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

IN RE: APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION AS : DOCKET NO. 4908

ELIGIBLE RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCE : FILED BY DRY BRIDGE SOLAR 4, LLC : - NEW GENERATION :

## **ORDER**

WHEREAS, On November 17, 2018, Dry Bridge Solar 4, LLC<sup>1</sup> (Company) filed with the Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission (PUC) an application seeking certification for its Dry Bridge Solar 4 Generation Unit,<sup>2</sup> a 10.0 MW AC solar energy Generation Unit located in North Kingstown, Rhode Island, as an eligible New Renewable Energy Resource in accordance with the PUC's Rules and Regulations Governing the Implementation of a Renewable Energy Standard (Rules) and R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-26-1; and

WHEREAS, On January 11, 2019, public comment was received from Richard Langseth<sup>3</sup> concerning the generation units having the same Geographic Information System (GIS) location and questioning whether the generation units should be combined and subject to the review of the Energy Facility Siting Board;<sup>4</sup> and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The authorized representative was identified as Frank A. Epps, 260 West Exchange Street, Suite 102A, Providence, RI 02903; Phone: (401) 349-1229 ext. 700; Email: frank@edp-energy.com.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> This is one of four generation units seeking eligibility. Each generation unit has a 10.0 MW nameplate capacity. The generation units are all located in same geographic location. Dry Bridge Solar 1, LLC, Docket 4905, <a href="http://www.ripuc.org/eventsactions/docket/4905page.html">http://www.ripuc.org/eventsactions/docket/4905page.html</a>; Dry Bridge Solar 2, LLC in Docket No. 4906, <a href="http://www.ripuc.org/eventsactions/docket/4906page.html">http://www.ripuc.org/eventsactions/docket/4906page.html</a>; and, Dry Bridge Solar 4 in Docket No. 4908, <a href="http://www.ripuc.org/eventsactions/docket/4908page.html">http://www.ripuc.org/eventsactions/docket/4908page.html</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Public comment in Docket No. 4905, 4906, 4907 and 4908, http://www.ripuc.org/eventsactions/docket/4905-4906-%204907-4908-PublicComment-Langseth\_1-14-19.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The Energy Facility Siting Board has jurisdiction over major energy facilities designated as those with a nameplate capacity of 40 MW or more. R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-98-3. Only the Energy Facility Siting Board can determine whether the four facilities would constitute a major energy facility. The PUC, however does have jurisdiction over the review of net metering facilities for compliance with the statutory maximum size which is 10 MW of nameplate capacity.

WHEREAS, On January 28, 2019, Company submitted supplemental information in response to PUC's data requests providing a one-line diagram showing the solar site layout of the generation units, metering arrangements and ownership of the generation units and associated facilities;<sup>5</sup> and

WHEREAS, After examination, the PUC is of the opinion that the application is proper, reasonable, and in compliance with the Rules and hereby grants the Company certification as an eligible renewable energy resource pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-26-1;<sup>6</sup> and

WHEREAS, The PUC's determination in this docket is based on the information submitted by the Company and the PUC may reverse its ruling or revoke the Company's certification if any material information provided by the Company proves to be false or misleading.

Accordingly, it is hereby

(23417) ORDERED:

- 1) The Dry Bridge Solar 4 Generation Unit meets the requirements for eligibility as a New, Solar Renewable Energy Resource with its 10.0 MW AC, Grid-Connected Generation Unit having a Commercial Operation Date not yet reached and located within the NEPOOL control area in North Kingstown, Rhode Island.
- 2) As a Generation Unit which has not yet achieved Commercial Operation, eligibility is granted conditional upon the Company meeting three requirements: (a) that

separate applications.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> http://www.ripuc.org/eventsactions/docket/4905-4906-4907-4908-DEP-DR-PUC1 1-28-19.pdf.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> The generation units will be engaged in net metering. The PUC found that the one-line diagram evidenced four separate points of common coupling which means that the instant generation unit has a separate electrical connection to the distribution system from the other generation units in the same general vicinity. Thus, for purposes of the Renewable Energy Standard, it is appropriate to view these as four

the Company provide the PUC with written documentation verifying Commercial Operation; (b) that the Company provide evidence of the Generation Unit's NEPOOL GIS Asset Identification Number when assigned by NEPOOL following achievement of Commercial Operation; and (c) that the Company file documentation of the Generation Unit's designation of an approved verifier to verify the Generation Unit's electric energy output to the NEPOOL GIS.

- 3) Following receipt from the Company of acceptable written documentation of the three items required by Ordering paragraph 2, staff is hereby authorized to assign a unique Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission Eligible Renewable Energy Resource Facility Certification Number for the Company's Generation Unit.
- 4) The generation unit's Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) become Rhode Island-eligible effective on the first day which the Rhode Island certification number is issued. All RECs associated with the production of eligible energy that are minted on or after the Effective Date are eligible for the Renewable Energy Standard.
- 5) Although the PUC will rely upon the NEPOOL GIS for verification of production of energy from the Company's Generation Unit certified as eligible in this Order, the Company will provide information and access as necessary to the PUC, or persons acting at its behest, to conduct audits or site visits to assist in verification of continued eligibility for and compliance with Rhode Island Renewable Energy Standard Certification at any time at the PUC's discretion.
- 6) The Company shall notify the PUC in the event of a change in the generation unit's eligibility status.

EFFECTIVE AT WARWICK, RHODE ISLAND, ON FEBRUARY 4, 2019, PURSUANT TO AN OPEN MEETING DECISION. WRITTEN ORDER ISSUED FEBRUARY 15, 2019.

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 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.