

Renewable Energy Committee Meeting

January 11, 2011

Location CSG Office Iselin NJ

1:00 – 2:45 pm

Regulatory Updates (M. Ambrosia)

Mike A- Board approved 2011 budget - Order signed 2nd week in Dec.

ARRA Funding – Concerns Energy Efficiency mostly, but if money isn't spent by April of 2012, we lose it. Some programs are going slower than others, but all have the goal of spending this year.

The Honeywell and TRC contracts have been extended by treasury for one year and BPU's for 6 months but have the option of extending.

EDA programs in the works, continuing the new green growth fund, REMI and large scale efficiency. Staff in process for getting a MOU done, end of Feb. and once signed those programs can kick off. Staff is working on a RFP for a new grid program that was approved as per the Board Order.

Transition to new administrative structure: staff had a public hearing in Nov., comment period closed Dec 3rd and staff is in the process of summarizing comments. Staff will put out straw proposal. Not sure if there will be additional public meetings but there will be additional times available for public comment, and it will be out by late Jan. or early Feb.

Regulatory Updates (S. Hunter)

Scott H- Discussed that we have the approval to process the special adoption of the Solar Advancement Act. SAA had new elements of new adoption to transition from percentage requirement to gigawatts. That will be presented to the board as early as Jan. 19th or at least by Feb 10th meeting.

EE & RE Rules are up for re adoption (expire this year). We are in the process of a rule proposal that will be represented to commissioners that would readopt. Staff is working with lawyers on clearing up interconnection language, and EDC dates so there is no confusion.

Scott H also discussed that staff is in the process of reconciling compliance filing for RPS compliance reports. Very close to having it finalized- ensuring that PJM-GATS data is being tracked and is correct. 77 million megawatt hours of retail energy were sold in 2010. From the percentage requirements in the RPS we know what the class 1 and 2 solar obligations were and how they were met. (This document will be circulated)

SREC Trading statistics are reported. Cumulated weighted average trading price \$615.15/SREC. This is very similar to GATS statistic provided to the BPU. With class 1 and 2 RECs, those RECs are used in other states. Class 1 and Class 2 RECS are usable in other states and GATS can't tell what ultimate use will be. Instead of what actually retired in NJ, GATS shows last trade before retirement. This tracks very close by using the c.w.a price.

Q- Is it this year that the 32 million gets returned back to utilities?

SH- Yes, we are working with utilities and lawyers on how that process gets accounted for.

Q- Will the ratepayers be notified?

SH: Not yet, it would be a while before the ratepayers saw any money.

MA- Observation- You estimated the cost of solar compliance but not for the REC, why?

SH- It was not included because nobody asked, and we didn't have the estimation of price. We don't have it for class one because we don't know the cost until it's retired. I can add that though because I think we have it now.

SH: This info will be circulated after meeting today. There will be a meeting with GATS and MM team to see when everyone is available. Probably last week in Jan. Look for announcement on listserv – Annual RPS data recorded.

Charlie Garrison- One of the changes from BO- The minimum requirement of 70% is gone for SRP. For REIP it has to be 70-80% for payment (prorated). There is a large pipeline and they are still under this requirement for payment.

As of Dec 31st, we are just under 260 MW of installed capacity. Energy year is over May 31st, in theory by hitting 255 MW by mid way through the year we should be hitting the installed capacity goal.

SH: Another good data point is how many SRECs were created, we are on a record pace. We're adding more capacity every month, so this is just an easy way to report the data.

Q: Any major change in size of project from last yr to this yr

A: Project sizes are increasing for non-residential. When 2 MW cap was removed, projects started going up. Over 5 MW is common now. Highest on record is 24 MW.

Question: Where are we standing with SACP adoption

SH- We are targeting Feb. or March for the rule changes to the board

Q: Solicitation- do you have data on the last one?

SH: njedcsolar.com has the results posted. Some of the stipulation pages are missing and we are re putting it together

Q: Energy Master Plan- when will that be published?

SH: Draft circulating internally at governor's office. Once approved will be distributed

Q: Are there public comments?

A: Yes

Q: Will that change your rulemaking?

MA: they already had comments, so these were based on that.

SH: It is a plan so it's a living document that will always change.

Q: Extra 7 yrs on SACP will change rulemaking, what about the 8th year.

A: The rules will change.

Q: The board has to publish 8?

A: Board has to advise the 8th year.

Q: There's no EE requirement for SRP – with EDC there will be no EE requirement?

CG: No, just highly recommended!

Phone Question (Sarah from Rate Council) – What's going to be circulated later?

Janja Lupse: All materials will be circulated after meeting, and another meeting will be scheduled in late Jan to discuss reports.

Q: What is the ETA for EMP?

SH: soon.

2011 Program Updates (C. Garrison)

PowerPoint #1

Please submit whatever you have before expiration date for REIP. 2010 requirement will be honored until Jan 28, 2011.

It was commented that it takes more than 3 months for interconnection approval from the EDC's.

MA: There are 2 processes for complaining about interconnection. Complain to electric distribution company or one must follow board procedure 14:8 -5.8. It is hard for staff to go to board without documentation, so keep a log of all communication.

Comments came up that every utility has a different process, and there should be a blanket form.

SH: Each electric provider has their own interpretation of rules.

Usually forms look like a letter. If they give you permission, you can begin to use the new meter. If meter is not calibrated to run backward, you may not get accuracy

MA: There are two issues here- final paperwork, in the past we accepted an application, but now we need the approval. Scott was referencing that utilities require that anyway, but we need to work out with EDC and contractors what that needs to be done. There are details to be worked out, I think we all recognize that steps need to be taken, The other issue is how long it takes to set a meter, but we need to take that up with the utilities. It is

a violation to start the system without the meter installed. Two separate issues and we need to work through both.

Comment was made that this needs to be done very soon.

CG: We do see these documents coming in already.

Commenter: Yes, JCP&L I have seen. ACE takes months, PS I've never seen.

MA: Jan 28th is a soft date we thought things would be done. Let's target it but nothing is set. Also- I thought the utility left something behind after switching the meter.

Comment was made that utilities don't leave anything behind, and sometimes don't even set up an appointment of when they will com.

It was resolved that the BPU would work on this issue with EDCs.

Question: How do you deal with new construction if you're not checking on the front end?

MA: I believe they might accept engineers load calculation, but I'm not sure. We'll add that to the list to work out with the EDC's.

Question: At what point do we get a municipal inspection?

CG: Right now there is no requirement that you do one before the other

Q: What if the municipal says it's good and the state says it fails?

CG: We'll need the program requirement to be fixed to move on to cert #. We are not failing for code or saying you can't operate the system if the municipal says you can.

Phone Questions:

Alma Rivera: I just want to let everyone know we are accepting apps on innovative Wind Technology incentives. The app should be available online with the other applications.

Question about paperwork for state inspection under new SRP requirements

CG: We are not looking to lengthen the time Anything after 12.31 will be billed as 2011 work.

JL: There has been a webinar, and the re-recording of it that is on the website now if there are any questions.

Question: Is size of system based on 12 months current usage? There are some facilities that have variable usage that change after the system is designed. Will the utility just be verifying that data, or will they be able to look at the next 6 months of data while system is installed?

Fred (PSEG): Whatever we have in hand when we're reviewing interconnection application is usually what we use.

Q: Do you consider AC voltage or DC voltage?

Fred: AC kWh and pv watts (AC)

Q: Who mandated about over generation. Now it's right to the watt.

A: It used to be 120%. What we were trying to do was to not let any system be installed over 100%

Q: Under the concept of net metering that you won't be generating over 100%

A: Grid connected systems are different than Net metered. There are two ways of interconnection.

Operations Update (T. Gray) PowerPoint #2

The NERA solicitation date for the EOI is 2/14/11. Registrants must send SRP registrations to NJCEP by 2/4/11 to guarantee an approval number for EOI.

Question: Solar Energy Storage- Is that a point to be discussed by this committee in the future?

MA: In May or June of every year we talk about how much money we have, and we talk about designing program. This is the right place, just wrong timing. As we go through the process you can suggest programs that could get into future years programs.

Q: share what I think in this forum?

MA: Yes, here. Start with Honeywell though first. (Charlie)

Next meeting is Feb. 8th in Iselin office.

Renewable Energy Committee Meeting Attendees

Tuesday, January 11, 2011
Conservation Services Group
75 Lincoln Highway
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1:00pm - 3:30pm

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