

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN RE: THE NARRAGANSETT ELECTRIC COMPANY :
d/b/a NATIONAL GRID RENEWABLE ENERGY : DOCKET NOS. 4536-A
GROWTH PROGRAM REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF : 4589-A
CERTIFICATES OF ELIGIBILITY FOR COMMERCIAL :
SCALE AND LARGE SCALE PROJECTS :

ORDER

The Renewable Energy Growth Program¹ is a tariff-based financing program for renewable distributed energy generation systems. The program is only available under The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid (National Grid) tariffs.² The purpose of the program is to facilitate and encourage the installation and development of renewable distributed generation systems, reduce environmental impacts and carbon emissions, diversify generation sources, stimulate economic development, improve distribution system resilience and reliability, and reduce distribution system costs.³ Annually, the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) reviews and approves an enrollment schedule, technology targets, and ceiling prices against which commercial and large scale projects compete for participation in the Renewable Energy Growth Program.⁴ The program year runs from April 1st to the following March 31st. The 2015 Renewable Energy Growth Program targets and ceiling prices were approved on March 31, 2015 and the 2016 targets and ceiling prices were approved on February 10, 2016.

R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-26.6-20(b) requires the PUC to review and issue Certificates of Eligibility for commercial scale and large scale projects that have been chosen by National Grid for participation in the Renewable Energy Growth Program. Following each enrollment in the

¹ R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-26.6-1 to 27.

² R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-26.6-3(8).

³ R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-26.6-1.

⁴ See PUC Open Meeting Minutes (Feb. 10, 2016); <http://www.ripuc.org/eventsactions/minutes/021016.pdf>.

2015 and 2016 program years, National Grid has filed an Enrollment Report. Pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-26.6-20(b), the Enrollment Report includes a list of commercial-scale, large-scale solar, and all other distributed generation projects selected by National Grid for PUC approval. The pricing information for these projects is included in the Enrollment Report. Following PUC review and approval, National Grid filed supplements to its approved tariffs populated with information for projects that have been awarded Certificates of Eligibility.

PUC Decision

On November 19, 2015, January 29, 2016, July 21, 2016, September 29, 2016, and March 30, 2017, the PUC reviewed and approved Certificates of Eligibility for twenty-two projects, each for twenty year terms, finding that in each instance, the projects were consistent with the applicable Renewable Energy Growth tariff enrollment rules. A summary of the projects awarded Certificates of Eligibility by the PUC follows.

A. 2015 First Enrollment Report

On September 15, 2015, National Grid reported that it had selected six medium, commercial or large scale projects, five of which were solar and one of which was wind. National Grid requested the PUC award Certificates of Eligibility for each.

Logee Street Solar, with a nameplate capacity of 206 kW, was selected at 24.40 cents per kWh. Exeter Solar Power I, with a nameplate capacity of 999 kW, was selected at 19.00 cents per kWh. Bank St Solar Project, with a nameplate capacity of 499 kW, was selected at 20.00 cents per kWh. Foster Solar, with a nameplate capacity of 2,594 kW, was selected at 15.94 cents per kWh. Forbes Street II Solar, with a nameplate capacity of 4,050 kW, was selected at 16.59 cents per kWh. WED Coventry Six, with a nameplate capacity of 4,500 kW, was selected at 22.35 cents per kWh.

B. 2015 Second Enrollment Report

On December 21, 2105, National Grid reported that it had selected three commercial scale solar projects and one wind project for which it requested the PUC award Certificates of Eligibility.

Frenchtown Solar B, with a nameplate capacity of 999 kW, was selected at 19.60 cents per kWh. North Smithfield Solar I, with a nameplate capacity of 900 kW, was selected at 17.85 cents per kWh. Richmond Solar Power I, with a nameplate capacity of 750 kW, was selected at 17.85 cents per kWh. WED Coventry Five, with a nameplate capacity of 1,500 kW, was selected at 22.75 cents per kWh.

C. 2016 First Enrollment Report

On June 13, 2016, National Grid reported that it had selected three commercial scale solar projects for which it requested that the PUC award Certificates of Eligibility.

CCI Exeter 999kW Solar PV Installation, with a nameplate capacity of 999 kW, was selected at 15.50 cents per kWh. Foster Renewables, with a nameplate capacity of 996 kW, was selected at 18.44 cents per kWh. Windy Acres Solar Farm, with a nameplate capacity of 995 kW, was selected at 17.80 cents per kWh.

D. 2016 Second Enrollment Report

On September 7, 2016, National Grid reported that it had selected five commercial or large scale solar projects for which it requested that the PUC award Certificates of Eligibility.

Compass Circle Solar, with a nameplate capacity of 999 kW, was selected at 16.50 cents per kWh. SamMan Realty Solar, with a nameplate capacity of 999 kW, was selected at 18.67 cents per kWh. Gloucester Solar, with a nameplate capacity of 630 kW, was selected at 17.60 cents per kWh. Portsmouth Solar, with a nameplate capacity of 2,855 kW, was selected at 14.65 cents per

Wh. Riverside Solar Partners LLC, with a nameplate capacity of 4,999 kW, was selected at 11.40 cents per kWh.

E. 2016 Third Enrollment Report

On December 16, 2016, National Grid reported that it had selected two commercial scale and two small wind projects for which it requested that the PUC award Certificates of Eligibility.

Danielson Pike Solar, with a nameplate capacity of 950 kW, was selected at 19.20 cents per kWh. Lewis Farm Rd Solar, with a nameplate capacity of 991 kW, was selected at 18.44 cents per kWh. WED West Warwick One, with a nameplate capacity of 1,500 kW, was selected at 18.75 cents per kWh. WED North Smithfield One, with a nameplate capacity of 1,500 kW, was selected at 18.75 cents per kWh.

Accordingly, it is hereby

(22791) ORDERED:

1. Certificates of Eligibility are awarded to Logee Street Solar, Exeter Solar Power I, Bank St Solar Project, Foster Solar, Forbes Street II Solar, and WED Coventry Six effective November 19, 2015.
2. Certificates of Eligibility are awarded to Frenchtown Solar B, North Smithfield Solar I, Richmond Solar Power I, and WED Coventry Five effective January 29, 2016.
3. Certificates of Eligibility are awarded to CCI Exeter 999kW Solar PV Installation, Foster Renewables, and Windy Acres Solar Farm effective July 21, 2016.
4. Certificates of Eligibility are awarded to Compass Circle Solar, SamMan Realty Solar, Gloucester Solar, Portsmouth Solar, and Riverside Solar Partners LLC effective September 29, 2016.

5. Certificates of Eligibility are awarded to Danielson Pike Solar, Lewis Farm Rd Solar, WED West Warwick One, and WED North Smithfield One effective March 30, 2017.
6. The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid shall add a column to the list of projects for which is it seeking awards to include the applicable ceiling price against which to compare the winning bids.

EFFECTIVE AT WARWICK, RHODE ISLAND PURSUANT TO OPEN MEETING DECISIONS ON NOVEMBER 19, 2015, JANUARY 29, 2016, JULY 21, 2016, SEPTEMBER 29, 2016, AND MARCH 30, 2017. WRITTEN ORDER ISSUED MAY 12, 2017.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Margaret E. Curran, Chairperson

Herbert F. DeSimone, Jr., Commissioner

Marion S. Gold, Commissioner

Notice of Right of Appeal: Pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-5-1, any person aggrieved by a decision or order of the PUC may, within 7 days from the date of the Order, petition the Supreme Court for a Writ of Certiorari to review the legality and reasonableness of the decision or Order.

5. Certificates of Eligibility are awarded to Danielson Pike Solar, Lewis Farm Rd Solar, WED West Warwick One, and WED North Smithfield One effective March 30, 2017.
6. The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid shall add a column to the list of projects for which is it seeking awards to include the applicable ceiling price against which to compare the winning bids.

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