Massaro, Luly (PUC)

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To: PublicComments, PUC

Subject: [EXTERNAL] : Comments on OSW Docket 22-22-EL

Comment – Timelines

The Proposal Certification requires bids to remain valid and exclusive for 260 days after submission, a period longer than similar offtakers which could result in limited competition. For comparison, the Massachusetts 83CIII process required bids to remain valid for 194 days, and the current NYSERDA process only requires bids to remain valid for 180 days after submission.

Reducing the required bid exclusivity period to 180 days or less may provide bidders the opportunity to bid into both Rhode Island and the expected Massachusetts solicitation in 2023. The current process may force bidders to choose between opportunities and therefore provide less competition.

Comment - Remuneration and Contract Termination

In Section 2.6, Rhode Island Energy indicates that if remuneration of at least 1% is not provided by the PUC to Rhode Island Energy the contract will automatically terminate. This cancellation clause introduces uncertainty into the entire bid development, selection, and award process. Clarity on remuneration earlier in the process will provide certainty to developers the RFP is a valid opportunity that will lead to a PPA. Failure to provide clarity may result in developers looking to other states that provide opportunities with firmer contracts and no automatic termination clauses.