

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**IN RE: 2025 RENEWABLE ENERGY GROWTH – :  
CLASSES, CEILING PRICES, AND CAPACITY :  
TARGETS AND 2025 RENEWABLE ENERGY : DOCKET NO. 24-50-REG  
GROWTH PROGRAM – TARIFFS AND SOLICITATION :  
AND ENROLLMENT PROCESS RULES :**

**Decisions from February 20, 2025, Open Meeting**

**Ceiling Prices:**

The Commission approved the Small Solar I Ceiling Price of 33.85 cents per kWh and Small Solar II Ceiling Price of 32.35 cents per kWh.

**Allocations:**

The Commission approved a total allocation for projects less than 1 MW of 30 MW, as with allocations to each class as follows: 9 MW in Small Solar I and II; 6 MW in Medium Solar; 6.5 MW in Commercial Solar I; 0.5 MW in Commercial Solar I CRDG; 7 MW in Commercial Solar II; and 1 MW in Commercial Solar II CRDG.

The Commission approved Plan A and Plan B as modified by the prior decision related to projects less than 1 MW. The effect is to reduce the total of each proposed Plan by 8.5 MW. Plan A totals 104 MW and Plan B totals 49 MW.

**Tariffs and Enrollment Rules:**

The Commission directed Rhode Island Energy to remove from Tariff No. 2151-K, Sheet 10, and No. 2152-K, Sheet 15, the following paragraph: “If the sum of the Bill Credits in a given month exceeds the Performance-Based Incentive Payment, the Bill Credit Recipients shall receive the full amount of the Bill Credit, which will not exceed the total of the per kWh delivery service charges and applicable Last Resort Service charges, excluding the customer charge and any applicable taxes. There will be no additional amounts related to the calculation of the Performance-Based Incentive Payment charged or credited to the Bill Credit Recipients or the recipient identified on the Application.”

The Commission directed Rhode Island Energy to modify Tariff 2151-K, to remove the requirement that projects that are not Shared Solar must be sized to produce electricity at an annual level equal to or less than the three-year average on-site use. Rhode Island Energy’s compliance filing should highlight the places in the tariff that need to be modified to implement this decision. This decision does not change the 25kW cap on residential projects.

With the exception of the brownfield placeholder language, the Commission approved Rhode Island Energy’s proposed tariff modifications filed on November 26, 2024. This includes the ASO study language that the parties agreed to during the hearing.

## **Brownfield Pilot:**

The Commission rejected the DG Board's proposal design and directed Rhode Island Energy to file a Solar Brownfield Pilot design in the tariff and enrollment rules consistent with the following parameters:

- The purposes of the pilot shall include: 1) learning about the value of the brownfield adder; 2) assessing whether and what benefits are created from the pilot; and 3) testing program design.
- The total pilot funding shall be \$2.5 million.
- Grants of \$140 per kW DC shall be provided for project capacity sited on brownfields in need of remediation at time of application. Grant payments shall be disbursed within 10 days of the effective date of the Certificate of Eligibility. The intent is for payments to be made promptly after a project is eligible for performance-based incentive payments. The company should identify and explain any limitations preventing full payment within this timeframe and propose solutions in the compliance filing.
- This pilot will remain in effect until \$2.5 million has been allocated, subject to an interim review after three years if any funds remain.
- Eligible projects must meet the Large Solar I & II definitions and be located on brownfields in need of remediation at the time of application, as confirmed by the RI DEM.
- Rhode Island Energy shall propose a process for reviewing and ranking applications, including consideration of the project's potential beneficial impact on the land and waters of the state through remediation. The company should describe the involvement of the Division in the review process. The intent is to enable the Division's experts to provide meaningful future testimony on the review process and other pilot learnings. The company may consult with RI DEM on project review and input.
- Rhode Island Energy shall submit a review to the Commission upon the earlier of the full fund allocation or the three-year mark. The report shall include:
  - Actual remediation costs incurred by pilot participants.
  - Project specific incremental benefits.
  - Assessment of whether the brownfield would have been remediated absent the pilot.
  - Assessment of the likelihood that the pilot resulted in reliable benefits and a valuation of those benefits.
  - The proposed tariff and enrollment rules should include collection of the types of information necessary to provide the above-described report, and consistent with the items recommended by SEA and Mr. Brennan.
- Rhode Island Energy shall file a compliance tariff and pilot program design consistent with these parameters. The compliance filing is due on March 20, 2025, and shall include all necessary implementation details and supporting documentation.