

March 19, 2020

#### BY HAND DELIVERY AND ELECTRONIC MAIL

Luly E. Massaro, Commission Clerk Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission 89 Jefferson Boulevard Warwick, RI 02888

RE: Docket 4983 - 2020 Renewable Energy Growth Program Tariff and Rule Changes Final Compliance Filing

Dear Ms. Massaro:

On behalf of National Grid,<sup>1</sup> I have enclosed clean versions of the following documents, which the Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission approved in the above-referenced docket:

- RE Growth Program Solicitation and Enrollment Process Rules for Small-Scale Solar Projects; and
- 2. RE Growth Program Solicitation and Enrollment Process Rules for Solar (Greater than 25kW), Wind, Hydro, and Anaerobic Digestor Projects.

The RE Growth Program Solicitation and Enrollment Process Rules for Solar (Greater than 25kW), Wind, Hydro, and Anaerobic Digestor Projects reflect the two edits related to carport enrollments (Section 2.1.5.1 and Schedule 1, footnote 1), which were discussed at the PUC's technical session on March 16, 2020.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have any questions, please contact me at 781-907-2121.

Very truly yours,

Raquel J. Webster

**Enclosures** 

cc: Docket 4983 Service List Jon Hagopian, Esq.

John Bell, Division Al Mancini, Division

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid (National Grid or the Company).

# Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that a copy of the cover letter and any materials accompanying this certificate was electronically transmitted to the individuals listed below.

The paper copies of this filing are being hand delivered to the Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission and to the Rhode Island Division of Public Utilities and Carriers.

Joanne M. Scanlon

March 19, 2020 Date

# Docket No. 4983– Renewable Energy Growth Program for Year 2020 RI Distributed Generation Board and National Grid

Service List updated 3/10/2020

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The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid

Rhode Island Renewable Energy Growth Program
Solicitation and Enrollment Process Rules for Small-Scale Solar
Projects

Effective Date: April 1, 2020

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#### I. Introduction and Overview

National Grid (the Company) would like to welcome you to the Rhode Island Renewable Energy Growth Program (RE Growth Program). The RE Growth Program seeks to make it easy and attractive to install solar photovoltaic (PV) systems at the homes and businesses of National Grid's customers. An applicant (Applicant) to the RE Growth Program may be a solar developer or a National Grid customer.

Residential customers or their developers may apply for the RE Growth Program on a first-come, first-served basis. These solar systems will earn "Bill Credits" for the customer from the energy produced and used, and the remainder of the Standard Performance Based Incentive (PBI) payment for the renewable energy certificates from the enrolled system and any excess production. This program year's Standard PBIs are listed in Schedule 2 in this document.

Non-residential customers or their developers may also apply to the RE Growth Program on a first-come, first-served basis. These solar systems will have the option to receive the entire incentive payment directly or a combination of a direct payment and a Bill Credit for the customer, as specified in the Non-Residential Tariff.

This document provides information on the Solicitation and Enrollment Rules necessary to participate and enroll in the RE Growth Program.

# 1.1 Purpose of the Solicitation and Enrollment

The RE Growth Program was developed pursuant to Chapter 26.6 of Title 39 of the Rhode Island General Laws to facilitate the development of and compensation paid to distributed generation (DG) projects in Rhode Island. These Solicitation and Enrollment Process Rules for Small-Scale Solar Projects (Rules) provide the means by which a project can qualify for and enroll in the RE Growth Program. The Rules are only part of the RE Growth Program documents and should be read along with the Company's RE Growth Program Tariff for Residential Customers and the RE Growth Program Tariff for Non-Residential Customers (together, the Tariffs). Any term not defined in the Rules is defined in the Tariffs.

A Small-Scale Solar Project is a solar project with a nameplate generating capacity up to and including twenty-five kilowatts (25 kW). A Small-Scale Solar DG Project's nameplate capacity is the total rated power output of all solar panels measured in direct current (DC).

Under the RE Growth Program, National Grid will not execute contracts with Applicants.

#### 1.2 Enrollment Framework

National Grid is operating the RE Growth Program, as guided by the Distributed Generation Board (Board) in consultation with the Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources (OER). The RE Growth Program is subject to the approval of the Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission

(Commission). National Grid may also consult with the Rhode Island Division of Public Utilities and Carriers (Division).

For each program year, there will be a target amount of megawatts (MW) to be enrolled for the year (annual MW target), which will be based on the projects' aggregate nameplate capacity. The nameplate capacity of a solar project is the total rated power output of all solar panels measured in DC. A "program year" means a year beginning April 1 and ending March 31.

A total of at least 3 MW of capacity shall be carved out exclusively for Small-Scale Solar Projects in each of the first four (4) program years. The Board may recommend and/or the Commission may adopt a new annual MW class target for Small-Scale Solar Projects. Please see Schedule 1 for the currently approved annual MW target for Small-Scale Solar Projects.

For each program year, the Board will recommend the Standard Performance-Based Incentive (PBI) for each renewable energy class, subject to Commission approval. Small-scale solar projects will receive a Standard PBI under the tariff, further described in Section 2.1. See Schedule 2 for the approved Standard PBIs for the current program year.

#### 1.2.1 Applications

During each program year, Applicants can enroll at any time until the annual MW target for the Small-Scale Solar Project class has been met, including the possible availability of additional capacity under the annual MW target. Applicants may elect to participate in the RE Growth Program within their application for interconnection, pursuant to the Company's Standards for Connecting Distributed Generation tariff. There is no separate enrollment application for Small-Scale Solar Projects.

To be eligible to receive approval for the current program year's tariff rates and capacity allocations, Small-Scale Solar Applicants must submit and the Company must receive all required forms and documentation, as listed on the RE Growth application checklist, and all must be filled out and signed with no deficiencies of information, by 4 p.m. Eastern Prevailing Time on March 31, 2019. Any application which is found to be missing required forms or information that is supplied after that time and date will considered for participation in the following program year at that year's tariff rates and class allocations.

Applicants will be selected for the RE Growth Program in accordance with the provisions below.

## 1.2.2 Eligibility Requirements

#### 1.2.2.1 Introduction

To be eligible, a Small-Scale Solar Project must meet certain requirements, and National Grid will review the interconnection application to determine whether the project meets these requirements. Projects that do not meet eligibility requirements will be disqualified from the RE Growth Program.

#### 1.2.2.2 Eligible Applicant

An Applicant must be in good standing with regard to obligations to National Grid. Such obligations include but are not limited to being current with amounts due on the electric service account(s) or fulfilling the requirements of an approved payment plan.

Self-installers, and new installers who have not installed an RE Growth Small-Scale project prior to the 2019 Program Year will be required to complete mandatory training through a webinar prior to submitting an interconnection application. The training, offered by the Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources, will be a recorded webinar that discusses the Minimum Technical Requirements and the unique interconnection requirements of the RE Growth Program. A Certificate of Completion, indicating that the installer has completed the training, must be submitted with the interconnection application.

New in 2020, a completed and signed Consumer Disclosure Form is required with all residential applications at the time of submission. There are separate forms for Customer-Owned systems, Third-Party Owned systems, and Self-Installed systems. These forms may be found on the RE Growth Program website at: <a href="mailto:ngus.force.com/s/article/Rhode-Island-Renewable-Energy-Growth-Program">ngus.force.com/s/article/Rhode-Island-Renewable-Energy-Growth-Program</a>

#### 1.2.2.3 Eligible Facilities

To be eligible as a Small-Scale Solar Project, a project must: (1) be a Small-Scale Solar renewable energy resource; (2) have a nameplate capacity equal to or less than 25 kW; and (3) interconnect with the Company's electric power system. A Small-Scale Solar Project's nameplate capacity is the total rated power output of all solar panels measured in DC.

Before applying to the RE Growth Program, a project must not be: (1) already operating; or (2) under construction, except for preparatory site work that is less than twenty-five percent (25%) of the estimated total project cost.

#### Residential

To be eligible as a Residential Small-Scale Solar Project, a project must be located at a National Grid customer's residence where the residential customer receives electric service under either

Basic Residential Rate A-16 or Low Income Rate A-60. The project must meet the sizing requirements as defined in the Residential RE Growth Tariff.

#### Non-Residential

Any Small-Scale Solar Project that is not eligible to enroll as a Residential Small-Scale Solar Project will be enrolled as a Non-Residential Small-Scale Solar Project. Note that these projects may also be configured to receive Bill Credits under this program if they are sized as defined in Section 8.c. of the Non-Residential RE Growth Tariff, but are not required to do so. These projects will receive electric service pursuant to the appropriate general service retail delivery service tariff.

#### 1.2.2.3.1 Prohibition on Project Segmentation

Project segmentation occurs when one distributed generation project is divided or segregated into multiple projects on a single parcel or on contiguous parcels in order to qualify under smaller size project classifications. The Company may also require additional property information to verify that the project is eligible for participation in the program.

Under the RE Growth Program, project segmentation is not allowed. However, a project developer may designate an additional distributed generation unit or portion of a unit on the same parcel or on a contiguous parcel for net metering or for other means of participating in electricity markets, as long as any such unit or portion of such unit: (1) is not receiving Performance-Based Incentives through the RE Growth Program; (2) is segregated electrically; and (3) is separately metered.

A distributed generation project is not considered segmented if: (1) at least twenty-four (24) months elapse between the operating start-date of the distributed generation project and the start of construction of new distributed generation unit(s) on the same parcel or a contiguous parcel; or (2) the distributed generation projects use different renewable resources. In addition, DG projects installed on contiguous parcels or a single parcel will not be considered segmented if they serve different customers and both customers opt to receive Bill Credits under Option 2 as described in Section 8.c. of the Non-Residential RE Growth Tariff. In addition, if the separate projects on a single parcel in aggregate would not qualify the facilities as a larger class, then they will not be considered segmented, and would be allowed. For example, if a developer proposes a 12 kW and a 12 kW on the same parcel (totaling24 kW together), this would be the same class and ceiling price as the projects are subject to individually.

#### 1.2.2.3.2 Compliance with Sizing Limitations to Receive Bill Credits

In accordance with the Tariffs, Non-Residential Applicants for Small-Scale Solar Projects that have on-site load may receive a credit on their electric bill based upon the value of the on-site use, provided that the DG Project meets the sizing requirements as defined in the Non-Residential RE Growth Tariff. All Residential customers will receive Bill Credits and must meet the sizing limitations defined in the Residential RE Growth Tariff. The Project must be

reasonably designed and sized to produce electricity at an annual level equal to or less than 1) the Residential Customer's On-Site Use as measured over the previous three (3) years at the electric service account located at the Residential Customer's service location; 2) the annualized On-Site Use over the period of service to the Residential Customer's service location if such service has been provided for less than three years; or 3) a reasonable estimate of annual On-Site Use if the Project is located at a new service location.

# II. Interconnection Application, Selection, and Enrollment Process

# 2.1 Performance-Based Incentive (PBI) Payments for Small-Scale Solar Projects

Applicants may elect to enroll in the RE Growth Program within their interconnection applications.

#### **Residential**

The PBI is a price per kilowatt-hour for all of the Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) and any other environmental attributes or market products that are created or produced by the facility for as long as the facility is enrolled in the RE Growth Program, less the value of Bill Credits for the energy and capacity value that is deemed to be used on site by the customer and must be deducted from the value listed in the Supplements.

#### Non-Residential

The PBI is a price per kilowatt-hour that will be paid for all of the energy, capacity, RECs, and other environmental attributes and market products that are created or produced by the facility for as long as the facility is enrolled in the RE Growth Program.

# 2.2 Interconnection Application Prior to Enrollment

To apply, a prospective participant must submit an application for interconnection and elect to participate in the RE Growth Program. All interconnection costs must be paid by the Applicant of the distributed generation (DG) project.

For information regarding the interconnection process and the standards for the interconnection of generators in Rhode Island, please see:

ngus.force.com/s/article/Rhode-Island-Renewable-Energy-Growth-Program

#### 2.2.1 Site Control

The Applicant must show actual control of the site where the Small-Scale Solar Project is to be located, or show it has exercised its right to acquire control of the site. To meet this requirement, the Applicant must represent that it owns or leases (or has an executed, exclusive, unconditional option to own or lease) the site (or residence in the case of a Residential Small-

Scale Solar Project) on which the project will be located, and that it has any additional rights required to develop and operate the project at the site.

#### 2.2.2 Total Project Cost

Applications must include the estimated total project development costs. Applications that do not include the estimated total project development costs will be rejected. Total project development cost is defined as: "The total cost of the solar equipment, design, development, construction, interconnection, permitting, financing (if known), and labor necessary to install the solar PV project. This figure should not account for any tax incentives, grants, or other cash incentives. Additional costs, indirectly related to the solar project, such as roofing work, should not be included."

## 2.2.3 Energy Storage Systems

Energy Storage Systems (ESS), such as electro-chemical batteries, that can store and release electrical energy, may be co-located with RE Growth qualifying projects. When located behind-the-meter of a customer and able to charge from the electric power system, ESS must be configured in a manner that they cannot export through the RE Growth production meter. When configured to charge directly from the RE Growth system, ESS must be configured so that any energy used for back-up supply purposes is not measured by the RE Growth production meter. Please see the available "ESS Guidance Diagrams" available on the RE Growth webpage at: ngus.force.com/s/article/Rhode-Island-Renewable-Energy-Growth-Program

# 2.3 Issuance of Certificates of Eligibility

National Grid shall award Certificates of Eligibility to the selected Small-Scale Solar Projects. National Grid is not required to obtain Commission confirmation or approval in awarding Certificates of Eligibility to Small-Scale Solar Projects. Certificates of Eligibility given to Small-Scale Solar Projects are subject to the review and consent of the OER. National Grid files a list of all awarded certificates with the Commission. Certificates of Eligibility will be awarded to eligible Small-Scale Solar Projects on a "first come, first served" basis until the annual MW target for the Small-Scale Solar class is fully subscribed.

The Certificate of Eligibility will contain applicable project information, including renewable technology and class, project capacity and energy output, term length, price, certificate issuance, and certificate effective dates.

# 2.4 Project Schedule

All Small-Scale Solar Projects have twenty-four (24) months to meet all other requirements pursuant to Section 6.a. of the Tariff in order to receive compensation under the RE Growth Program. A project's proposed construction schedule must allow it to meet the applicable deadline after it has received a Certificate of Eligibility.

If a project does not become operational on or before the twenty-four (24) month deadline, the project's Certificate of Eligibility will be voided.

# 2.5 Ownership of Products for Small-Scale Solar

#### Residential

The Company shall have the rights to and receive title to:

- (1) Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) generated by the project during the applicable term of the supplements to the Tariff supplement; and
- (2) Rights to any other environmental attributes or electricity market services or products that are created or produced by the project.

For Residential Small-Scale Solar Projects, the customer shall retain title to all energy and capacity produced by the project. All energy and capacity are deemed to have been used by the customer on-site during the term of the applicable supplements to the Tariff. The Company is not buying or taking title to energy or capacity under the RE Growth Program.

#### Non-Residential

The Company shall have the rights and receive title to:

- (1) RECs generated by the project during the applicable term of the supplements to the Tariff supplement;
- (2) All energy produced by the project; and
- (3) Rights to any other environmental attributes or electricity market products or services that are created or produced by the project; provided, however, that it shall be the Company's choice to acquire the capacity of the DG Project.

#### 2.5.1 Delivery of RECs and Registration in NEPOOL GIS

The Applicant must take all steps to both enable the Company to obtain the appropriate asset identification for the creation of RECs and the assignment of RECs to the Company through the New England Power Pool Generator Information System (NEPOOL GIS) in accordance with the Tariffs. RECs must be delivered to National Grid in the NEPOOL GIS.

## 2.5.2 Delivery of Energy into ISO-NE Market (Non-Residential Projects Only)

Energy must be delivered to National Grid in the ISO-NE Rhode Island load zone.

#### 2.5.3 Participation in ISO-NE Forward Capacity Market (FCM)

Upon National Grid's election to acquire the capacity from a Project, National Grid will assume the rights to the capacity, pursuant to the Tariff. National Grid reserves the right to be the "Project Sponsor" for the Project, after consultation with the Division and the Board. If and when National Grid participates as Project Sponsor on behalf of any Project, the Applicant must support National Grid, as required, to qualify the Project as an Existing Capacity Resource in the FCM. Applicants are required to take commercially reasonable actions to maximize performance against any FCM Capacity Supply Obligations.

#### 2.5.4 Qualification of RECs

Small-Scale Solar Projects must qualify as an eligible renewable energy resource pursuant to the Rhode Island Renewable Energy Standard (RES) and the Massachusetts Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS). The Company will obtain such approvals on behalf of all Small-Scale Solar Projects. Applicants must cooperate with the Company, including but not limited to completing the Renewable Energy Certificate Assignment and Aggregation Certification Form, to obtain approval in order to be qualified under the RES and RPS.

#### 2.6 Shared Solar

Shared Solar enables customers who own or rent properties unsuitable for installing solar, or where a single system is preferred, to participate in the RE Growth Program with Small-Scale Solar Projects and Medium-Scale Solar Projects (1-25 kW DC and 26-250 kW DC nameplate capacity, respectively).

To be eligible to participate in the Shared Solar program, at the time of enrollment, each account listed as a recipient must be in good standing on applicable electric service, payment plans or agreements, and other obligations to the Company, including but not limited to meeting all obligations under an Interconnection Service Agreement. Shared Solar Projects can only share Bill Credits with Bill Credit Recipients on the same or adjacent parcel of land as the DG Project. Where two properties are separated by a public way, they will not be considered to be adjacent.

The system size for Bill Credit Recipients will be determined by the sum of the three (3)-year average on-site use over the previous three (3) years of all of the indicated Bill Credit Recipients' accounts at the time of the application. For Bill Credit Recipients that have not established a three (3) year on-site usage history, the maximum annual limit will be estimated initially. The customer may request that the Company reset its three (3)-year annual average use once three (3) years of billing history are available.

Shared Solar Projects will receive the same ceiling price and enroll from the same classes of other projects of the same size and ownership as established by the Board for a given program year.

#### 2.6.1 Shared Solar Additional Application Material and Provisions

At the time of application, Shared Solar Applicants must submit a Customer Payment/Credit Transfer Form that notes what billing accounts will be receiving Bill Credits. The system must be sized to not provide output greater than the total of the aggregate three-year average annual usage of all of the Bill Credit recipients, like other on-site systems. Shared Solar Projects must allocate Bill Credits to at least two (2) and no more than fifty (50) accounts in the same customer class and on the same or adjacent parcels of land. Public entities may allocate such Bill Credits to at least two (2) and up to fifty (50) accounts without regard to location so long as the Shared Solar Project and Bill Credit Recipient points of service, which must all belong to the same municipality or public entity, are within the same municipality.

Shared Solar Applicants will receive PBI payments as a combination of cash payments and Bill Credits (Option 2). The DG Project and Bill Credit Recipients must be in the same customer class (i.e., Residential or Nonresidential). All customer accounts receiving Bill Credits must be in the same customer class (i.e., Residential or Nonresidential) although they may be on different retail delivery service rate classes. The Bill Credit value from the Shared Solar Project shall be determined by the recipients' rate class and not that of the facility owner. The Bill Credit value shall be the distribution, transition, transmission, and standard offer supply rates of the Bill Credit Recipients. Any value of Bill Credits not transferred from the Shared Solar project shall be included in the total Performance Based Incentive. PBI payments and Bill Credits will be calculated as set forth in Section 8.c. of the Tariff.

#### III. Contact Information and Other Provisions

#### 3.1 Contact Information

All questions and communications regarding these Rules should be directed via electronic mail to National Grid Environmental Transactions at the following address:

RenewableContracts@nationalgrid.com

# 3.2 Official Website for the Enrollment

The Solicitation and Enrollment Process Rules are posted on the National Grid Rhode Island RE Growth Program website: <a href="mailto:ngus.force.com/s/article/Rhode-Island-Renewable-Energy-Growth-Program">ngus.force.com/s/article/Rhode-Island-Renewable-Energy-Growth-Program</a>

Information about the interconnection process and all submission of Interconnection Applications must be submitted through this site as well.

# 3.3 Rhode Island State Licensing Requirement

Pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 5-65-1, a registered contractor or firm with a contractor's registration shall perform the work associated with the installation of solar energy systems or equipment (i.e. racking systems, inground mounting or anchoring).

Renewable energy firms or their subcontractor or agent conducting installation work must hold a Rhode Island General Contractors License and provide their license registration number on the approved Solar Permit or building permit for the project as a condition of final approval to enroll.

# 3.4 Confidentiality

The Board, the OER, and National Grid shall enter into an agreement regarding the sharing of information and data related to the RE Growth Program, including application information, details regarding project ownership, and pricing. At the request of the Board, the OER, National Grid, or the Division, the Commission shall have the authority to protect from public disclosure individual information for any projects that have not been awarded a Certificate of Eligibility. Information regarding project size, location, owner, and price will be made public for projects awarded a Certificate of Eligibility.

# 3.5 Facility Inspection by Independent Quality Inspector

All facilities shall be subject to inspection for quality and quantity assurance by the Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources, or its duly contracted agents, at the request of the Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources or its agent. Failure to allow such inspection in reasonable time and with full access to the facility will be considered a potential cause for termination or suspension of PBI payments until cured.

# 3.6 Modification or Cancellation of an Enrollment

Pursuant to Chapter 26.6 of Title 39 of the Rhode Island General Laws, any dispute involving the performance-based incentive payments, terms, conditions, rights, enforcement, and implementation of the Tariffs and these Rules is subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the Commission. National Grid may, at any time up to the issuance of Certificates of Eligibility (Section 2.3 above) and without any liability on the part of National Grid, postpone, withdraw and/or cancel an enrollment; alter, extend, or cancel any due date; and/or, alter, amend, withdraw and/or cancel any requirement, term or condition of this enrollment.

Schedule 1

# **Approved Small-Scale Solar Annual MW Target**

Renewable Energy Class	Annual Enrollment Target (Nameplate MW)	
Small-Scale Solar I – (15 Year Tariff)	C OF MAN DC	
Small-Scale Solar II (20 Year Tariff)	6.95 MW DC	

Note: Schedule 1 will be updated as required for each enrollment year.

Schedule 2

Approved Small-Scale Solar Standard PBI Applicable to Current Program Year

Renewable Energy Class (Nameplate kW)	Ceiling Price/Standard PBI (Inclusive of assumed eligible federal incentives)	Term of Service (years)
	(cents/kWh)	
Small-Scale Solar I – (1-10 kW)	29.65	15 Year Tariff
Small-Scale Solar II (11-25 kW)	23.45	20 Year Tariff

Note: The Standard PBI is equivalent to the Ceiling Price that is recommended by the Board and approved by the Commission.



The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid

Rhode Island Renewable Energy Growth Program Solicitation and Enrollment Process Rules for Solar (Greater than 25 kW), Wind, Hydro and Anaerobic Digester Projects

Effective Date: April 1, 2020

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#### I. Introduction and Overview

# 1.1 Purpose of the Solicitation and Enrollment

National Grid (the Company) developed the Renewable Energy Growth Program (RE Growth Program) pursuant to Chapter 26.6 of Title 39 of the Rhode Island General Laws to facilitate the development and compensation of distributed generation projects in Rhode Island. These Solicitation and Enrollment Process Rules for Non-Residential Projects (Rules) provide the means by which an applicant (Applicant) can qualify and enroll a project (Project) in the RE Growth Program. The Rules are only part of the RE Growth Program documents and should be read along with the Non-Residential RE Growth Program Tariff (Tariff). As described below, a Project enrolled in the RE Growth Program must supply National Grid with energy, capacity, Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs), and other environmental attributes and market products. Any term not defined in the Rules is defined in the Tariff.

These Rules will apply to all Projects that are not Small-Scale Solar Projects, subject to the eligibility provisions below. A Small-Scale Solar Project is a solar project having a nameplate capacity of up to and including twenty-five kilowatts (25 kW), and is subject to the rules for Small-Scale Solar Projects.

These Rules, along with the Tariff, will govern the eligibility and procedures for Projects in the RE Growth Program. National Grid will not execute contracts with Applicants.

#### 1.2 Enrollment Framework

National Grid is operating the RE Growth Program, as guided by the Distributed Generation Board (Board) in consultation with the Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources (OER). The Program is subject to the approval of the Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission (Commission). National Grid may also consult with the Rhode Island Division of Public Utilities and Carriers (Division).

For each program year, there will be a target amount of megawatts to be enrolled for the year (annual MW target), and a target amount of megawatts for each enrollment event (enrollment MW target), both of which will be based on nameplate capacity. The nameplate capacity of a Project is its maximum rated output or gross output of a generator; for solar technology, it is the total rated power output of all the panels measured in direct current (DC). The enrollment MW target will be a specific portion of the annual MW target.

For each program year, the Board will recommend the enrollment MW target and a target amount of megawatts for each class of renewable resource (class MW target), which will be a specific portion of the enrollment MW target. Both of these recommendations from the Board are subject to Commission approval. If there is an over-subscription in one class and an undersubscription in an enrollment MW target, then National Grid, the OER, and the Board may

mutually agree to allocate megawatts from one class to another without Commission approval as long as the re-allocated targets would not exceed the annual MW Target.

Annual MW targets are 40 MW per year from 2020 to 2029, with at least three megawatts (3 MW) of capacity to be carved out exclusively for small-scale solar projects in each of the first four (4) program years. The Board may recommend and/or the Commission may adopt a new annual MW target for small-scale projects. Any cancelled or unused capacity from prior years may be added by the Board to the next program year.

A "program year" means a year beginning April 1 and ending March 31.. Except for the first program year (2015), National Grid is required, in consultation with the Board and the OER, to conduct at least three (3) tariff enrollments for each distributed generation class each program year. The classes and targets for each program year are listed in Schedule 1, which will be updated periodically, and Schedule 2 of this application.

For each program year, the Board will recommend the Ceiling Prices and Standard Performance-Based Incentives (PBI), as applicable, for each renewable energy class, subject to Commission approval. For all projects subject to these Solicitation and Enrollment Process Rules, the Ceiling Price is the bidding price cap, further described in Section 2.1.5. See Schedule 2 for the approved Ceiling Prices for the current program year.

#### 1.1.1 Applications

Each enrollment will be open for a two (2) week period. During the enrollment period, National Grid will accept standard short-form applications. The standard application shall require the Applicant to provide the following information about the project: (1) the project ownership; (2) the location of the proposed project; (3) the nameplate capacity; and (4) the renewable energy class. The application allows Applicants to provide additional information relative to the permitting, financial feasibility, ability to build, and timing for achieving commercial operation of the proposed projects. The Applicant must certify in the application that the project will not violate the prohibition on project segmentation, as set forth in the Tariff.

Applicants will be selected for the RE Growth Program in accordance with the rules below.

#### 1.1.2 Eligibility Requirements

#### 1.1.2.1 Introduction

To be eligible, a Project must meet certain requirements, and National Grid will review all applications to determine whether they meet these requirements. Projects that do not meet eligibility requirements will be disqualified from the RE Growth Program.

#### 1.1.2.2 Eligible Applicant

An Applicant must be in good standing on its obligations to National Grid. Such obligations include but are not limited to meeting obligations under an Interconnection Service Agreement and being current with amounts due on the electric service account(s) or fulfilling the requirements of an approved payment plan.

#### 1.1.2.3 Eligible Facilities

To be eligible for an enrollment, a Project must: (1) be an eligible renewable energy resource under the RE Growth Program, as determined by the Board and approved by the Commission; (2) have a nameplate capacity equal to or less than five megawatts (5 MW); (3) interconnect with the distribution system of The Narragansett Electric Company; and (4) be located in The Narragansett Electric Company ISO-NE load zone.

Nameplate capacity is the maximum rated output or gross output of a generator; for solar technology it is the total rated power output of all panels measured in direct current (DC).

To apply, a distributed generation project must not be: (1) already operating; (2) under construction, except for preparatory site work that is less than twenty-five percent (25%) of the estimated total project cost; or (3) fully financed for construction, except to the extent that financing agreements are conditioned upon the selection of the project in this program. A pre-existing hydroelectric generating facility that is already operating may be eligible for the RE Growth Program if it can demonstrate with reasonable evidence its need for a material investment to restore or maintain reliable and efficient operation and meet all regulatory, environmental or operational requirements, in addition to meeting the other criteria of the RE Growth Program.

#### 1.1.2.3.1 Renewable Energy Classes

For each program year, the Board shall determine the renewable energy classes, which are defined by specific technology, nameplate size, and other requirements as may be applicable as determined by the Board, subject to Commission approval. The Board may make recommendations to the Commission to add, eliminate, or adjust renewable energy classes for each program year. See Schedule 2 for the approved renewable energy classes for the applicable program year. To be eligible for an enrollment, a distributed generation project must qualify within one of the approved renewable energy classes for the applicable program year as indicated in Schedule 2.

#### 1.1.2.3.2 Prohibition on Project Segmentation

Project segmentation occurs when one distributed generation project is split into multiple projects on a single parcel or on contiguous parcels in order to qualify under smaller size project classifications. All Applicants are required to include assessor's maps with their applications so that the Company can review project eligibility in light of the prohibition on project

segmentation. The Company may also require additional property information to verify that the project is eligible for participation in the program.

Under the RE Growth Program, project segmentation is not allowed. However, a Project developer may designate an additional distributed generation unit or portion of a unit on the same parcel or on a contiguous parcel for net metering or for other means of participating in electricity markets, as long as any such unit or portion of such unit: (1) is not receiving Performance-Based Incentives through the RE Growth Program; (2) is segregated electrically; and (3) is separately metered.

A Project is not considered segmented if: (1) at least twenty-four (24) months elapse between the operating start-date of the Project and the start of construction of new distributed generation unit(s) of the same resource technology on the same parcel or a contiguous parcel; or (2) the distributed generation projects use different renewable resource technologies (e.g., a wind turbine and a solar array could both be eligible within the 24 month window). DG projects installed on contiguous parcels will not be considered segmented if they serve different customers and both customers opt to receive Bill Credits under Option 2, as described in Section 8.c. of the Tariff. In addition, if the separate projects on a single parcel in aggregate would not be qualify the facilities as a larger class, then they will not be considered segmented, and would be allowed. For example, a developer proposes a 70 kW and an 80 kW on the same parcel; as 150 kW together, this would be the same class and ceiling price as the project are subject to individually.

#### 1.1.2.3.3 Small Distributed Generation Projects

A small distributed generation project means a Project with a nameplate capacity within the following statutory limits:

Small Wind	Small-Scale Solar	Medium-Scale Solar	Other Technology
50 kW - 1,500	Up to and including	Greater than 25 kW,	TBD by the Board,
kW	25 kW	up to and including 250 kW	up to 1 MW.

See Schedule 2 for approved renewable energy classes that are eligible for the current enrollment. Note that there is a separate solicitation and enrollment process rules for Small-Scale Solar projects.

#### 1.1.2.3.4 Large Distributed Generation Projects

A large distributed generation project means a Project with a nameplate capacity within the following statutory limits:

Commercial-Scale Solar	Large-Scale Solar	Large Wind	Other Technology
Greater than 250 kW, but less than 1 MW	1 MW, up to and including 5 MW	Greater than 1.5 MW, up to and including 5 MW	Greater than small DG, up to and including 5 MW

See Schedule 2 for approved renewable energy classes that are eligible for the current enrollment.

#### 1.1.2.3.5 Energy Storage System Guidance

Energy Storage Systems (ESS), such as electro-chemical batteries, that can store and release electrical energy, may be co-located with RE Growth qualifying projects. When located behind-the-meter of a customer and able to charge from the electric power system, ESS must be configured in a manner that they cannot export through the RE Growth production meter. When configured to charge directly from the RE Growth system, ESS must be configured so that any energy used for back-up supply purposes is not measured by the RE Growth production meter. Please see the available "ESS Guidance Diagrams" available on the RE Growth webpage at: <a href="majorage-ngus-force.com/s/article/Rhode-Island-Renewable-Energy-Growth-Program">ngus.force.com/s/article/Rhode-Island-Renewable-Energy-Growth-Program</a>

#### II. Application Evaluation and Selection Criteria and Process

# 2.10verview of Application Evaluation and Selection Process

Applications will be subject to a consistent, defined review and selection process. Projects submitting competitive bids in an enrollment period will be evaluated against other Projects in the same renewable energy class. The first stage of review determines whether a Project satisfies specified eligibility and minimum threshold requirements. National Grid will conduct any additional evaluation as required, consistent with the requirements set forth above, and select eligible Applicants to move onto the next stage in the selection process. Subsequent to this selection, National Grid will evaluate Projects based on certain threshold criteria, described below in sections 2.1.1-2.1.3, and then award selected projects Certificates of Eligibility as described in sections 2.1.4 and 2.1.5.

#### 2.1.1 Interconnection Progress Prior to Enrollment

A Project must have made sufficient progress in the interconnection process prior to enrollment to ensure that interconnection costs have been estimated and the Project is likely to meet the statutory deadlines above. Project owners must have already submitted an application for interconnection and, if necessary, must have received a completed Impact Study for Renewable DG (ISRDG) from the Company. A copy of the interconnection application and a completed ISRDG, or valid Interconnection Service Agreement, must be enclosed along with an application for enrollment under this program. A valid Interconnection Service Agreement is one that has been signed by both the Applicant and National Grid. All interconnection costs, if any, must be paid by the Applicant of the distributed generation (DG) project in accordance with the payment

plan identified within the Interconnection Service Agreement. However, a distributed generation facility owner may appeal to the Commission to reduce any required system upgrade costs to the extent such upgrades can be shown to benefit other customers of the electric distribution company and the balance of such costs shall be included in rates by the electric distribution company for recovery in the year incurred or the year following incurrence.

For information regarding ISRDG and the standards for the interconnection of generators in Rhode Island, please see: <a href="mailto:ngus.force.com/s/article/Rhode-Island-Renewable-Energy-Growth-Program">ngus.force.com/s/article/Rhode-Island-Renewable-Energy-Growth-Program</a>

#### 2.1.2 Site Control

The Applicant must show actual control of the site where the Project is to be located, or show that it has exercised its right to acquire control of the site. To meet this requirement, the Applicant must represent that it owns or leases (or has an executed, exclusive, unconditional option to own or lease) the site on which the proposed project will be located, and that it has any additional rights required to develop and operate the project at the site.

#### 2.1.3 Application Completeness and Timeliness

Applicants must endeavor to complete the entire application and provide all reasonably available information in each section of the application. Applicants will not be allowed to modify their applications after they are submitted to the Company.

Applications must include the estimated total project development costs. Applications that do not include the estimated total project development costs will be rejected. Total project development cost is defined as: "The expected all-in project capital cost, which should include all hardware, balance of plant, design, construction, permitting, interconnection, metering, development (including developer fee), interest during construction, financing costs and reserves. This figure should not account for any tax incentives, grants, or other cash incentives, which will be accounted for separately. This figure should not include O&M expenses or replacement costs. All other upfront capital costs must be included."

Applications must be timely submitted in accordance with the enrollment dates set forth in Schedule 5. Applications received after the deadline will not be accepted.

Following the submission of applications, National Grid may request additional information from Applicants at any time during the process. Applicants that do not respond to requests for information may be disqualified from an enrollment.

#### 2.1.4 Competitive Bidding for Distributed Generation Projects

All distributed generation projects subject to these Solicitation and Enrollment Process Rules are subject to a bidding process to determine which Projects are selected for the RE Growth Program. Each Project is required to bid a price per kilowatt-hour for its entire output (net of

any station service) for the approved tariff term length, which shall not exceed the applicable ceiling price. Following eligibility and threshold evaluations, the price evaluation of the bids for that applicable Tariff supplement will be applied on a consistent basis such that the same approved term lengths for competing bids are used to determine the winning bids. Selection will be made by ranking the eligible projects from lowest bid price received to highest, but not to exceed the applicable ceiling price. See Schedule 2 for the approved Ceiling Prices for the current program year. Projects will be selected beginning with the lowest bid price and continuing to select projects up to the enrollment MW target for the applicable class. If selected, the price each Project bids into the solicitation will be its PBI paid under the applicable Tariff supplement.

If the Projects that bid the same price exceed the capacity specified for a renewable energy class target, National Grid will consult with the Board and the OER in selecting first those projects that appear to be the furthest along in development and that are most likely to be deployed. Those Projects that are likely to achieve commercial operations at the earliest time shall be selected first. The Company may also consult with the Board, the OER, and/or the Division during this further assessment.

#### 2.1.5 Solar Carport Incentive Eligibility and Application

A Solar Carport Incentive is now offered for that portion of DG Project that qualifies for the adder. A Solar Carport is defined as "The portion of the direct current (DC) nameplate capacity of a Solar DG Project that is installed above a permeable and/or non-permeable existing or new parking area and associated access and walkway areas (as recognized by the local municipal building and/or zoning department), which is installed in a manner that maintains the function of the area beneath the structure, and is continued to be used or available for use for such purposes for the term of enrollment in this tariff." Upon application, plans, one-line diagrams or other forms of identification of the amount of solar DC capacity that will be qualified as a Solar Carport must be submitted to National Grid.

Application of the Solar Carport Incentive to the total Performance Based Incentive will occur after the competitive bidding process. Solar carport eligible projects should bid in the appropriate class and offer a price at or below the class ceiling price without including the adder. If the project wins an allocation of capacity in the enrollment process, National Grid will then calculate the Solar Carport Incentive for the project based on the portion of the project that qualifies as a Solar Carport, and the total project size. This ratio will then be multiplied by the Solar Carport Incentive Rate, listed on Schedule 2, and this will be added to the PBI for all of the output of the facility. This calculation is detailed in Section 8.b. of the RE Growth Non-Residential Tariff.

#### 2.1.5.1 Open Enrollment Application

For the 2020 Program Year there are a total of 6.0 MW of Solar Carport Capacity Nameplate (kW DC) set aside for enrollment through all three Open Enrollments (limits of 2.0 MW for Commercial-Scale Solar and 4.0 MW for Large-Scale Solar). If the carport capacity target is met

prior to the third open enrollment, the adder is no longer available for Solar Carport projects in that energy class. If there is Solar Carport Capacity remaining, of the 6.0 MW set aside, after the third enrollment, then National Grid, the OER, and the Board may mutually agree to allocate the remainder to its Commercial-Scale Solar or Large-Scale Solar energy class or another energy class without Commission approval as long as the re-allocated targets would not exceed the annual MW Target.

# 2.2 Issuance of Certificates of Eligibility

For small-scale and medium-scale solar projects, National Grid shall provide Certificates of Eligibility to the selected projects without obtaining Commission confirmation or approval, but subject to the review and consent of the OER. National Grid will file with the Commission a list of all small-scale solar Projects that are awarded Certificates of Eligibility. National Grid will award Certificates of Eligibility to eligible small-scale solar projects in accordance with the Solicitation and Enrollment Process Rules for Small-Scale Solar Projects.

For medium-scale, commercial-scale and large-scale solar, and all other distributed generation

For medium-scale, commercial-scale and large-scale solar, and all other distributed generation projects, National Grid shall file with the Commission a list of the distributed generation projects selected together with the corresponding pricing information. The Commission shall issue an order listing those projects to which Certificates of Eligibility are awarded within sixty (60) days of receipt of the list.

The Certificate of Eligibility will contain applicable DG Facility information, including renewable technology and class, facility size and energy output, term length, price, certificate issuance and certificate effective dates.

# 2.3 Requirements to Initiate Payment for Output

If awarded a Certificate of Eligibility, a Project is required to meet specific requirements to maintain its status in the RE Growth Program prior to and during construction, and to initiate the start of the payments for its output. These requirements are set forth below.

#### 2.3.1 Performance Guarantee Deposit

Except for small-scale solar and medium-scale solar projects, Applicants are required to pay a performance guarantee deposit to National Grid, which must be made by wire transfer. The performance guarantee deposit is determined, in part, on the quantity of renewable energy certificate estimated to be generated per year under the Program. The deposit is fifteen dollars (\$15.00) for each REC estimated to be generated per year by a Small Distributed Generation project and twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) for each REC estimated to be generated per year by a Large Distributed Generation project. A performance guarantee deposit is at least five hundred dollars (\$500) and not more than seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000).

The deposit must be received and confirmed by National Grid within five (5) business days after a project is offered a Certificate of Eligibility. There are no exceptions to this requirement.

Applicants should be prepared to make a deposit when submitting applications into any enrollment. If payment of the required performance guarantee deposit is not received by the date required, the Company will withdraw the offer and proceed with the next competitive bid in that enrollment.

The Company will refund the performance guarantee deposit over the course of the first year of the project's operation, paid quarterly.

#### 2.3.2 Project Schedule and Output Certification

A project must certify that it is capable of producing at least ninety percent (90%) of the output that was proposed in its enrollment application before its deadline. All projects will have a twenty-four (24) month deadline to meet this requirement, but anaerobic digestion projects will have thirty six (36) months, and small-scale hydro will have forty-eight (48) months). A project's proposed construction schedule must allow it to meet the applicable deadline after it has received a Certificate of Eligibility.

If a project does not certify that it is capable of generating the output proposed in its enrollment application on or before the applicable deadline, the project's Certificate of Eligibility will be voided and its performance guarantee deposit will be forfeited. Forfeited performance guarantee deposits shall be credited to all distribution customers through rates and not retained by National Grid. National Grid will not refund the Performance Guarantee Deposit to any project that does not provide an Output Certification within the applicable deadlines, including any extensions available to the Applicant as described in Section 3.f. and 3.g. of the Tariff (note: deadline may be extended by 6 months with no additional PGD and an additional 6 months beyond that by posting one-half original PGD for the second extension).

A DG Facility must provide an independent third-party (licensed PE) engineer's "Output Certification" stating:

- 1. that the DG Facility or project has been completed in all material respects;
  - a. including completion of construction of facility and all interconnection facilities necessary for operation;
  - b. applicable meters have been installed and tested (commissioned).
- 2. that the DG Facility or project is capable of producing at least 90% of the maximum hourly output proposed in the project application and specified on the *Certificate of Eligibility*;
- 3. the actual DC-rated nameplate capacity of the DG Facility or project as built and specified on the *Certificate of Eligibility*, and the amount of DC-rated nameplate capacity that is installed as-built that qualifies under the Solar Carport definition, if any; and

the maximum hourly output in kWh/hour in Alternating Current (AC) of the facility as built and specified on the *Certificate of Eligibility*. Once a DG Project has provided the Output Certification to National Grid, the Project then has 90 days to meet all other requirements pursuant to Section 8.a. of the Tariff in order to receive payment.

Small-scale and medium-scale solar projects are not required to provide the Output Certification or pay a performance guarantee deposit. However, after receiving a Certificate of Eligibility, a small-scale or medium-scale solar project has twenty-four (24) months to meet all other requirements pursuant to the Tariff in order to receive compensation under the RE Growth Program. If a Project does not meet this deadline, the Certificate of Eligibility will be voided.

#### 2.3.3 Qualification as an Eligible Renewable Energy Resource under the RES

An Applicant to the RE Growth Program must obtain qualification for a Project as a renewable energy resource pursuant to the Rhode Island Renewable Energy Standard (RES). Applicants must complete a Renewable Energy Resources Eligibility Form and obtain Commission approval in order to be qualified under the RES. The form can be found at: http://www.ripuc.org/utilityinfo/res.html

In addition, the Applicant is required cooperate with the Company to register and qualify RECs in other jurisdictions in order to monetize the value of these market products to offset the cost of the RE Growth Program.

## 2.4 Ownership of Products

The Company shall have the rights and receive title to:

- (1) Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) generated by the Project during the applicable term of the Tariff supplement;
- (2) All energy produced by the Project; and
- (3) Rights to any other environmental attributes or electricity market products or services that are created or produced by the Project; provided, however, that it shall be the Company's choice to acquire the capacity of the DG Project.

#### 2.4.1 Delivery of Energy into ISO-NE Market

Energy must be delivered to National Grid in the ISO—NE Rhode Island load zone at the delivery node associated with the Project.

#### 2.4.2 Delivery of RECs and Registration in NEPOOL GIS

Applicants must cooperate with and provide information to the Company to enable RECs to be created by the Project at the NEPOOL Generation Information System, and for such RECs to be transferred or assigned to the Company's appropriate NEPOOL GIS account, as governed by the Tariff.

#### 2.4.3 Participation in ISO-NE Forward Capacity Market (FCM)

Upon National Grid's election to acquire the capacity from a Project, National Grid will assume the rights to the capacity, pursuant to the Tariff. National Grid reserves the right to be the "Project Sponsor" for the Project, after consultation with the Division and the Board. If and when National Grid participates as Project Sponsor on behalf of any Project, the Applicant must support National Grid, as required, to qualify the Project as an Existing Capacity Resource in the FCM. Applicants are required to take commercially reasonable actions to maximize performance against any FCM Capacity Supply Obligations.

# 2.5 Community Remote Distributed Generation

Community Remote Distributed Generation (CRDG) enables customers who cannot or choose not to install renewable technologies at their service location to participate in the RE Growth Program.

Each CRDG class will have a distinct ceiling price as established by the Board, and each class shall be for resources that are larger than 250 kW (DC for solar, AC for other technologies) nameplate capacity. CRDG projects will compete against other CRDG projects in the same CRDG technology and size classes as set by the Board. Each two-week enrollment period will feature these classes as separate categories in which projects will be able to compete. The Company will select CRDG projects as it selects other projects in competitive classes on the basis of prices bid by project Applicants, and will offer a Certificate of Eligibility to successful Applicants under the same rules and processes as other classes. CRDG renewable energy classes, annual enrollment targets, and ceiling prices are listed on Schedules 1 and 3.

#### 2.5.1 CRDG - Additional Application Materials and Provisions

CRDG Applicants must receive PBI payments in the form of cash and Bill Credits. No more than fifty percent (50%) of the output by kWh generated by the DG Project may be allocated to a single Bill Credit Recipient. At least 50% of the output must be allocated to multiple Bill Credit Recipients in an amount not to exceed that which is produced annually by a twenty-five kilowatt (25 kW) AC capacity system. Both of these conditions must be met within the operational timelines specified in the Tariff, and must be met prior to being allowed to operate in parallel. CRDG Applicants must submit a Customer Payment/Credit Transfer Form that notes the billing accounts for Bill Credit Recipients and other required information. Bill Credit Recipients may receive retail delivery service on any of the Company's rate schedules. CRDG Applicants must designate at least three (3) eligible Bill Credit Recipients. There is a minimum bill credit amount set for projects participating as CRDG facilities each year. The Minimum Bill Credit Amount will be calculated as 50% of the difference between the ceiling prices of non-CRDG facilities and CRDG facilities of the same technology and class, but in no case will be greater than 1.25¢ per kWh. These are shown in the Non-Residential tariff supplements applicable to each program year.

Full Bill Credit Recipient criteria, the allocation of CRDG kWh generation to Bill Credit Recipients, the application of bill credits to customers on the A-60 rate, and the calculation of Bill Credits and cash payments are as set forth in Section 8.d. of the Tariff.

#### 2.6 Shared Solar

Shared Solar enables customers who own or rent properties unsuitable for installing solar, or where a single system is preferred, to participate in the RE Growth Program with Small-Scale Solar Projects and Medium-Scale Solar Projects (1-25 kW DC and 26-250 kW DC nameplate capacity, respectively).

To be eligible to participate in the Shared Solar program, at the time of enrollment, each account listed as a recipient must be in good standing on applicable electric service, payment plans or agreements, and other obligations to the Company, including but not limited to meeting all obligations under an Interconnection Service Agreement. Shared Solar Projects can only share Bill Credits with Bill Credit Recipients on the same or adjacent parcel of land as the DG Project. Where two properties are separated by a public way, they will not be considered to be adjacent.

The system size for Bill Credit Recipients will be determined by the sum of the three (3)-year average on-site use over the previous three (3) years of all of the indicated Bill Credit Recipients' accounts at the time of the application. For Bill Credit Recipients that have not established a three (3) year on-site usage history, the maximum annual limit will be estimated initially. The customer may request that the Company reset its three (3)-year annual average use once three (3) years of billing history are available.

Shared Solar Projects will receive the same ceiling price and enroll from the same classes of other projects of the same size and ownership as established by the Board for a given program year.

#### 2.6.1 Shared Solar Additional Application Material and Provisions

At the time of application, Shared Solar Applicants must submit a Customer Payment/Credit Transfer Form that notes what billing accounts will be receiving Bill Credits. The system must be sized to not provide output greater than the total of the aggregate three-year average annual usage of all of the Bill Credit recipients, like other on-site systems. Shared Solar Projects must allocate Bill Credits to at least two (2) and no more than fifty (50) accounts in the same customer class and on the same or adjacent parcels of land. Public entities may allocate such Bill Credits to at least two (2) and up to fifty (50) accounts without regard to location so long as the Shared Solar Project and Bill Credit Recipient points of service, which must all belong to the same municipality or public entity, are within the same municipality.

Shared Solar Applicants will receive PBI payments as a combination of cash payments and Bill Credits (Option 2). The DG Project and Bill Credit Recipients must be in the same customer class (i.e., Residential or Nonresidential). All customer accounts receiving Bill Credits must be in the

same customer class (i.e., Residential or Nonresidential) although they may be on different retail delivery service rate classes. The Bill Credit value from the Shared Solar Project shall be determined by the recipients' rate class and not that of the facility owner. The Bill Credit value shall be the distribution, transition, transmission, and standard offer supply rates of the Bill Credit Recipients. Any value of Bill Credits not transferred from the Shared Solar project shall be included in the total Performance Based Incentive. PBI payments and Bill Credits will be calculated as set forth in Section 8.c. of the Tariff.

In no case will the annual allocated credits in kWh exceed the prior three (3) year annual average usage, less any reductions for verified energy efficiency measures installed at the customer premises, of the customer account to which the Bill Credits are transferred.

#### III. Contact Information and Other Provisions

#### 3.1 Official Contact

All questions and communications regarding these Rules should be directed via electronic mail to National Grid Environmental Transactions at the following address:

RenewableContracts@nationalgrid.com

# 3.2 Submittal of Enrollment Applications

The Solicitation and Enrollment Process Rules are posted on the National Grid Rhode Island Renewable Energy Growth Program website: <a href="mailto:ngus.force.com/s/article/Rhode-Island-Renewable-Energy-Growth-Program">ngus.force.com/s/article/Rhode-Island-Renewable-Energy-Growth-Program</a>

Applications must be submitted electronically via the website, during the two-week Open Enrollment set forth in Schedule 5. Applications received after the deadline cannot be accepted for that particular open enrollment but can be submitted in a future open enrollment solicitation.

# 3.3 Rhode Island State Licensing Requirement

Pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 5-65-1, a registered contractor or firm with a contractor's registration shall perform the work associated with the installation of solar energy systems or equipment (i.e. racking systems, in-ground mounting or anchoring).

Renewable energy firms, or their subcontractor or agent conducting the installation, must hold a Rhode Island General Contractors registration and provide their registration number and Electrician license number as part of the interconnection application for the project as a condition of final approval to enroll.

# 3.4 Confidentiality

Each application shall contain the full name and business address of the Applicant, and a contact person, and shall be signed by an authorized person.

The Board, the OER, and National Grid shall enter into an agreement regarding the sharing of the information and data related to the RE Growth Program, including such information as application information, details regarding project ownership, and pricing. At the request of the Board, the OER, National Grid, or the Division, the Commission shall have the authority to protect from public disclosure individual information for any projects that have not been awarded a Certificate of Eligibility. Information regarding project size, location, owner, and price will be made public for projects awarded a Certificate of Eligibility.

# 3.5 Facility Inspection by Independent Quality Inspector

All facilities shall be subject to inspection for quality and quantity assurance by the Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources, or its duly contracted agents, at the request of the Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources or its agent. Failure to allow such inspection in reasonable time and with full access to the facility will be considered a potential cause for termination or suspension of PBI payments until cured.

#### 3.6 Modification or Cancellation of an Enrollment

Pursuant to Chapter 26.6 of Title 39 of the Rhode Island General Laws, any dispute involving the performance-based incentive payments, terms, conditions, rights, enforcement, and implementation of the Tariffs and these Rules, is subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the Commission. National Grid may, at any time up to the issuance of Certificates of Eligibility (Section 2.2 above) and without any liability on the part of National Grid, postpone, withdraw and/or cancel this enrollment; alter, extend or cancel any due date; and/or, alter, amend, withdraw and/or cancel any requirement, term or condition of this enrollment.

Schedule 1

Approved Annual Enrollment Targets for Program Year 2019-2020

Renewable Energy Class	Annual Enrollment Target (Nameplate MW)	Solar Carport Capacity Target (Nameplate MW)
Medium-Scale Solar	3 MW DC	
Commercial-Scale Solar	8.244 MW DC	2.0 MW DC <sup>(1)</sup>
Community Remote - Commercial Solar	3.0 MW DC	
Large Solar	18.294 MW DC	4.0 MW DC <sup>(1)</sup>
Community Remote - Large Solar	3 MW DC	
Community Remote and Non-Community Remote Wind	3.0 MW DC	
Anaerobic Digestion I		
Anaerobic Digestion II	1.0 MW DC	
Small-Scale Hydropower I		
Small-Scale Hydropower II		

<sup>(1)</sup> The Solar Carport Capacity Target Nameplate (kW DC) is set aside for enrollment through all three Open Enrollments. A Customer whose DG Project includes nameplate capacity that meets the definition as a Solar Carport will be eligible for the Solar Carport Incentive listed in Schedule 2 and that capacity will be removed from the current target. Solar carport eligible projects should bid in the appropriate class as specified in Section 2.1.5.

Note: Schedule 1 will be updated as required for each enrollment period.

Schedule 2

Approved Renewable Energy Classes and Ceiling Prices Applicable to Program Year 2020-2021

Renewable Energy Class (Nameplate kW)	Ceiling Price (Inclusive of assumed eligible federal incentives) (cents/kWh)	Term of Service (years)
Medium-Scale Solar (26-250 kW DC)	21.15	20
Commercial-Scale Solar (251-999 kW DC)	18.25	20
Large-Scale Solar (1,000-5,000 kW DC)	13.65	20
Wind (Up to 5,000 kW)	18.85	20
Anaerobic Digestion (1-5,000 kW)	15.35	20
Hydropower (1-5,000 kW)	21.45	20

# Other Incentive Rates for Program Year 2020-21

Incentive Rate	(cents/kWh)	Term of Service (years)
Solar Carport	6.0	20
Incentive		

Community Remote Distributed Generation (CRDG) Approved Renewable Energy Classes and Ceiling Prices Applicable to Program Year 2020-2021

Schedule 3

Renewable Energy Class (Nameplate kW)	Ceiling Price (Inclusive of assumed eligible federal incentives) (cents/kWh)	Term of Service (years)
CRDG - Commercial Solar (251-999 kW DC)	20.99	20
CRDG - Large Solar (1,000-5,000 kW DC)	15.70	20
CRDG - Wind (1,000-5,000 kW DC)	21.05	20

# Schedule 4

# **Anticipated Timeline**

Event	Anticipated Dates
Enrollment begins	
Due Date for Submission of Applications	
Notice of Selection	
File Results with RI PUC for approval	
RI PUC Approval (expected)	