

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**IN RE: THE NARRAGANSETT ELECTRIC COMPANY                    :**  
**d/b/a NATIONAL GRID RENEWABLE ENERGY                    :**                    **DOCKET NO. 4892**  
**GROWTH PROGRAM REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF                :**  
**CERTIFICATES OF ELIGIBILITY FOR COMMERCIAL            :**  
**SCALE AND LARGE SCALE PROJECTS                            :**  
**PROGRAM YEAR 2019    :**

**ORDER**

The Renewable Energy Growth Program<sup>1</sup> 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.<sup>2</sup> 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.<sup>3</sup> 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. The program year runs from April 1<sup>st</sup> to the following March 31<sup>st</sup>. The 2019 Renewable Energy Growth Program targets and ceiling prices were approved on February 15, 2019 and March 1, 2019.<sup>4</sup>

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

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<sup>1</sup> R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-26.6-1 to 27.

<sup>2</sup> R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-26.6-3(8).

<sup>3</sup> R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-26.6-1.

<sup>4</sup> Order No. 23827 (May 7, 2020).

2019 program year, National Grid filed an Enrollment Report. Pursuant to the R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-26.6-20(b), the Enrollment Report included 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 was 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 July 11, 2019, October 11, 2019, and January 15, 2020, the PUC reviewed and approved Certificates of Eligibility for twenty-five 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. First Enrollment Report**

On June 20, 2019, National Grid reported that it had selected seventeen commercial or large-scale projects, fifteen of which were solar, including community remote distributed generation, one of which was wind, and one of which was hydropower. National Grid requested the PUC award Certificates of Eligibility for each.<sup>5</sup>

20 Frontage, with a nameplate capacity of 990 kW, was selected at 15.30 cents per kWh. Cooley Incorporated, with a nameplate capacity of 490 kW, was selected at 16.98 cents per kWh. Econox Greenville Road Solar, with a nameplate capacity of 998 kW, was selected at 17.29 cents per kWh. Econox Absalona Hill Rd. Solar, with a nameplate capacity of 998 kW, was selected at 17.29 cents per kWh. Green Tech Center, with a nameplate capacity of 975 kW, was selected at

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<sup>5</sup> First Enrollment Report (June 20, 2019); [http://www.ripuc.ri.gov/eventsactions/docket/4892-NGrid-2019%20REGrowth-Enrollment1%20\(6-20-19\).pdf](http://www.ripuc.ri.gov/eventsactions/docket/4892-NGrid-2019%20REGrowth-Enrollment1%20(6-20-19).pdf).

17.35 cents per kWh. 678 GeorgeWashingtonHwySolar, with a nameplate capacity of 380 kW, was selected at 17.35 cents per kWh. Branch Avenue Associates, with a nameplate capacity of 424 kW, was selected at 17.50 cents per kWh. House of Stainless, with a nameplate capacity of 692 kW, was selected at 17.53 cents per kWh. Carrier 19 Highland, with a nameplate capacity of 999 kW, was selected at 17.53 cents per kWh. Lighthouse Solar LLC, with a nameplate capacity of 2,391 kW, was selected at 9.74 cents per kWh. 126 Chase Hill, with a nameplate capacity of 3,670 kW, was selected at 11.90 cents per kWh. 201 Chase Hill, with a nameplate capacity of 3,310 kW, was selected at 11.90 cents per kWh. GW Harborside, with a nameplate capacity of 3,000 kW, was selected at 19.34 cents per kWh. Smeaton Solar, with a nameplate capacity of 723 kW, was selected at 20.26 cents per kWh. Church Grantville, with a nameplate capacity of 859 kW, was selected at 20.50 cents per kWh. Islander Solar LLC, with a nameplate capacity of 3,393 kW, was selected at 12.87 cents per kWh. Albion Dam Hydro, with a nameplate capacity of 480 kW, was selected at 27.15 cents per kWh.

**B. Second Enrollment Report**

On September 26, 2019, National Grid reported that it had selected one large-scale solar project, one commercial size community remote distributed generation project, and one wind project for which it requested the PUC award Certificates of Eligibility.

Nimali Portsmouth RI 1010 Project, with a nameplate capacity of 1,500 kW, was selected at 14.99 cents per kWh. Echo Valley Solar, with a nameplate capacity of 458 kW, was selected at 18.00 cents per kWh. GD Prov Wind I, with a nameplate capacity of 1,500 kW, was selected at 19.34 cents per kWh.

### **C. Third Enrollment Report**

On December 23, 2019, National Grid reported that it had selected five commercial and large-scale solar projects, including two community remote distributed generation projects, for which it requested that the PUC award Certificates of Eligibility.

Rossi Solar, with a nameplate capacity of 826 kW, was selected at 15.87 cents per kWh. 80 Vineyard St Solar, with a nameplate capacity of 632 kW, was selected at 16.75 cents per kWh. Econox Howard Lane Solar, with a nameplate capacity of 4,368 kW, was selected at 14.99 cents per kWh. Superior Solar, with a nameplate capacity of 991 kW, was selected at 20.44 cents per kWh. Mendon Road Solar, with a nameplate capacity of 999 kW, was selected at 20.50 per kWh.

Accordingly, it is hereby

(23833) ORDERED:

1. Certificates of Eligibility are awarded to the projects listed in this order under First Enrollment Report, effective July 11, 2019.
2. Certificates of Eligibility are awarded to the projects listed in this order under Second Enrollment Report, effective October 11, 2019.
3. Certificates of Eligibility are awarded to the projects listed in this order under Third Enrollment Report, effective January 15, 2020.

EFFECTIVE AT WARWICK, RHODE ISLAND PURSUANT TO OPEN MEETING DECISIONS ON JULY 11, 2019, OCTOBER 11, 2019, AND JANUARY 15, 2020. WRITTEN ORDER ISSUED JUNE 2, 2020.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION



Margaret E. Curran, Chairperson

Marion S. Gold, Commissioner

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 seven (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.