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Proposed Amendment to AB 429  
(Page 5, Sec. 8, new subsection 3)

For the purposes of this section, hydropower is defined as:  
The utilization of water; whether it be standing, running or  
falling; as a source of power by any facility or incidental  
facility intended to be employed in the generation of  
electrical energy no greater than 15 megawatts.

Proposed amendment from  
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**Assembly Commerce & Labor**  
**April 7, 2003**  
**AB429**

## **Suggested definition of Hydropower**

### **Acceptable Types of Hydropower**

#### **Impoundment (most typical of large hydropower systems)**

Uses a dam or mechanism to store water in a reservoir. Water may be released to meet downstream water demands (e.g. irrigation) or to meet changing electricity needs.

#### **Diversion (generally occurs on rivers/streams and has minimal impact on flow)**

Uses a diversion facility to channel water through a canal or penstock. Run-of-river and in-pipe installations generally fall into this category.

### **Acceptable Sizes of Hydropower Plants (from utility-scale to individual use)**

#### **Small Hydropower**

DOE defines small hydropower as facilities that have a capacity of 0.1 to 30 megawatts.

#### **Micro Hydropower**

DOE defines micro hydropower as facilities that have a capacity of up to 100 kilowatts (0.1 MW)

*(Source: US Department of Energy – <http://hydropower.inel.gov/>)*  
*[www.microhydropower.net](http://www.microhydropower.net)*

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