

contract on the basis of the experience of the contractor, the type of technology employed by the contractor, the cost to the local agency, and any other relevant considerations. The public agency may utilize the pool of qualified energy service companies established pursuant to Section 388 of the Public Utilities Code and the procedures contained in that section in awarding the contract.

4217.17. This chapter does not limit the authority of any public agency to construct energy conservation projects or to enter into other leases or contracts relating to the financing construction, operation, or use of alternate energy type facilities in any manner authorized under existing law. This chapter shall not be construed to abrogate Section 14671.6.

4217.18. The provisions of this chapter shall be construed to provide the greatest possible flexibility to public agencies in structuring agreements entered into hereunder so that economic benefits may be maximized and financing and other costs associated with the design and construction of alternate energy projects may be minimized. To this end, public agencies and the entities with whom they contract under this chapter should have great latitude in characterizing components of energy conservation facilities as personal or real property and in granting security interests in leasehold interests and components of the alternate energy facilities to project lenders.

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