



Renewable Energy Committee Meeting Notes

January 13, 2015

BPU 1st Floor Meeting Room - Trenton, NJ

Disclaimer: *This RE Committee is an opportunity for stakeholders and other interested parties to have open and frank discussions regarding policy and issues confronting the renewable energy community that are within the jurisdiction of the Board. These meetings are intended to address issues of general concern. Staff cannot comment on or provide specific answers to questions about pending applications or petitions. Ultimately, information provided and positions developed during these meetings may or may not form the basis for Staff recommendations to the Board. By law, statements made by Staff cannot bind the Board in its decisions. Only the Board can make decisions on these matters at its Open Public Meetings. While attendees may choose to record or take notes of the meeting, please refrain from interrupting the flow and/or tenor of the discussion with questions that pertain to your note-taking.*

I. Introductions (J. Lupse)

Ms. Lupse called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm and asked the participants in the room and those on the phone to introduce themselves. Mr. Hunter read the disclaimer above.

II. OCE Updates (M. Ambrosio, S. Hunter, R. Boylan)

Mr. Ambrosio said Ms. Slaten reported at the EE Committee meeting earlier in the day that the RFP for a new NJCEP program administrator is with Treasury and that there is no estimate as to when it will be released. He also said the current budget true-up will have no impact on the RE budget.

Mr. Hunter reported that the Board's December meeting agenda included a Subsection (t) application from Syncarpha for increasing the size of the Bernards Township Landfill solar system from 3 to 4 MW. He said he expects there will be one Subsection (t) application on the Board's January agenda and two more on the February agenda. Three other Subsection (t) applications are presently at DEP. Mr. Hunter also said he expects that the Subsection (s) deferred applications will be taken up at the February agenda meeting.

Mr. Hunter and Ms. Boylan noted that Bloom Energy has filed a petition asking the Board to direct the EDCs to interconnect fuel cells in same way as Class 1 renewables (although Bloom is not seeking to have fuel cells classified as Class 1). Other recently-filed petitions ask to allow SRECs to be created without meter data, and request a waiver of net metering rules for a portion of the 17 MW solar project at Six Flags. Mr. Hunter said he expects these petitions to be considered in the February-March time frame.

III. Solar Act Update (S. Hunter)

Subsection (q): Mr. Hunter said Staff continues to monitor the installation activities of Subsection (q) projects and doesn't see a need for third application round at this time.

Subsection (t): Mr. Hunter said Staff is working on the applications currently in-house and noted that one is ready for inspection. He also noted that Staff is developing rules on Subsection (t).

Subsection (s): Mr. Hunter said Staff is currently reviewing deferred applications based on criteria approved by the Board in November, and expects to make recommendations to the Board in February.

Subsection (r): In response to a question on the phone, Mr. Hunter said Staff has received no comments to date on the basic rulemaking for Subsection (r).

IV. Energy Resilience Bank (T. Walker)

Mr. Walker reported that ERB staff is still in the process of working with the \$65 million allocated for water and wastewater treatment facilities, noting that there are 10 viable projects in that tier. He said two of the applications have been deemed complete and will be the subject of a meeting with HUD next week. He also said that ERB staff met with 12 more utility authorities.

Mr. Walker said the ERB is bringing McKinsey on board to develop a second tier of funding for projects at hospitals and healthcare facilities, public housing and transportation. He added that stakeholder meetings on the development of this second tier would be held in the mid-February-March time frame.

V. Program Updates (C. Garrison, T. Gray, S. Hunter)

NJ Solar Market [*Presentation #1*]: Mr. Garrison reported that as of 12/31/14, New Jersey had approximately 1,415.9 MW of installed solar capacity, with 42.5 MW reported as having been installed in November. The amount of pipeline capacity as of 12/31/14 stood at 367.9 MW. For the full calendar year 2014, there were 6,523 solar projects installed with a total capacity of 231.45 MW. Mr. Garrison also provided data showing a breakdown of grid supply vs. behind-the-meter projects in the pipeline; a breakdown of grid-supply projects installed and in the pipeline by Subsection and by Energy Year; a milestone update on Subsection (q) and (t) projects; third-party ownership; quarter-by-quarter installation comparisons; and SREC prices and trading statistics, including final statistics for EY14.

Operations Update [*Presentation #2*]: Ms. Gray reported that SRP registrations showed a slight decline for December (1,079 vs. 1,283 in November) with a 6-week timeline for issuing SRP acceptance letters. She also reported on increases in acceptance letters issued in December (1,358 vs. 1,081 in November) and completions (537 vs. 478). She noted that installer training was conducted in December and that the month also saw the introduction of revised Final As-Built forms and the end of accepting addendums to cure non-compliant or incomplete registrations. These revised FY2015 Forms will be required to be submitted starting February 1, 2015. 2014 Final As built forms will no longer be accepted after this date. Ms. Gray advised the committee of Theresa Baker's departure and named the market manager staff members who should be contacted in her place.

Renewable Electric Storage and Biopower: Mr. Hunter reported that more than 20 applications were received for the storage solicitation. He said the Evaluation Committee is currently reviewing those applications and working toward making a recommendation on incentives for the Board's March agenda meeting. He said the biopower solicitation had received fewer applications but also had the likelihood of having its Evaluation Committee's recommendations on the March agenda.

VI. Interconnection Issues (J. Teague)

Mr. Teague reported that Staff sent out the EDCs' mixed generation proposal with regard to energy storage. He said Staff received comments from a number of people, including the individual EDCs, along with updates on the interconnection application form. All comments have been posted on the NJCEP website.

VII. RPS Issues (R. Jackson)

Mr. Jackson reviewed the rulemaking proposal for Subsection (r), saying that Staff is aiming to get a straw proposal out in February with June targeted for the rule proposal.

He reported preliminary data showing that EY14 had total electric sales of approximately 76.5 million MWh, which created an RPS requirement of 6.1 million Class 1 RECs, 1.9 million Class 2 RECs and 1.568 million SRECs. Average prices for the year for these RECs were \$6.83, \$2.82 and \$175.80, respectively, putting the total cost of EY14 RPS compliance at approximately \$322.8 million. He said PJM-GATS is reporting that there are approximately 1.4 million unretired SRECs for EY15 with 4½ months left in the energy year.

VIII. EDC financing programs (T. Donadio, JCP&L)

Mr. Donadio said all purchase orders have now been signed with vendors. He said he expects to have the vendors on board soon and will meet with them to set a schedule for doing program preparation. He said he also expects to have the website's URL announced shortly.

There being no further business, Ms. Lypse adjourned the meeting at 2:25 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 9, 2015.