

August 31, 2011

**VIA HAND DELIVERY & ELECTRONIC MAIL**

Luly E. Massaro, Commission Clerk  
Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission  
89 Jefferson Boulevard  
Warwick, RI 02888

**RE: Distributed Generation Enrollment Application and Enrollment Process Rules  
Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_**

Dear Ms. Massaro:

Pursuant to Rules 1.5 (b) and 1.10 (b) of the Rules of Practice and Procedure of the Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”), on behalf of National Grid<sup>1</sup> enclosed are one original and nine copies of the Company’s proposed Distributed Generation (“DG”) Enrollment Application and Enrollment Process Rules, submitted in compliance with the provisions of the recently enacted Rhode Island Distributed Generation Standard Contracts Act (the “Act”).

Pursuant to the provisions of the Act, National Grid is required to procure 10 percent of the minimum long-term contract capacity under the long-term contracting standard for renewable energy in section 39-26.1-2, or 9 MW, based on annual class targets set by the Distributed Generation Standard Contract Board<sup>2</sup> and approved by the Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”). The Act provides that standard contracts be entered for an aggregate nameplate capacity of at least 40 MW of Distributed Generation projects by the end of 2014, as set forth in the following four (4) year schedule:

- By December 31, 2011: a minimum of five megawatts (5 MW) nameplate capacity
- By December 31, 2012: a minimum aggregate of twenty megawatts (20 MW) nameplate capacity
- By December 31, 2013: a minimum aggregate of thirty megawatts (30 MW) nameplate capacity
- By December 31, 2013: a minimum aggregate of forty megawatts (40 MW) nameplate capacity

Under a single enrollment in 2011, the initial program year, National Grid must enter standard contracts for a minimum of 5 MW nameplate capacity. Thereafter, the Company must conduct three enrollments annually. Each enrollment will be open for a two-week period. National Grid is not required to enter into more than one-third of the annual target per enrollment, with the exception of the 2011 program year.

The Act also provides that the enrollments be governed by a solicitation and enrollment process rules filed with and approved by the Commission each year. Thus, the Company is submitting for approval the enclosed Distributed Generation Enrollment Application and Enrollment Process Rules relative to the

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<sup>1</sup> The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid (“National grid” or the “Company”).

<sup>2</sup> The Distributed Generation Standard Contract Board, or if not yet constituted, the Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources.

upcoming 2011 enrollment. The application and process rules are designed to reflect the provisions of the Act and include the following provisions:

- Reference to the applicable ceiling price and resource classes
- Provision for Small and Large DG projects as defined in the Act
- A short-form application
- Reference to a standard contract to be submitted to the Commission by the Board's contract working group for approval
- Eligibility requirements
- Bid evaluation and selection criteria

Given the very short time frame for the 2011 enrollment, the Company respectfully requests an expedited review and approval of this submission.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have any questions regarding this filing, please feel free to contact me at (401) 784-7667.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "T. Teehan".

Thomas R. Teehan

Enclosures

cc: Steve Scialabba  
Leo Wold, Esq.

# **Rhode Island Renewable Distributed Generation Standard Contract Enrollment Application and Enrollment Process Rules**

## **I. Introduction and Overview**

### **1.1 Purpose of the Enrollment**

The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid (“National Grid”) or the “Company”), is seeking applications to enter into standard contracts for the supply of electric capacity and energy and Renewable Energy Certificates and related attributes (including Certificates issued in the New England Power Pool Generation Information System) (collectively, “RECs”) from eligible Distributed Generation projects pursuant to Chapter 26.2 of Title 39 of the Rhode Island General Laws, entitled Distributed Generation Standard Contracts Act (the “Act”), which became effective June 29, 2011, and solicitation and enrollment process rules promulgated thereunder. In addition, National Grid is conducting this enrollment in accordance with the Rules and Regulations Governing Long-Term Contracting Standards for Renewable Energy (the “Regulations”) promulgated under Chapter 26.1 by the Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”), which became effective January 28, 2010.<sup>1</sup> In the enrollment period for the current program year, National Grid is soliciting capacity, energy, RECs and all other environmental attributes and market products that are available or may become available from Distributed Generation facilities pursuant to standard contracts for fifteen (15) year terms.

### **1.2 Statutory Framework**

Pursuant to the provisions of the Act, National Grid is required to procure 10% of the minimum long-term contract capacity under the long-term contracting standard for renewable energy in section 39-26.1-2, or 9 MW, based on annual class targets set by the Board<sup>2</sup> and approved by the Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”). National Grid shall enter standard contracts for an aggregate nameplate capacity of at least 40 MW of Distributed Generation projects by the end of 2014, as set forth in the following four (4) year schedule:

By December 31, 2011: a minimum of five megawatts (5 MW) nameplate capacity

By December 31, 2012: a minimum aggregate of twenty megawatts (20 MW)  
nameplate capacity

By December 31, 2013: a minimum aggregate of thirty megawatts (30 MW) nameplate  
capacity

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<sup>1</sup> Except as expressly differentiated in the Act, the standard contracts entered into shall be treated for all purposes as long-term contracts entered into under the provisions of the long-term contracting standards for renewable energy found in chapter 26.1 of Title 39 of the Rhode Island General Laws, and all such provisions shall apply to such contracts. R.I.G.L.. §39-26.2-9.

<sup>2</sup> The Distributed Generation Standard Contract Board, or if not yet constituted, the Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources.

By December 31, 2013: a minimum aggregate of forty megawatts (40 MW) nameplate capacity

Thus, under a single enrollment in 2011, the initial program year, National Grid must enter standard contracts for a minimum of 5 MW nameplate capacity. Thereafter, the Company must conduct three enrollments annually. Each enrollment will be open for a two-week period. National Grid is not required to enter into more than one-third of the annual target per enrollment, with the exception of the 2011 program year. The attached Schedule 1 sets out a schedule of anticipated dates for the 2011 Enrollment process. The classes and annual targets for the 2011 program year are listed in Schedule 2 of this application.

### **1.2.1 Applications**

Applicants are required to complete and submit a short-form application (“Application”) which Application shall require the applicant to provide the project owner’s identity and the project’s proposed location, nameplate capacity, and renewable energy class and, as described in Section II below, allows for additional information including information relative to the permitting, financial feasibility, ability to build, and timing for deployment of the proposed projects. For large distributed generation projects the Application also requires the applicant to bid a fixed bundled price for the sale of the energy, capacity, renewable energy certificates, and all other environmental attributes and market products that are available or may become available from the distributed generation facility on a fixed per kilowatt-hour basis for the output of the project. The Application to be used by applicants in this enrollment is attached as Attachment A.

Successful applicants will be selected in accordance with the process set forth in this application, which encompasses the solicitation and enrollment process rules. Standard contracts will be finalized between National Grid and successful applicants, based on the ceiling prices and annual targets for each renewable energy technology class set by the Board and approved by the Commission. A blank Standard Contract, which has been approved by the Commission, is included in this application as Appendix B. Applicants are responsible for reading and understanding the Standard Contract to the extent necessary to submit an application, and to promptly execute this contract if selected in the enrollment. There will be no exceptions to the Standard Contract.

### **1.2.2 Eligibility Requirements**

To be eligible under this enrollment, a distributed generation facility must be a “newly developed renewable energy resource” under the Long-Term Contracting Standard and the Regulations. A “newly developed renewable resource” is defined as an electric generation unit that uses exclusively an eligible renewable energy resource (as defined under R.I.G.L. § 39-26-5 and Section 5 of the Rules and Regulations governing the Implementation of a Renewable Energy Standard, effective July 25, 2007), that has neither begun operation, nor have the developers completed financing

for construction.<sup>3</sup> The eligible technologies include biogas generated as a result of anaerobic digestion, but specifically exclude all other listed biomass fuels. Further, the unit must be located in the Rhode Island load zone, with a nameplate capacity no greater than five (5) MW, and be connected to the electric distribution company's power system.

a. Small Distributed Generation Projects

National Grid shall enter into standard contracts for fifteen (15) year terms at the applicable Ceiling Price with Small Distributed Generation projects on a first-come first-serve basis, provided the applicants meet the minimum threshold requirements set forth in this application and enrollment process rules. If there are more small projects than what is specified for a class target, National Grid shall review the applications submitted, and select first those projects that appear to be the furthest along in development and most likely to be deployed utilizing a competitive non-price scoring method described later. Small Distributed Generation Projects must have a nameplate capacity no larger than the following: Solar: 500 kW; Wind: 1.5 MW; and Other Technologies: 1 MW. The applicant must submit an affidavit confirming that the project is not a segment of a larger project.

b. Large Distributed Generation Projects

Large Distributed Generation projects must bid a fixed bundled price for the sale of energy, capacity, and renewable energy certificates ("RECs") and all other environmental attributes and market products that are available or may become available from the distributed generation facility on a per kilowatt-hour basis for the output of the project for a contract term of fifteen (15) years. Alternative Pricing is allowed for a contract term different than fifteen (15) years, but the Applicant must demonstrate why the alternative term is appropriate, and if the Company agrees to the different term it must be approved by the Commission. Selection will be based on the lowest price received and on competitive non-price scoring, but not to exceed the applicable ceiling price, provided the applicants meet the minimum threshold requirements set forth in this application. Large Distributed Generation Projects are larger than the Small Distributed Generation Project sizes set forth above, but are no greater than 5 MW.

## II. Bid Evaluation and Selection Criteria and Process

### 2.1 Overview of Bid Evaluation and Selection Process

Applications received by National Grid, will be subject to a consistent and defined review, evaluation and selection process. The first stage consists of a review of whether the bids satisfy specified eligibility and minimum threshold requirements. National Grid will conduct any additional evaluation as required, consistent with the requirements set

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<sup>3</sup> Under Section 3.16 of the Regulations, projects located within the State of Rhode Island which obtained financing on or after January 1, 2009, which have not begun operation, would also be considered a "newly developed renewable energy resource."

forth above, and select applicants for execution of Standard Contracts. Consultation with the Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources and/or the Rhode Island Division of Public Utilities and Carriers may also be utilized in this further assessment. Applicants selected by National Grid will be required to indicate in writing whether they intend to proceed with their proposals within five business days of being notified, and to execute contracts within two business days of receipt from National Grid. All executed contracts will be filed with the Commission.

## **2.2 Interconnection Progress Prior to Enrollment**

The Act requires that the distributed generation facility owner be liable for the cost of interconnection, and sufficient progress in the interconnection process must be made prior to the enrollment. Project owners must have submitted an Interconnection application and have a completed Feasibility study as defined the Rhode Island Distributed Generation Interconnection Act and The Narragansett Electric Company Standards for Connecting Distributed Generation, and must provide copies with this application for enrollment.

Information regarding Interconnection of Generators in Rhode Island can be found at the following link:

[https://www.nationalgridus.com/narragansett/business/energyeff/4\\_interconnect.asp](https://www.nationalgridus.com/narragansett/business/energyeff/4_interconnect.asp)

## **2.3 Minimum Threshold Requirements**

The Distributed Generation Standard Contracts Act requires that Standard Contracts include a requirement that distributed generation facility owners make a performance guarantee deposit to National Grid. Should the distributed generation facility not produce the output proposed in its enrollment application within eighteen (18) months of contract execution, the contract is automatically voided, and the performance guarantee deposit is forfeited. It is a threshold requirement, therefore, that the construction schedule for a project lead to accomplishment of this critical milestone within eighteen months of contract execution.<sup>4</sup>

As a second threshold requirement, project developers submitting applications must have also submitted applications for interconnection and received a Feasibility study, which should be submitted as part of the application.

Applications that meet all the eligibility requirements and the above minimum threshold requirements will be further evaluated to determine compliance with a broader set of minimum threshold requirements, which have been designed to screen out proposals that are insufficiently mature from a project development perspective; lack

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<sup>4</sup> The performance guarantee deposit is fifteen dollars (\$15.00) for small distributed generation projects and twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) for large distributed generation projects for every renewable energy certificate (REC) estimated to be generated per year under the contract. Should this milestone be achieved, the deposit shall be refunded, without interest, on a prorated basis of renewable energy actually delivered over the course of the first year of the project's operation.

technical viability; or fail to satisfy minimum standards for bidder experience and ability to finance the proposed project. The categories of information necessary to establish minimum threshold requirements for this enrollment are set forth below.

- Energy Resource Plan
- Financial/Legal Capability
- Site Control
- Permit Acquisition Plan
- Interconnection
- Technical/Engineering
- Project Schedule
- Project Management and Experience
- Economic Benefit to Rhode Island

National Grid is interested in projects that can demonstrate the ability to develop, permit, finance, and construct the proposed project within the required eighteen month schedule.

Applicants must use this application and provide complete responses. Applicants are required to provide the information requested in each section of the application. If any of the information requested is inconsistent with the type of technology or product proposed, the Applicant should include “N/A” and describe the basis for this designation. If an Applicant does not have the information requested in the application and cannot obtain access to that information prior to the enrollment commencement date, the Applicant should provide an appropriate explanation. It is anticipated that larger projects may provide a higher level of detail in the responses than smaller projects. It is emphasized, however, that Applicants who do not provide complete and credible information in any of the above categories cannot expect their projects to proceed to the project scoring step. The forms are included in this Application in MS Word format as Appendix A.

## **2.4 Project Scoring**

In conducting evaluations of each project, National Grid will employ the scoring methodology described in Schedule 3. The non-price evaluation criteria are designed to assess the likelihood of a project coming to fruition based on various factors critical to successful project development. The objectives of the criteria are to provide an indication of the feasibility and viability of each project and the likelihood of meeting the proposed commercial operation date. Applications that can demonstrate, based on the current status of project development and past experience, that the project will likely be successfully developed and operated as proposed will have a higher likelihood of success.

For Small Distributed Generation projects, National Grid plans to weight completion schedule at fifty percent (50%) and non-price factors at fifty percent (50%). For Large Distributed Generation projects, price is weighted at eighty percent (80%) and non-price factors at twenty percent (20%).

National Grid reserves the right to reject any project not receiving a minimum score in the non-price evaluation, regardless of the completion date or pricing.

If the situation arises where multiple projects share the same interconnection facilities, and in the event that such projects receive equivalent scores in the evaluation, the project with the earliest interconnection application will be taken first. In addition, National Grid will reject any application for which interconnection is not technically feasible.

## **2.5 Projects at Customer Sites Involving Net Metering**

A distributed generation project that is also being employed by a customer for net metering purposes may submit an application to sell the excess output from the project.<sup>5</sup>In this case, the applicant must be the project owner. The class in which the project is submitted is determined by the total project size, and not by the excess output offered for sale under a Standard Contract. The application forms in Appendix A require that both the project size and the excess output being offered for sale be specified.

## **2.6 Coordination with Annual Solicitations under the Long-Term Contracting Standard**

The DG Enrollment process is separate and distinct from the annual competitive solicitations conducted under the Long-Term Contracting Standards. National Grid will provide reports to the Commission on both the solicitation and the annual enrollment process in order to track compliance with the Long-Term Contracting Standard. Projects submitted, but not yet selected, in an annual solicitation under the Long-Term Contracting Standards, may be submitted in a Distributed Generation enrollment. In this case, should the submitted pricing in one of the large DG classes be higher than that submitted in the competitive solicitation, a fully documented explanation must be provided. Additionally, the Applicant agrees that entering into a DG Standard Contract will automatically rescind the Applicant's bid relative to that project in the annual solicitation under the Long-Term Contracting Standards.

## **2.7 Delivery of Energy into ISO-NE Market**

Energy will be delivered to National Grid in the Rhode Island Zone at the delivery node associated with the distributed generator. This will be accomplished through registration of the generator as a generation asset and assignment of the energy to National Grid.

## **2.8 Participation in ISO-NE Forward Capacity Market (FCM)**

While the ceiling prices are bundled prices for capacity, energy and RECs, National Grid will require that distributed generation owners submitting projects in this enrollment, act

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<sup>5</sup> In such case, at the election of the self-generator all of the renewable energy certificates pertaining to the energy consumed on site may be sold on a month-to-month basis outside of the terms of the standard contract.



as ISO-NE lead market participant in administration of the project in the FCM. Delivery of capacity and National Grid's purchase of capacity will be solely through financial settlement pursuant to the provisions of the Standard Contract. Generation owners are required to take commercially reasonable actions to qualify the project in the FCM as a New Capacity Resource or Existing Capacity Resource (as applicable) with the maximum Seasonal Claimed Capability available for the facility, and participate in every Capacity Commitment Period during the contract term and operate, when reasonably able, to maximize performance against any FCM Capacity Supply Obligations. In settlement of monthly invoices with the project owner, National Grid will deduct FCM capacity revenues which the project owner received (or should have received) directly from ISO-NE.

## **2.9 RPS Qualification and NEPOOL Generation Information System ("GIS") Certificates**

The Distributed Generation projects must obtain qualification as a renewable resource per the Rhode Island Renewable Energy Standard ("RES"), and it must register as a Participant Account Holder with the NEPOOL-GIS. Once qualified, National Grid must be designated to receive all of the RECs produced by the project and tracked in the NEPOOL-GIS under the operating rules found at [http://www.iso-ne.com/committees/comm\\_wkgrps/mrkts\\_comm/geninfo\\_sys/operating/index.html](http://www.iso-ne.com/committees/comm_wkgrps/mrkts_comm/geninfo_sys/operating/index.html)

## **2.10 Official Contact for the Enrollment**

Any questions on the Enrollment should be directed to the attention of the Official Contact for National Grid at the address listed below:

Corinne Abrams  
Manager, Environmental Transactions  
Energy Procurement  
National Grid  
100 East Old Country Road  
Hicksville, NY 11801  
(516) 545-5435

Questions may be submitted to the Official Contact at following email address:  
[corinne.abrams@us.ngrid.com](mailto:corinne.abrams@us.ngrid.com)

## **2.11 Submittal of Enrollment Applications**

The Standard Contract Enrollment Application and Appendices are posted on the National Grid energy supply procurement website.

[http://www.nationalgridus.com/energysupply/current\\_procurement.asp](http://www.nationalgridus.com/energysupply/current_procurement.asp).

Completed applications should be submitted electronically following the instructions on the site for the Rhode Island Standard Contract Enrollment for renewable energy. Electronic submittal will assure that the time of submittal is documented.

## Schedule 1

Event	Anticipated Dates
Enrollment begins	November 1, 2011
Due Date for Submission of Applications	November 14, 2011 5PM EPT
Execute Contracts	December 15, 2011
File Contracts with PUC	December 30, 2011

Note: Schedule 1 to be updated as required for each enrollment period.

**Schedule 2**  
**Classes and Targets Applicable to Current Enrollment Period**

Class	Target (kW)	Ceiling Price
Small Solar ( < 500 kW)		
Large Solar ( >500 kW; < 5 MW)		
Small Wind ( <1.5 MW)		
Large Wind >1.5 MW; <5 MW		
Other Technologies (Small) <1.0 MW		
Other Technologies (Large) >1.0 MW; <5 MW		

Note: Schedule 2 to be updated as required for each enrollment period.

**Schedule 3  
Project Evaluation and Scoring Methodology**

**Non-Price Scoring for All Projects (20 points)**

Non-price scoring is the same methodology employed National Grid in the initial competitive solicitation, and documented in the report on that solicitation, filed with the RI PUC on April 11, 2011. The scoring methodology is summarized as follows, and is based on the responses in Appendix A.

<b>Evaluation Factors</b>	<b>Max Points</b>	<b>Criteria Considered in Each Factor</b>
<b>A. Siting and Permitting</b>	4.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extent to which site control has been achieved and acquisition of any necessary real property rights, including right of ways (1.5 points)</li> <li>• Identification of required permits and approvals and status of plan to obtain permits and approvals (1.5 points)</li> <li>• Community relations/support (1.0 points)</li> </ul>
<b>B. Project Development Status and Operational Viability</b>	6.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reasonableness of critical path schedule and demonstrated ability to meet major milestones (1.5 points)</li> <li>• Credibility of energy resource plan (2.0 points)</li> <li>• Commercial access to and reliability of the proposed technology (1.0 points)</li> <li>• Progress in interconnection process (1.5 points)</li> </ul>
<b>C. Experience and Capability of Bidder and Project Team</b>	3.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project development experience (1.0 points)</li> <li>• Project financing experience (1.0 points)</li> <li>• Operations and maintenance experience (1.0 points)</li> </ul>
<b>D. Financing</b>	4.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Credibility of the financing plan (2.0 points)</li> <li>• Financial strength of the bidder (2.0 points)</li> </ul>
<b>E. Economic Benefit</b>	3.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project provides direct employment benefits (1.0 points)</li> <li>• Project provides indirect employment benefits (1.0 points)</li> <li>• Project provides tax revenues or other similar revenues (1.0 points)</li> </ul>
<b>Total</b>	<b>20.0</b>	

**Score on Completion Date for Small Projects (20 points)**

For each class, the project with the nearest completion date (commercial operation) will receive 20 points. Other projects will receive a deduction of two points per month of additional schedule duration.

**Score on Submitted Price for Large Projects (80 points)**

For each class, the project with the lowest price relative to the ceiling price will receive 80 points. For other projects, one point will be deducted for each \$MWh higher than the lowest submitted price.

**Total Scoring**

<b>Small Projects</b>	
Non-Price Scoring	20
Score on Completion Date	20
Total	40
<b>Large Projects</b>	
Price Scoring	80
Non-Price Scoring	20
Total	100

For small projects, the scoring methodology is intended to discriminate between a project with a near-term completion date, and a “credible” project with a near-term completion date, that is most likely to be deployed.

For large projects, the scoring methodology is intended to discriminate between a project with competitive pricing, and a “credible” project with competitive pricing, that is most likely to be successfully deployed.

National Grid reserves the right to reject any project not receiving a minimum score in the non-price evaluation, regardless of the completion date or pricing.

**Rhode Island Renewable Distributed Generation  
Standard Contract Enrollment Application  
Appendix A**

**1. Authorized Representative's Signature Certification Form**

The undersigned is a duly authorized representative of the Project listed below. The Representative hereby certifies that all the statements and representations made in this Application are true and accurate to the best of the Applicant's knowledge. The Applicant represents that it understands the requirements, terms and conditions of the Standard Contract. The Applicant certifies under the pains and penalties of perjury that the project submitted is not a segment of a larger newly developed project, which would not otherwise fall under the provisions of this Application.

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Exact Legal Entity)

Project Owner: \_\_\_\_\_  
(If different than above)

Signature of Authorized  
Representative: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Project Summary/Contact Information**

**Note: unless otherwise noted, all electric capacity and energy figures provided should be AC**

Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Class:  
(See Schedule 2) \_\_\_\_\_

Enrollment Period: \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated Commercial  
Operation Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Site/Location  
City or Town: \_\_\_\_\_

Proposed Interconnection Point: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Interconnection  
Application: \_\_\_\_\_

Proposed Point of Delivery: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Contact  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Facsimile Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Total capacity of the Project  
(MW):

Gross: \_\_\_\_\_  
Nameplate DC Rating (if solar) \_\_\_\_\_  
:  
Net \_\_\_\_\_

Contract Maximum Amount available for Delivery to National Grid (at the Point of Delivery (kWh AC per hour)<sup>1</sup>:

\_\_\_\_\_

Expected Annual Energy Production to be delivered to National Grid at the Point of Delivery (MWh AC):

\_\_\_\_\_

Estimated Net Capacity Factor (%):

\_\_\_\_\_

Study Provided to Support Estimated Generation:

\_\_\_\_\_ (Yes)                      \_\_\_\_\_ (No)

If Yes, Name of Firm Who Prepared the Study:

\_\_\_\_\_

Expected Annual Availability (%):

\_\_\_\_\_

Term of Contract:

\_\_\_\_\_

Estimated Equipment Life:

\_\_\_\_\_

Equipment Manufacturer:

\_\_\_\_\_

Interconnection Application No.:

\_\_\_\_\_

Project Type:  
(Check as applicable)

\_\_\_\_\_ Non-Firm Intermittent Energy

\_\_\_\_\_ Baseload Energy

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<sup>1</sup> If net metering, distinguish between total project generation and deliveries to the electric distribution system.



**3. Pricing Information (Applicable to Large Projects only)**

This section is applicable only to Large Projects. Pricing must be submitted as a fixed bundled price for the sale of energy, capacity, and renewable energy certificates (RECs) on a per kilowatt-hour (\$/kWh) basis for the output of the project over the contract term of fifteen (15) years.

Price (\$/kWh): \_\_\_\_\_(to five decimal places)

Alternative Pricing is allowed for a contract term different than fifteen (15) years, but the Applicant must demonstrate why the alternative term is appropriate.

Alternative Contract Term (years): \_\_\_\_\_

Alternative Price (\$/kWh): \_\_\_\_\_

**4. Operational Parameters**

**Note: all electric capacity and energy figures provided should be AC**

Applicants should provide the following information requested regarding the project operational parameters and general project information. If information requested is not applicable to the specific technology, the Applicant should specify with an N/A.

**4.1. Operating Characteristics**

4.1.1. Nameplate Capacity: \_\_\_\_\_ MW

Net Capacity at Average Site conditions: \_\_\_\_\_ MW

4.1.2. Expected Capacity to be Qualified in the ISO-NE Forward Capacity Market<sup>2</sup>

Winter: \_\_\_\_\_ MW

Summer: \_\_\_\_\_ MW

4.1.3. Energy Generation

Expected Gross Annual Energy Production: \_\_\_\_\_ MW/yr

Expected Net Annual Energy Production: \_\_\_\_\_ MW/yr

**Expected Peak and Off-Peak Monthly Production<sup>3</sup>**

<b>Month</b>	<b>On-Peak (MWh/Month)</b>	<b>Off-Peak (MWh/Month)</b>
January		
February		
March		
April		
May		
June		
July		
August		

<sup>2</sup> Expected capacity to be qualified in each capability period using the specific conventions applicable to the project type, i.e. conventional or intermittent generator. Please see the following ISO-NE rules, procedures and manuals for a more complete description: OP-14 Technical Requirements for Generators, Demand Resources, and Asset Related Demands; M-RPA Registration and Performance Auditing; M-20 Forward Capacity Market; M-11 Market Operation; and OP-18 Metering and Telemetry Criteria. The overall market tariff is Market Rule 1.

<sup>3</sup> If the level of generation is expected to vary over the life of the Standard Contract, the Applicant should provide an expanded table for the term of the Standard Contract.

September		
October		
November		
December		
<b>Total</b>		

4.1.4. Annual Degradation Rate (if any) and basis for it: \_\_\_\_\_

4.1.5. Expected Operating Life of the Project (years): \_\_\_\_\_

4.2. Operating Mode

Proposed method/mode of Operation

Intermittent Only  
(Please define parameters of operation) \_\_\_\_\_

Must Run (at full load) \_\_\_\_\_

4.3. Maintenance Outage Requirements

Specify partial and complete planned outage requirements in weeks or days. Also, list the number of months required for the cycle to repeat (e.g., list time interval of minor and major overhauls, and the duration of overhauls.

## 5. Energy Resource Plan

The Applicant is required to provide an energy resource or fuel supply plan for its proposed project, including supporting documentation. The fuel supply/energy resource profile information should be consistent with the type of technology/resource option proposed and the term of the Standard Contract proposed. The information requested is organized according to the type of project or energy resource. Applicants should respond only to relevant questions.

**The Energy Resource Plan should provide a reliable basis for translation of nameplate capacity to contract capacity under the Long-Term Contracting Standard.**

### Wind Energy Projects:

- Provide a summary of all collected wind data for the proposed site. Identify when the data was collected and by whom.
- Indicate where the data was collected and its proximity to the proposed site. Include an identification of the location for the anemometers and/or other wind speed measurement devices that were used to arrive at an assessment of the site generation capability.
- Provide (a) at least one year of hourly wind resource data, or (b) a wind resource assessment report from a qualified resource assessment firm or meteorologist, or (c) both. Include an analysis of the available wind data which addresses the relationship between wind conditions and electrical output.
- Provide a projection of gross and net annual energy production, including projections of average net hourly energy production, based on the wind resource data (a 12 x 24 energy projection).
- Please provide an explanation if the average of the hourly MWh of production is different from the expected Net Annual Energy Production.
- Provide a site-adjusted power curve. Each curve should list the elevation, temperature and air density used.
- Identify the assumptions for losses in the calculation of projected annual energy production, including each element in the calculation of losses.

### Biomass (limited to Anaerobic Digestion Biogas):

- Provide a resource assessment of available biomass fuel for the proposed project and its proximity to the project site.
- Provide a plan for obtaining the biomass fuel or feedstock, including a transportation plan.
- Provide any contracts or letters of intent to acquire and transport the biomass fuel or feedstock.

- Demonstrate that projected energy output for the project over the term of the contract is consistent with the energy supply available.
- Describe any contingencies or constraints that could affect the availability of fuel or the energy resource for the project and any contingency plans for meeting projected generation levels

Solar:

- Provide an assessment of the available solar incidence or resource and the projected production profile for the project. Identify anticipated generation by hour and month for at least a one-year period and describe any trends in generation capability over time (i.e. annual decline rate of expected output).
- Describe the methodology used to generate the projected generation and describe the in-house or consulting expertise used to arrive at the generation estimates. Use of “PV Watts,” a solar PV generation estimation tool developed by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) is acceptable, with sufficient explanation of chosen inputs to the calculator.

Hydro:

- Describe the project characteristics in terms of water flow (on a monthly basis) and head, and state the assumptions regarding seasonal variations, and a conversion of such flow into kilowatts and kilowatt-hours. Provide monthly flow duration curves based upon daily stream flow records.
- Identify if the project is run-of-river or has storage capability.
- If the project is an expansion of an existing project, (a) provide energy output estimates with and without the proposed expansion and (b) specify the quantity of energy that would qualify as RPS Class I Renewable Generation and the actions proposed to be taken by the Applicant to accomplish such qualification.

## 6. Financial/Legal

Applicants are required to provide responses to all questions below. Applicants are required to demonstrate the financial viability of their proposed project. Applicants should provide the following information:

- 6.1. Provide a description of the structure of the Applicant's organization from a financial and legal perspective, including any general and limited partners, officers, directors, managers, members and shareholders, involvement of any subsidiaries supporting the project, and the providers of equity and debt during project development. Provide an organization chart showing the relationship between the equity participants and an explanation of the relationships.
- 6.2. Provide a description of the financing plan for the project, including construction and term financing. The financing plan should address the following:
  - Who will finance the project and how it will be financed
  - The project's planned permanent financial structure
  - Expected sources of debt and equity financing
  - Estimated construction costs and arrangements for construction financing
  - Describe any agreements entered into with respect to equity ownership in the proposed project and any other financing arrangement.

In addition, the financing plan should address the financing of development costs. All Applicants are required to provide this information.

- 6.3. Provide documentation illustrating the experience of the project sponsor in securing financing for projects of similar size and technology. For each project (up to the 10 most recent, if applicable) previously financed provide the following information:
  - Project name and location
  - Project type and size
  - Date of construction and permanent financing
  - Form of debt and equity financing
- 6.4. Provide evidence that the Applicant has the financial resources and financial strength to complete and operate the project as planned.

- 6.5. The Applicant should demonstrate its ability (and/or the ability of its credit support provider) to provide the required security, including its plan for doing so.
- 6.6. Provide a description of any current credit issues regarding the Applicant or affiliate entities raised by rating agencies, banks, or accounting firms.
- 6.7. Describe the role of the federal Production Tax Credit or Investment Tax Credit (or other incentives) on the viability of the project.
- 6.8. Applicants must disclose any pending or threatened litigation related to projects owned or managed by them or any of their affiliates in the United States.

## 7. Siting and Interconnection

This section of the response package addresses project location, siting, real property rights and interconnection issues. Applicants should ensure that the threshold criteria for siting are verified in their responses.

- 7.1. Provide a site plan including a map of the site that clearly identifies the location of the property, the location of the generation facility on the site, the total acreage, the anticipated interconnection point, and the relationship of the site to other local infrastructure, including transmission facilities, roadways, and water sources. In addition to providing the required map, provide a site layout plan which illustrates the location of all major equipment and facilities on the site.
- 7.2. Provide evidence of the right to use the site.
  - Does the project have a right to use the site (e.g., by virtue of ownership or land rights obtained from the owner)?
  - If so, please identify the means of site control.

Include any relevant documentation, e.g., lease agreement, option to lease, purchase agreement, option to purchase, or letter of intent regarding any of the foregoing.

- 7.3. Provide evidence that the project is consistent with the zoning of the site, and not subject to any other restrictions. If there are zoning or other restrictions, identify present and required zoning and/or land use designations, identify any restrictions, and provide a permitting plan and timeline to secure the necessary approvals.
- 7.4. Provide a description of the area surrounding the site including a description of the local zoning, flood plain information, existing land use and setting (woodlands, grasslands, agriculture, other).
- 7.5. Identify any real property rights (e.g., fee-owned parcels, rights-of-way or easements) that are required for access to the project or for interconnection. Describe the status of acquisition of real property rights, and describe the plan for securing the necessary real property rights, including the proposed timeline. Include these plans and the timeline in the overall project timeline.
- 7.6. Provide a copy of the interconnection application and a copy of any screening memos, or executed study agreements. Provide a copy of the Feasibility study and/or Impact study, as defined the Rhode Island Distributed Generation Interconnection Act, completed to date.



Provide a copy of an interconnection agreement, if any, executed by the Applicant with respect to the proposed project.

- 7.7. Provide a copy of an electrical one-line diagram showing the interconnection facilities and the relevant transmission or distribution facilities.
- 7.8. Specify and describe the interconnection and transmission or distribution facilities that are required, including system control and protection.

## 8. Environmental Assessment and Permit Acquisition Plan

This section addresses environmental and other regulatory issues associated with project siting, development and operations.

- 8.1. Provide a list of all the permits, licenses, and environmental assessments and/or environmental impact statements required. If a Applicant has secured any permit or has applied for a permit, please identify in the response.
  - Provide a list of all Federal, state and local permits, licenses, and environmental assessments and/or environmental impact statements required to construct and operate the project.
  - Identify the governmental agencies which will issue or approve the required permits, licenses, and environmental assessments and/or environmental impact statements.
- 8.2. Provide the anticipated timeline for seeking and receiving the required permits, licenses, and environmental assessments and/or environmental impact statements, using the execution date of the Standard Contract as the starting point, if applicable. Include a project approval assessment which describes, in narrative form, each segment of the process, the required permit or approval, and the basis for projection of success by the milestone date. All requirements should be included on the project schedule in Section 11.
- 8.3. Provide a preliminary environmental assessment of the site and project, including both construction and operation. The Applicant should identify environmental impacts associated with the proposed project, any potential impediments to development, and its plan to mitigate such impacts or impediments. The analysis should address each of the major environmental areas presented below:
  - Site development
  - Transportation infrastructure
  - Air quality
  - Water resources/water quality
  - Ecology
  - Land use
  - Cultural resources
  - Previous site use
  - Noise level
  - Aesthetic/visual
  - Transmission and distribution infrastructure
  - Fuel supply access (if applicable)

- 8.4. Provide documentation identifying the level of public support for the project including letters from public officials, newspaper articles, etc. If the project sponsor has not yet initiated community outreach for the project, please describe any plans for such outreach activities.

## 9. Engineering and Technology; Commercial Access to Equipment

This section includes questions pertinent to the engineering design and project technology. Applicants should provide information about the specific technology or equipment including the track record of the technology and equipment.

- 9.1. Provide a reasonable but preliminary engineering plan which includes the following information:
  - Type of generation technology
  - If wind turbines, provide the turbine make and model, hub height, rotor diameter, and power curve
  - Major equipment to be used
  - Manufacturer of the equipment
  - Status of acquisition of the equipment
  - Whether the Applicant has a contract for the equipment. If not, describe the Applicant's plan for securing equipment and the status of any pertinent commercial arrangements
  - Equipment vendors selected/considered
  - History of equipment operations
  - If the equipment manufacturer has not yet been selected, identify in the equipment procurement strategy the factors under consideration for selecting the preferred equipment
- 9.2. If the Applicant has not yet selected the major generation equipment for the project, please provide a list of the key equipment suppliers under consideration.
- 9.3. Please identify the same or similar equipment by the same manufacturer that are presently in commercial operations including the number installed and installed capacity
- 9.4. For less mature technologies provide evidence (including identifying specific applications) that the technology to be employed for energy production is ready for transfer to the design and construction phases. Also, address how the status of the technology is being considered in the financial plan for the project.

## **10. Operation and Maintenance**

Projects that can demonstrate that the maintenance plan, level of funding, and mechanism for funding will ensure reliable operations during the term of the contract are preferred.

- 10.1. Provide an operation and maintenance plan for the project that demonstrates the long term operational viability of the proposed project. The plan should include a discussion of the staffing levels proposed for the project, the expected role of the project sponsor or outside contractor, scheduling of major maintenance activity, and the plan for testing equipment.
- 10.2. Describe in detail the proposed O&M funding mechanism and funding levels to support planned and unplanned O&M requirements.
- 10.3. Describe the terms (or expected terms) of the warranties and/or guarantees on major equipment that the Applicant is seeking.
- 10.4. Describe the status of the project sponsor in securing any operation and maintenance agreements or contracts. Include a discussion of the sponsors plan for securing a medium-term or long-term O&M contract, including the expected provider of O&M services.
- 10.5. Provide examples of the Applicant's experience with O&M services for other similar projects.

## **11. Project Schedule**

Applicants are required to provide a complete critical path schedule for the project from the notice of selection of the project for contract consideration to the start of commercial operations. For each project element, list the start and end date.

Identify the elements on the critical path. The schedule should include, as a minimum, facility contracts, start of construction, construction schedule, siting, fuel supply (if applicable), financing, engineering and procurement, acquisition of real property rights, Federal, state and/or local permits, licenses, environmental assessments and/or environmental impact statements (including anticipated permit submittal and approval dates) and any other requirements that could influence the project schedule, and the Commercial Operation Date.

## 12. Project Management/Experience

Applicants are required to demonstrate project experience and management capability to successfully develop and operate the project proposed. The Distribution Companies are particularly interested in project teams that have demonstrated success in projects of similar type, size and technology and can demonstrate an ability to work together effectively to bring the project to commercial operation in a timely fashion.

- 12.1. Provide an organizational chart for the project that lists the project participants and identifies the corporate structure, including general and limited partners.
- 12.2. For each of the project participants (including the Applicant, partners, A/E firm, EPC contractor and proposed contractors), provide statements that list the specific experience of the firm in developing, financing, owning, and operating generating facilities, other projects of similar type, size and technology, and any evidence that the project participants have worked jointly on other projects.
- 12.3. Provide a management chart that lists the key personnel dedicated to this project and provide biographies of the key personnel.
- 12.4. Provide a listing of all projects (up to the most recent 10 projects, if applicable) the project sponsor has successfully developed or that are currently under construction. Provide the following information as part of the response:
  - Name of the project
  - Location of the project
  - Project type, size and technology
  - Commercial operation date
  - Estimated and actual capacity factor of the unit for the past three years
  - Availability factor of the unit for the past three years
  - References, including the names and current addresses and telephone numbers of individuals to contact for each reference.
- 12.5. With regard to the Applicant's project team, identify and describe the entity responsible for the following:
  - Construction Period Lender, if any
  - Operating Period Lender and/or Tax Equity Provider, as applicable
  - Financial Advisor
  - Environmental Consultant

- Owner's Engineer
- EPC Contractor (if selected)
- Transmission Consultant
- Legal Counsel



**13. Direct Economic Benefits to Rhode Island**

Total construction cost

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated expenditures with local contractors?

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Construction jobs created<sup>4</sup>

Number \_\_\_\_\_ Duration \_\_\_\_\_

How many jobs will be created in Rhode Island to support operation?

\_\_\_\_\_ Direct Jobs

\_\_\_\_\_ Indirect Jobs

Estimate of the annual property taxes or other similar revenues?

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

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<sup>4</sup> All job estimates should be expressed as full-time (annual) equivalents.