

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

**IN RE: 2019 RENEWABLE ENERGY GROWTH – :  
CLASSES, CEILING PRICES AND CAPACITY :  
TARGETS AND 2019 RENEWABLE ENERGY : DOCKET NO. 4892  
GROWTH PROGRAM – TARIFFS AND SOLICITATION :  
AND ENROLLMENT PROCESS RULES :**

**THE DISTIRBUTED GENERATION’S BOARD RESPONSE TO THE COMMISSION’S  
SECOND SET OF POST DECISIONAL DATA REQUESTS**

**Background:** At an open meeting that occurred on February 15, 2019, the Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission (“PUC”) directed the Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources (“OER”) and the Rhode Island Distributed Generation Board (“DG Board”) to file a revised allocation plan for the 2019 Renewable Energy (“RE”) Growth Program. The purpose of the revised plan was to reallocate 6.5MW from the initially proposed solar carport categories to other categories.

Following a vote of approval by the DG Board on February 25, 2019, OER submitted the revised allocation plan below:

<b>Renewable Energy Class</b>	<b>Updated Allocation Plan (Voted and approved by DG Board on February 25, 2019) (MW)</b>	<b>Change (MW)</b>
Small Solar I & II	12.23	+1.3
Medium Solar	6.8	+1.3
Commercial Solar	7.3	+1.3
Commercial Solar Community Remote -	5	No Change
Large Solar	11.3	+1.3
Large Solar - Community Remote	5.3	+1.3
Small Wind	0.400	No Change
Community Remote and Non- Community Remote Wind	6	No Change

Anaerobic Digestion and Small Scale Hydropower	1	No Change
Commercial and Large Solar Carports	0	-6.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>55.330 MW</b>	<b>No Change</b>

At an open meeting that occurred on or around March 1, 2019, the PUC accepted the above plan. In addition, the PUC asked the below data request directed to OER and the DG Board to be due within 60 days.

**Request 2-1: Please explain how the new revised re-allocation, specifically to the large solar category, addresses local solar dynamics.**

**Response:** The DG Board uses several principles and factors in coordination with OER when developing the annual megawatt allocation plan. The DG Board does its best in developing an allocation plan based on the principles outlined in its previous filings and it does not base its decisions solely on one individual factor. In this case, the DG Board met on February 25, 2019 to discuss how to reallocate 6.5MW from the initially proposed solar carport categories. The DG Board never said that the allocation of large solar capacity within the 2019 program year “addresses all local solar dynamics” as depending on the municipality or location of the application, a 250-kW medium scale ground mounted solar project can trigger the same degree of local issues as a large solar ground mounted project.

Respondent: Christopher Kearns, Office of Energy Resources

Date: April 30, 2019