit for the electricity generated in proportion to the size of the subscriber's subscription. [Section [216B.1641, subd. 2\(c\)](#)]
5. **General Service Commercial Customer** – a customer using electric service for any non-domestic purpose. [[Source](#)]
  - **Small General Commercial Customer** - a customer using electric service for any non-domestic purpose and whose actual demand is less than or equal to 100 kW. [[Source](#)]
6. **Income-Eligible Subscriber** - a Subscriber who, at the time the community solar garden subscription is executed, is: (1) a low-income household, as defined under section [216B.2402, subdivision 16](#); or (2) a household whose income is 150 percent or less of the area median household income. These Subscribers may also be designated as "low- to moderate-income Subscribers" or "LMI Subscribers." [Section [216B.1641, subd. 2](#)]
  - **Low-Income Household** - a household whose household income is (1) is 80 percent or less of the area median household income for the geographic area in which the low-income household is located, as calculated by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development; or (2) meets the income eligibility standards, as determined by the commissioner, required for a household to receive financial assistance from a federal, state, municipal, or utility program administered or approved by the department. [[ECO Guidance Regarding Definition of Low-Income Household](#)]
7. **Nongreenfield** - Sites that are not on undeveloped land that can be used for residential or commercial development. Such sites include, but are not limited to, rooftops; carports; impervious parking surfaces, structures, or ramps; closed landfills; former gravel pits or other demolition debris sites; and sites that contains a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant.

8. **Nonministerial Permit** - all necessary and discretionary governmental permits and approvals to construct a community solar facility or a solar field notwithstanding any pending legal challenge to one or more permits or approvals.
9. **Public Interest Subscriber** - a Subscriber that demonstrates status as a public or Tribal entity, school, nonprofit organization, house of worship, or social service provider. [Section [216B.1641, subd. 2\(e\)](#)]
  - **Public Entity** - any department, agency, special purpose district, or other instrumentality of federal, State, or local government.
  - **Tribal Entity** - an arm of a sovereign, federally recognized tribe formed as an instrumentality, agency, unincorporated department or division, or business entity that is wholly owned by a tribe or tribal subsidiaries, including, without limitation, a corporation or limited liability company.
  - **School** - a school that operates as part of a school district, a Tribal contract school, or a state college or university that is under the jurisdiction of the Board of Trustees of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities. [Section [216C.375, subd. 1\(e\)](#)]
    - **School District** - an independent school district, as defined in section [120A.05, subdivision 10](#); a special school district, as defined in section [120A.05, subdivision 14](#); or a cooperative unit, as defined in section [123A.24, subdivision 2](#). [Section [216C.375, subd. 1\(f\)](#)]
  - **Nonprofit Organization** – entities with 501(c)(3) status with the Internal Revenue Service.
  - **House of Worship** - any church, synagogue, temple, mosque, or multi-use facility devoted primarily to worship, prayer, or religious ceremony.
  - **Social Service Provider** – this includes, but is not limited to, entities that fulfill a social service mission and serve the needs of the public. Commerce will review subscribers described as social service providers on a case-by-case basis when those subscribers do not also belong to at least one of the other “public interest subscriber” classifications (public or Tribal entity, school, nonprofit organization, or house of worship).
10. **Subscriber** - a retail customer who owns one or more subscriptions of a community solar garden interconnected with the retail customer's utility. [Section [216B.1641 subdivision 2](#)]
11. **Subscriber Organization** - a developer or owner of a community solar garden. [Section [216B.1641, subd. 2\(h\)](#)]
12. **Subscription** - a contract between a Subscriber and Subscriber Organization. [Section [216B.1641, subd. 2\(i\)](#)]