

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

Public Utilities Commission

Minutes of Open Meeting Held on February 15, 2019

An Open Meeting of the Public Utilities Commission was held on Friday, February 15, 2019 at 10:00 A.M. in Hearing Room A, 89 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, Rhode Island to discuss, deliberate and/or vote on the following dockets.

Present: Chairperson Margaret Curran, Commissioner Marion Gold, Commissioner Abigail Anthony, Cynthia Wilson-Frias, Todd Bianco, Alan Nault, Emma Rodvien and Luly Massaro.

I. Chairperson Curran called the Open Meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. A quorum was present.

II. **Docket No. 4892 – RI Distributed Generation Board and The Narragansett Electric Co. d/b/a National Grid** – The PUC discussed and reviewed the record relating to the proposals submitted by RI Distributed Generation Board (DG Board) and National Grid for the 2019 Renewable Energy Growth (RE Growth) Program. The DG Board proposed ceiling prices, renewable energy growth classes and capacity targets for the 2019 RE Growth Program year. National Grid proposed revisions to the Company’s RE Growth Program Tariffs and Solicitation and Enrollment Process Rules for the 2019 RE Growth Program year. After deliberation, the following votes were made on the following issues:

Carport Definition - Chairperson Curran moved to approve the definition Solar Carport proposed by National Grid and OER in their responses to data requests (NGrid 1-2 and OER 1-11). This definition removes 85% of total solar PV capacity. Commissioner Gold seconded the motion. Commissioner Anthony abstained noting that there was no definition proposed that would justify Carport to be in its own class. **Vote 2-0.**

Classes

1) Chairperson Curran moved to accept all the classes as proposed by the DG Board with the exception of the solar carport classes. Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion and the motion unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

2) Commissioner Anthony moved to reject the solar carport class, target, allocations and ceiling prices proposed by the DG Board. Chairperson Curran seconded the motion and the motion unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Targets

3) Chairperson Curran moved to approve a revised overall target of 55.330 MW of capacity. Commissioner Gold seconded the motion and the motion unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

4) Commissioner Anthony moved to reject the 6.5 MW allocated to the solar

carport class and direct the parties to file a reallocation of the 6.5 MW with an explanation as to why they arrived at the reallocation. The motion was seconded by Chairperson Curran and unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

5) Chairperson Curran moved to reject the ceiling prices for solar carport and approve the remaining ceiling prices as proposed by the DG Board. Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion and the motion unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

National Grid's Tariffs

6) Commissioner Anthony moved to reject National Grid's language proposed in Tariff Sheets 2151-F, Sheet 9 and 2151-F Sheet 16 because there are some clarifications to be made. In Tariff Sheet 2151-F Sheet 9(d), delete the term "possible". In Tariff Sheet 2151-F Sheet 16, clarify when the 90-day and 180-day periods start and end. Also, on both sheets, clarify whether PBI are suspended or forfeited. Commissioner Gold seconded the motion and the motion unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.** National Grid shall make these clarification changes when it submits its compliance filing.

7) Chairperson Curran moved to direct National Grid to include the definition of Project Development Cost in the Enrollment Rules. Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion and the motion unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

8) The PUC directed National Grid and PUC Staff to discuss the issues relating the date of eligibility for PBI incentives in the context of the RES certification.

III. **Docket No. 4604 - RI Office of Energy Resources (OER)** – The PUC continued its review of OER's remaining balance of its budget request, in the amount of \$8,500, to conduct Tasks 8 and 9 of the solar quality assurance field case studies during the 2019 Renewable Energy Growth Program. After review, the PUC deliberated as follows:

1) Commissioner Anthony moved to approve OER's request of \$8,500. Commissioner Gold seconded the motion and the motion unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

2) Commissioner Anthony moved to seek comments, from the parties in this docket, whether the RE Growth participants or developers participating in the RE Growth program should pay for the quality assurance studies' costs. Comments shall be due within 90 days or May 16, 2019. Chairperson Curran seconded the motion and the motion unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

IV. **Docket No. 4917 – Energy Development Partners, LLC (Petitioner)** – The PUC reviewed the Petitioner's Declaratory Judgment Petition related to site control for purpose of the public entity net metering law. After review, Chairperson Curran moved to grant the Petition declaring that an irrevocable license qualifies for site control for a public entity under the net metering law. Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion and the motion unanimously passed.

Vote 3-0.

- V. **Docket No. 4897 – JO RI Solar, LLC’s (Company)** – The PUC considered the Company’s application for eligibility certification of the Johnston generation unit, a 3.0 MW AC (4.057 MW DC) solar facility located in Johnston, Rhode Island, as a New Renewable Energy Resource. PUC Consultant’s recommendation is to approve the application. After review, Chairperson Curran moved to approve the application and Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion. The motion unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

- VI. **Docket No. 4925 – Vodafone US Inc. dba Vodafone Americas** – The Company applied for registration to transact as a provider of telecommunication services within the State of Rhode Island. The Division filed a recommendation to approve the application. After review, Chairperson Curran moved to approve the application. Commissioner Gold seconded the motion and the motion unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

- VII. **Docket No. 2379(E4) – Pursuit Energy Solutions, LLC (Company)** – The Company applied for registration to transact as a gas marketer in the State of Rhode Island. The Division filed a recommendation to approve the application. After review, Chairperson Curran moved to approve the application. Commissioner Gold seconded the motion and the motion unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

- VIII. There being no further business to discuss, Chairperson Curran moved to adjourn the Open Meeting at 11:38 A.M.