

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN RE: THE RHODE ISLAND DISTRIBUTED :
GENERATION BOARD’S REPORT AND : DOCKET NO. 4672
RECOMMENDATIONS RELATING TO THE 2017 :
RENEWABLE ENERGY GROWTH CLASSES, :
CEILING PRICES, AND CAPACITY TARGETS :

PRE-FILED DIRECT TESTIMONY OF CHRISTOPHER KEARNS

1 **Q. Please state your name, employer and title?**

2 A. Chris Kearns, Office of Energy Resources (“OER”), Chief of Program Development

3 **Q. On whose behalf are you testifying?**

4 A. My testimony is on behalf of the Office of Energy Resources.

5 **Q. What is your role in the development of the 2017 Renewable Energy Growth**
6 **Program?**

7 A. In accordance with R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-26.2-11, the Commissioner of the OER serves as
8 the Executive Secretary and Executive Director of the Distributed Generation Board (“Board”).
9 I represent the OER in staffing and assisting the Board with the development of the 2017
10 Renewable Energy Growth (“REG”) program recommendations.

11 **Q. What is your experience with the Distributed Generation Contracts and Renewable**
12 **Energy Growth programs over the last five (5) years?**

13 A. I was involved in the direct oversight of the Distributed Generation Standard Contracts
14 (DG) and REG program implementation in coordination with National Grid over the past 5
15 years. I have viewed the projects/locations being proposed; the different renewable energy
16 technologies and systems sizes submitted; the price per kWh of the DG and REG applications;
17 and arranging public outreach and presentations on the DG and REG programs.

18 **Q. What is the role of the OER and Commissioner in assisting the Board?**

1 A. In accordance with R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-26.2-11(a), the Commissioner of OER serves as
2 the Executive Secretary and Executive Director of the Board and is also a non-voting member of
3 the Board. The OER provides assistance to the Board in the development of the annual program
4 plan, including contracting with the Board’s selected contractor performing the ceiling price
5 analysis. The OER provides recommendations on the ceiling price process, eligible renewable
6 energy technologies and how to allocate the megawatt capacity amongst the different
7 technologies.

8 **Q. Did the Board hire Sustainable Energy Advantage (“SEA”) to develop and**
9 **recommend the 2017 ceiling prices on behalf of the Board, including collecting and**
10 **reviewing stakeholder inputs into the development of the ceiling prices for the eligible**
11 **renewable energy technologies?**

12 A. Yes.

13 **Q. Did the OER and SEA on behalf of the Board consider all of the stakeholder**
14 **feedback given in the development of the REG program?**

15 A. Yes.

16 **Q. Does this conclude your testimony?**

17 A. Yes.