RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCES ELIGIBILITY INCLIME, INC. TEAM <u>RECOMMENDATION</u> For Consideration By The STATE OF RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

(Version 10 – November 9th, 2016)

Date: 2/15/2024

Docket #: RES-23-44

Application Received: 11/10/2023

Generation Unit Information:

Unit Name: NRS Bethel Solar LLC Unit Owner: NRS Bethel Solar LLC Unit Size (nameplate MW): 3.0 AC/4.002 DC Unit Size (max. demonstrated MW): 3.0 AC/4.002 DC Location (city, state): Bethel, ME

Commercial Operation Date: 12/5/2022

Type of Certification Requested:

- Standard Certification
- □ Prospective Certification (Declaratory Judgment)

Generation Type and Technology Information: (check all that apply)

□ Repowered Project □ Incremental Generation □ Incremental Intermittent

⊠ Customer-Sited or Off-Grid System (or associated aggregations)

Generation Unit Located in Control Area Adjacent to NEPOOL: XXXX

⊠ Solar □ Wind □ Ocean Thermal □ Geothermal □ Small Hydro

□ Eligible Biomass □ Unlisted Biomass □ Biomass (fossil co-fired/multi-fuel) □ Fuel Cell (using an eligible renewable resource)

Recommendation:

☑ Approve (GIS Certification #: NON177020)
Reject
Public Hearing Needed □ Existing Renewable Energy Resource ⊠ New Renewable Energy Resource □ Capable of Producing as Both Existing & New Renewable Energy Resource

Comments: Approval recommended

RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCES ELIGIBILITY <u>INCLIME, INCTEAM RECOMMENDATION</u> For Consideration By The STATE OF RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION (page 2 of 2)

Primary Contact Name, Numbers and Address:

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Backup Contact Name, Numbers and Address:

Name and title: Bradyn Winiarski, Asset Manager Address: 1000 Wilson Dr Arlington, VA 22209 Phone: 202-558-2340 Email: bwiniarski@srenergy.com

Authorized Representative Name, Numbers and Address:

Name and title: William Jurith, VP, Asset Management Company: NRS Bethel Solar LLC Address: 1000 Wilson Dr Arlington, VA 22209 Phone: 202-558-2340 Email: admin@srenergy.com

Owner Name, Numbers and Address:

Name and title: William Jurith, VP, Asset Management Company: NRS Bethel Solar LLC Address: 1000 Wilson Dr Arlington, VA 22209 Phone: 202-558-2340 Email: admin@srenergy.com

Operator Name, Numbers and Address:

Name and title: William Jurith, VP, Asset Management Company: NRS Bethel Solar LLC Address: 1000 Wilson Dr Arlington, VA 22209 Phone: 202-558-2340 Email: admin@srenergy.com

RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCES ELIGIBILITY DETAILED INCLIME. INC TEAM APPLICATION REVIEW RESULTS (Template V10 – November 9th, 2016) Date of Final Review: XX/XX/XXXX

Note: Depending on the type of application (project vintage, type, location, fuel source, etc.) not all of these data items will be applicable.

A. Renewable Energy Resource – Vintage (see appropriate Sections of RES Regulations, Application Sections 3.1-3.9 and Appendix C):

A.1 Generation Unit meets the definition of an Existing Renewable Energy Resource noted in RES Regulations Section 3.10 (first entering commercial operation before 12/31/1997).

 \Box Yes \boxtimes No \Box N/A

Comments:

A.2 Generation from the Unit meets one of the definitions of New Renewable Energy Resource in RES Regulations Section 3.23.

 \boxtimes Yes \Box No \Box N/A

Comments: Certificate of Completion dated 12/5/2022

A.2.1 If Generation Unit is at a new site, adequate documentation is provided to ensure that it first entered commercial operation after December 31, 1997.

 \boxtimes Yes \square No \square N/A

Comments: Certificate of Completion dated 12/5/2022

A.2.2 If Generation Unit is at the site of an Existing Renewable Energy Resource, adequate documentation is provided to ensure that it first entered commercial operation after December 31, 1997 and that the Existing Renewable Energy Resource has been retired and replaced with such new Generation Unit.

□ Yes □ No ⊠ N/A

Comments:

A.2.3 If a Repowered Generation Unit (as defined in Section 3.29 of the RES Regulations – complete replacement of Prime Mover, material increase in efficiency or material decrease in air emissions, and demonstration that at least 80% of resulting tax basis of the entire Generation Unit's plant and equipment is derived from capital expenditures made after December 31, 1997), adequate documentation is provided to ensure that the entire output of said unit first entered commercial operation after December 31, 1997 at the site of existing Generation Unit.

 \Box Yes \Box No \boxtimes N/A

Comments:

A.2.4 If a multi-fuel facility, adequate documentation is provided to ensure that the renewable energy fraction of output from a Generation Unit in which an Eligible Biomass Fuel is first co-fired with fossil fuels after December 31,

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1997.

 \Box Yes \Box No \boxtimes N/A

Comments:

A.2.5 If Incremental Output from a <u>non</u>-Intermittent Existing Renewable Energy Resource, adequate documentation is provided to ensure that such output is attributable to capital investments for efficiency improvements or additions of capacity that were demonstrably completed after December 31, 1997 and that are sufficient to, were intended to, and can be demonstrated to increase annual electricity output in excess of ten percent (10%) over a Historical Generation Baseline as determined per Section 3.23.v of the RES Regulations.

 \Box Yes \Box No \boxtimes N/A

Comments:

A.2.6 If Incremental Output from an Intermittent Existing Renewable Energy Resource, adequate documentation is provided to ensure that such output is attributable to capital investments for efficiency improvements or additions of capacity that were demonstrably completed after December 31, 1997 and that are sufficient to, were intended to, and can be demonstrated to increase annual electricity output in excess of ten percent (10%) over a Historical Generation Baseline as determined per Section 3.23.v of the RES Regulations.

 \Box Yes \Box No \boxtimes N/A

Comments:

B. Eligible Customer-Sited/Off-Grid Generation Facility:

(see appropriate Sections of RES Regulations, Application Section 5 and Appendix D)

 \boxtimes Yes \square No \square N/A

B.1 Adequate documentation provided to ensure that NEPOOL GIS Certificates are created by way of an aggregation of Generation Units, physically located in the State of Rhode Island, using the same generation technology (see RES Regulations Section 6.8.i).

 \Box Yes \Box No \boxtimes N/A

Comments:

B.2 Proposed Aggregation Agreement (as specified in Section 6.8.iii of the RES Regulations) is reasonable and complete.

 \boxtimes Yes \square No \square N/A

Comments:

B.2.1 Aggregation Agreement includes name and contact information of the aggregator owner. (per Application Appendix D.2.a)

 \boxtimes Yes \square No \square N/A

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Comments:

B.2.2 Aggregation Agreement includes name and contact information and

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adequate evidence of qualifications of the Verifier to ensure that the Verifier will accurately and efficiently carry out its duties. (per Appendix D.2.b)

⊠ Yes □ No □ N/A

Comments: Bre Schulwitz, Also Energy, 5400 Airport Blvd, Ste 100, Boulder, CO 80301, 866-303-5668, reporting@alsoenergy.com

B.2.2.1 Additional evidence of Verifier qualifications requested and provided. (per Appendix D.2.b)

 \boxtimes Yes \square No \square N/A

Comments: AlsoEnergy is an independent performance monitoring provider and reporting service provider who handles independent data reporting for 13 U.S. based incentive-based programs. AlsoEnergy is an approved Independent Verifier at the NEPOOL GIS reporting data for REC purposes in CT, MA, ME, NH, VT, and RI. AlsoEnergy's software has an automated reporting feature to detect anomalies in meter data.

B.2.3 Aggregation Agreement includes a declaration of any and all business or financial relations between aggregator and Verifier sufficient to ensure the independence of the Verifier in accordance with Section 6.8.iii.c of the RES Regulations (10% or more ownership in voting stock, or family officer/etc.). (per Appendix D.2.c)

 \boxtimes Yes \square No \square N/A

Comments: AlsoEnergy provides independent monitoring and reporting services. Although AlsoEnergy sells equipment to be used in conjunction with the PV system, by no means does AlsoEnergy hold a direct or indirect ownership in the renewable energy source. AlsoEnergy has no financial interest and receives no compensation in Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) generated by any source using AlsoEnergy as the independent monitor. AlsoEnergy shall not receive compensation for monitoring services that is a function of the number of certificates issued to any source using its independent monitoring and reporting services.

B.2.3.1 Aggregation Agreement includes statement indicating under what circumstances the Verifier would not be considered sufficiently independent of the individual Generation Unit, and that Generation Units not meeting this independence test would not be allowed to participate in the aggregation. (per Appendix D.2.c.1) \Box Yes \boxtimes No \Box N/A

Comments:

B.2.4 Aggregation Agreement identifies the type of technology that will be included in the aggregation and provides a statement that the aggregation will include only individual Generation Units that meet all the requirements of the RES Regulations (physical location, vintage, etc.). (per Appendix D.2.d)

 \boxtimes Yes \Box No \Box N/A

Comments: The generation unit is a ground PV system that uses monocrystalline P-type module technology. It uses string inverter technology and uses revenue grade production meters. The aggregation will only include individual Generation Units that meet all the requirements of these regulations.

B.2.5 Aggregation Agreement provides an adequate description of proposed operating procedures for the aggregation, by which the Verifier shall ensure that individual Generation Units in the aggregation comply with all eligibility requirements and that the NEPOOL GIS Certificates created accurately represent generation (see Section 6.8.iii.e of the RES Regulations). (per Appendix D.2.e)

 \boxtimes Yes \square No \square N/A

Comments:

B.2.5.1 At a minimum the proposed operating procedures include reasonable and sufficient details for:

• Determining that the Generation Unit exists and is in compliance with RES Regulations and Commission-approved Aggregation Agreement.

 \boxtimes Yes \square No \square N/A

• Meter reading procedure that allows the Verifier to verify these readings (manual or remote, via the aggregators own system or an independent system) in a manner fully compliant with NEPOOL GIS Operating Rules regarding metering.

 \boxtimes Yes \square No \square N/A

 Specifying how generation data will be entered into NEPOOL GIS to create Certificates.

 \boxtimes Yes \square No \square N/A

• Documenting a procedure to verify independently that the GIS Certificates created for the aggregation are consistent with the meter readings.

 \boxtimes Yes $\ \Box$ No $\ \Box$ N/A

• Correcting discrepancies in NEPOOL GIS Certificate generation identified by the Verifier.

 \boxtimes Yes \square No \square N/A

Comments: The aggregation owner will verify that the unit is in compliance with the RI RES rules and ensure that the independent verifier follows RI rules. The independent verifier will be required to collect energy production through a revenue grade production meter, taking measurements directly from the system's AC current lines and pushing that data to a data logging gateway device. The verifier will enter this data into the NEPOOL GIS system and confirm this entry with the aggregation owner. The verifier has a dedicated reporting and support team to review and verify data who can report to the Commision.

B.2.6 Aggregation Agreement provides an adequate description of how the Verifier will be compensated for its services by the aggregator (in no instance is the Verifier is compensated in a manner linked to the number of NEPOOL GIS Certificates created by the aggregation). (per Appendix D.2.f) \boxtimes Yes \square No \square N/A

Comments: AlsoEnergy provides agency reporting service for a term of 1 year or 5 years for a flat fee as a part of the order the contracted installer and/or system owner purchases from AlsoEnergy. At the end of the term, AlsoEnergy offers a renewal of monitoring and reporting services. This fee would be a fixed price for service and unrelated to the number of NEPOOL GIS Certificates created.

B.2.7 Aggregation Agreement provides an adequate confirmation and a description of how, no less frequently than quarterly, the Verifier will directly energy into the NEPOOL GIS the quantity of energy production in the applicable time period from each Generation Unit in the aggregation. The entry of generation data by the Verifier must be through an interface designated for this purpose by the NEPOOL GIS and in accordance with NEPOOL GIS Operating Rules applicable to Third-Party Meter Readers, and to which the Aggregation Owner shall not have access. (per Appendix D.2.g)

 \boxtimes Yes \square No \square N/A

Comments: AlsoEnergy will enter production directly into the NEPOOL GIS once a month, following the end of the reportable month.

- **C. Generation Unit Location** (see appropriate Sections of RES Regulations, Application Section 5 and Appendix E):
 - **C.1** Generation Unit is located in NEPOOL Control Area.

 \boxtimes Yes \square No

Coordinate Location: 44.407705/-70.720034

C.1.1 Generation Unit is located in Rhode Island.

 \Box Yes \boxtimes No

Facility Address: Route 26 Lot 30 Bethel, ME 04217

C.2 Generation Unit is located in a control area adjacent to NEPOOL and, in accordance with Section 5.1.ii of the RES Regulations, will apply the associated Generation Attributes to the RES only to the extent that the energy produced by the Generation Unit is actually delivered into NEPOOL for consumption by New England customers.

 \Box Yes \boxtimes No

Comments:

C.2.1 Applicant acknowledges that satisfactory documentation (i.e., a report from neighboring Generation Attribute accounting system or an affidavit) must be provided to verify that Generation Attributes from a

Generation Unit located in a control area adjacent to NEPOOL have not otherwise been, nor will be, sold, retired, claimed or represented as part of electrical energy output or sales, or used to satisfy obligations in jurisdictions other than Rhode Island (such assurances may consist of a report from a neighboring Generation Attribute accounting system or an affidavit from the Generation Unit).

 \Box Yes \Box No \boxtimes N/A

Comments:

C.2.2 Applicant acknowledges that energy delivered from such Generation Unit into NEPOOL will be verified by the following:

- A unit-specific bilateral contract for the sale and delivery of such energy into NEPOOL
- Confirmation from ISO that the energy was actually settled in the ISO Market Settlement System, and
- Confirmation through the North American Reliability Council tagging system that the import of the energy into NEPOOL actually occurred, or such other requirements as the Commission deems appropriate

 \Box Yes \Box No \boxtimes N/A

Comments:

D. Eligible Fuel Source – Solar, Wind, Ocean Thermal, Geothermal, or Fuel Cell (using an eligible renewable resource) (see appropriate Sections of RES Regulations and Application Section 2.4):

 \boxtimes Yes \square No

 \Box Yes \boxtimes No

Fuel Source: Solar

Ε. Eligible Fuel Source – Small Hydro Facilities (see appropriate Sections of RES Regulations and Application Sections 2.5-2.6):

E.1 Aggregate capacity does not exceed 30 MW.

Comments:

E.2 If "New Renewable Energy Resource", applicant acknowledges that facility does not involve any new impoundment or diversion of water with an average salinity of 20 parts per thousand or less.

 \Box Yes \Box No \boxtimes N/A

 \Box Yes \Box No \boxtimes N/A

F. Eligible Fuel Source – Biomass Facilities (see appropriate Sections of RES Regulations, Application Sections 2.7 and Appendix F):

 \Box Yes \boxtimes No

F.1 Generation Unit uses a biomass fuel source listed in RES Regulations Section 3.7.

 \Box Yes \Box No \boxtimes N/A

Comments:

If source is other than RES Regulations Section 3.7-listed, said source has **F.2** been designated as "clean wood."

 \Box Yes \Box No \boxtimes N/A

Comments:

F.3 Fuel Source Plan can reasonably be expected to ensure that only Eligible Biomass Fuels will be used, and in the case of co-firing ensure that only that proportion of generation attributable to an Eligible Biomass Fuel be eligible.

 \Box Yes \Box No \boxtimes N/A

Comments:

F.3.1 Fuel Source Plan specifies the type of Eligible Biomass Fuel to be used.

 \Box Yes \Box No \boxtimes N/A

Comments:

F.3.2 If proposed fuel is "clean wood", Fuel Source Plan provides adequate substantiation as to why the fuel source should be considered a clean wood.

Comments:

Comments:

F.3.3 In the case of co-firing with a fossil fuel, Fuel Source Plan includes an adequate description of how such co-firing will occur and how the relative amounts of Eligible Biomass Fuel and fossil fuel will be measured, and how the eligible portion of generation output will be calculated (with such calculations based on the energy content of the proposed fuels used). \Box Yes \Box No \boxtimes N/A

Comments:

F.3.4 Fuel Source Plan includes an adequate description of what measures will be taken to ensure that only the Eligible Biomass Fuel is used (e.g., standard operating protocols or procedures that will be implemented at the Generating Unit, contracts with fuel suppliers, testing or sampling regimes).

Comments:

F.3.5 Fuel Source Plan includes adequate assurance that the fuels stored at or brought to the Generation Unit will only be Eligible Biomass Fuels or fossil fuels used for co-firing.

 \Box Yes \Box No \boxtimes N/A

 \Box Yes \Box No \boxtimes N/A

Comments:

F.3.6 If proposed fuel includes recycled wood waste, Fuel Source Plan provides adequate documentation to ensure that such fuel meets the definition of Eligible Biomass Fuel and also meets material separation, storage, or handling standards acceptable to the Commission and furthermore consistent with the RES Regulations.

 \Box Yes \Box No \boxtimes N/A

Comments:

F.3.7 Applicant certifies that it will file all reports and other information necessary to enable the Commission to verify the on- going eligibility of the renewable energy generators pursuant to Section 6.3 of the RES Regulations.

 \Box Yes \Box No \boxtimes N/A

Comments:

F.3.8 A copy of the Generation Unit's Valid Air Permit or equivalent authorization has been attached and the effective date and issuing state or jurisdiction has been identified.

 \Box Yes \Box No \boxtimes N/A

Comments:

G. Other Comments/Observations:

□ Yes □ No ⊠ N/A