

# Renewable Energy Committee Meeting Agenda

July 13, 2010

1:00 – 3:30

## Introductions

### FC3 Update (Larry B.) questions:

- For those approved have letters been sent? (Yes)
- Will contractor be notified or just applicant? (Yes)
- Are there Residential apps that may be returned? (Yes) Didn't previous meeting say everything from first week of May would be funded? (Mike A - Don't recall that being said; you may be confusing with the discussion about a potential lottery) I have several applications that were approved in 2009 that won't be installed, what should I do? (Notify us)

### QA Inspections & Training Update (Sam N)

- discussed why there was significant increase in inspection volumes which is due to approval volumes number of new installers not on QC, as well as high number of inspection failures (some due to new MM staff)
- discussed the fact that inspection volumes needed to be reduced using the following strategies:
  - reduce residential rate from 65% to 35%
  - minor paperwork infractions won't be considered a failure
  - 2 successful inspections vs 3 to get back into QA program

### Application Selection & Approval Options (Charlie G.) questions:

- Explain the 10 kW cap in residential vs. 7.5 kW \$ cap. (Charlie clarified)
- What happens if large numbers of public/non-profits come in the first day? (3 per entity cap; historically hasn't been a problem)
- What would prevent a residential customer from putting in a 10 kW and then adding to it later? (1 app per year; suggested they just go to SRP)
- What if one of the 3 in the cap is thrown out as incomplete? Can the installer replace with another one? (N)
- Whichever method is selected (daily cap or lottery) how will it be announced? (Requires Board Order; will be posted on website and list serve)
- Can an installer submit 3 public AND 3 residential? (Y)
- How long from application submittal to commissioning? (In SRP it has been about 8 weeks lately for application processing. Construction schedule is up to the installer. Per Mike A – our goal is to get inspections down to 2 – 3 weeks.)

### Comments on Application Selection & Approval Options:

- I like the hybrid lottery approach

- If you had lowered the rebate to \$.40/watt we wouldn't need this discussion. However, hybrid makes the most sense. (Bill Condit)
- Can we have a checkbox on the application that switches automatically to SRP if not selected for a rebate?
- Either option is fine; both solve the problems from FC2 (Solar Alliance)
- MSEIA stated that they will review with their Exec Committee and respond later
- Were other options considered such as a proportional distribution with proportions based on volume submitted over last 12 months? (unfair to new installers)
- Why not make the limit 5 or 10 applications per month instead of per day?
- Can you require that the workers doing the installations are US citizens?
- Are you targeting the August 4<sup>th</sup> Board meeting? Will we be notified in advance of September 1<sup>st</sup>?
- Do you expect to expend all the funds by September 11<sup>th</sup>?
- Will you send letters to those not funded? When/how quickly?

### **EDC Solar Finance Updates**

#### **PSE&G (Fred Lynk)**

- Solar Loan criteria changed per Board Order that will be effective 9/22/10. Add larger segment for 500kW to 2 MW scale projects. 50% of the funds will be allocated to the new large segment. The floor price reduction schedule will be accelerated.
- Solar for all pole attached solar through June has installed 35,811 units totaling 7.2 MW. SRECS have been applied thus far for 5 MW (+/-) or those. Question was asked from audience (I think it was Bill Condit) whether the pole mounted installations are being inspected and held to same standards as other projects.
- Solar for all building mounted on PSEG properties: about 12 MW planned. 4 projects to be on PSEG buildings; remaining on 3<sup>rd</sup> party sites.

#### **ACE/JCP&L/RECO (Chantal)**

- Solicitations: 3 completed thus far; in later stages of the 4<sup>th</sup> (4<sup>th</sup> going to Board in August)
- See NJEDCSolar.com for updates

#### **OCE Updates (Mike Winka)**

- Energy Master Plan Process: Currently researching and inputting new data. Governor Christie wants the current economic climate factored into plan. Strategic Group Task Force has been formed. There will be a public process beginning in September. The BPU has started to meet regarding the clean energy caucus. The first public meeting is scheduled for Aug. 11 'caucus' meeting at which the board will discuss the issue of a new structure.

- 2011 Planning: Looking at different options – probably won't change drastically in 2011. \$319M minus \$52M re-appropriated minus \$25 USF set-aside gives you the approximate budget. Will present options to the Board including a transition plan for the Clean Energy Program. There are 3 basic options being considered for the transition: 1) Corporate Management, 2) Utility Management, or 3) State Agency Management. The main goal of the transition planning is to reduce administrative costs. They are looking into a possible contract extension for the MM for 2011 as a transition year
- RPS Rules Revisions: Looking at the 2 MW limit that took effect 7/1/10 – need rules. Meeting of the Advisory Committee will explore 15 ACP planning. Stakeholder group will meet on Friday. There was a question from audience on the status of transmission ruling – there is concern that there are issues with capacity.

### Renewable Energy Committee Meeting - Attendees

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

1:00pm - 4:00pm

Board of Public Utilities

44 S. Clinton Street - Multipurpose Room

Trenton, NJ

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