

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN RE: THE NARRAGANSETT ELECTRIC COMPANY :
d/b/a NATIONAL GRID RENEWABLE ENERGY :
GROWTH PROGRAM REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF : DOCKET NO. 4672
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 1 to the following March 31. The 2017 Renewable Energy Growth Program targets and ceiling prices were approved on February 10, 2017.

R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-26.6-20(b) requires the Commission 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 2017 program year, National Grid has filed an Enrollment Report. Pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws

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, 2017); <http://www.ripuc.org/eventsactions/minutes/021017.pdf>.

§ 39-26.6-20(b), the Enrollment Report includes a list of commercial-scale solar, 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 files supplements to its approved tariffs populated with information for projects that have been awarded Certificates of Eligibility.

PUC Decision

On July 27, 2017, October 5, 2017, and January 3, 2018, the PUC reviewed and approved Certificates of Eligibility for eighteen projects, each for a term of twenty years. The PUC found that all of 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.⁵

A. 2017 First Enrollment Report

On June 23, 2017, National Grid reported that it had selected eight commercial or large-scale solar projects for which it requested the PUC award Certificates of Eligibility.

Quahog Briggs Road, with a nameplate capacity of 653 kW, was selected at 18.49 cents per kWh. Main Street Solar, with a nameplate capacity of 997 kW, was selected at 17.50 cents per kWh. WED Ridge Solar, with a nameplate capacity of 750 kW, was selected at 14.89 cents per kWh. Cranberry Ridge Solar, with a nameplate capacity of 998 kW, was selected at 18.25 cents per kWh. NextPath Foster, with a nameplate capacity of 2,700 kW, was selected at 14.50 cents per kWh. North Kingstown Solar LLC, with a nameplate capacity of 2,766 kW, was selected at 13.90 cents per kWh. WED Stilson Solar, with a nameplate capacity of 2,700 kW, was selected at 12.89

⁵ The Company's Open Enrollment Reports pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-26.6-20(b) are available on the PUC website at <http://www.ripuc.org/eventsactions/docket/NGrid-REG-EnrollmentRepts.html>.

cents per kWh. Hopkinton Industrial Park, with a nameplate capacity of 1,570, was selected at 14.50 cents per kWh.

B. 2017 Second Enrollment Report

On September 19, 2017, National Grid reported that it had selected one large scale solar Community Remote Distributed Generation (Community Remote) project; three commercial scale solar projects, of which two were Community Remote projects; and two wind projects for which it requested the PUC award Certificates of Eligibility.

WED Rose Hill Solar, with a nameplate capacity of 914 kW, was selected at 16.35 cents per kWh. WED Plainfield, a wind project with a nameplate capacity of 3,000 kW, was selected at 18.24 cents per kWh. WED Shun III, a wind project with a nameplate capacity of 3,000 kW, was selected at 18.24 cents per kWh. Palmer Circle Solar, with a nameplate capacity of 997 kW, was selected at 20.50 cents per kWh. High Street Solar, with a nameplate capacity of 997 kW, was selected at 20.60 cents per kWh. Burrillville Solar, with a nameplate capacity of 3,000 kW, was selected at 16.50 cents per kWh.

C. 2017 Third Enrollment Report

On December 19, 2017, National Grid reported that it had selected one large-scale solar project; two commercial-scale solar projects, of which one was a Community Remote project; and one small-scale hydropower project for which it requested that the PUC award Certificates of Eligibility.

SM Trombino Properties, LLC, with a nameplate capacity of 990 kW, was selected at 17.50 cents per kWh. New Day Solar, with a nameplate capacity of 2,880 kW, was selected at 14.72 cents per kWh. Seths Way Solar, a Community Remote project with a nameplate capacity of 997 kW, was selected at 20.65 cents per kWh. Natick Dam Project, a hydropower project with a nameplate capacity of 450 kW, was selected at 22.45 cents per kWh.

Accordingly, it is hereby

(23013) ORDERED:

1. Certificates of Eligibility are awarded to Quahog Briggs Road, Main Street Solar, WED Ridge Solar, Cranberry Ridge Solar, NextPath Foster, North Kingstown Solar LLC, WED Stilson Solar, and Hopkinton Industrial Park effective July 27, 2017.
2. Certificates of Eligibility are awarded to WED Rose Hill Solar, WED Plainfield, WED Shun III, Palmer Circle Solar, High Street Solar, and Burrillville Solar effective October 5, 2017.
3. Certificates of Eligibility are awarded to SM Trombino Properties, LLC, New Day Solar, Seths Way Solar, and Natick Dam Project effective January 3, 2018.

EFFECTIVE AT WARWICK, RHODE ISLAND PURSUANT TO OPEN MEETING DECISIONS ON JULY 27, 2017, OCTOBER 5, 2017, AND JANUARY 3, 2018. WRITTEN ORDER ISSUED JANUARY 18, 2018.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION



Margaret E. Curran

Margaret E. Curran, Chairperson

Marion S. Gold

Marion S. Gold, Commissioner

Abigail Anthony

Abigail Anthony, 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.