

DISTRIBUTED GENERATION CONTRACTS BOARD MEETING

August 18, 2014

4:00 – 5:30pm

Conference Room A

RI Department of Administration

1 Capitol Hill Rd

Providence, RI

MINUTES

Board Members Present: Hannah Morini, Christine Maliki-West, Bill Ferguson, Marion Gold, Ken Payne, Chris Kearns, Sheila Dormody, Charity Pennock.

Attendees: Tim Roughan, Karen Bradbury, Alan Shoer, Tim Faulkner, Russ Maymon, Anthony Baro, Palmer Moore, Rebecca Webber, Peder Hughes, Adam Ramos, Raquel Webster, Michael Daley, Fran Cummings

Consideration of Minutes from Prior Meetings

Meeting minutes were disseminated in advance. No amendments were suggested. Motion to approve minutes from July 21, 2014 meeting by Mr. Payne, second by Ms. Pennock. All Board members approved the minutes.

Old Business:

Mr. Kearns provided an update on the \$65,000 reconciliation funding request to Public Utility Commission (PUC) under docket 4288 for the 2015 Renewable Energy Growth (REG) Program ceiling price services. Mr. Kearns said the OER received 6 data requests from the PUC for the reconciliation funding request. National Grid has also received a data request. The OER with assistance from Dan Majcher, the Board's legal representation has responded to the PUC data requests. We anticipate a decision by the PUC in early September.

The PUC has 60 days in the REG law to make a decision regarding the reconciliation funding request by the Board. The 2015 ceiling price services RFP closed today. The Technical Review Committee will make

a recommendation during the next 2 weeks to the Division of Purchasing and provide an update to the Board at the next meeting in September on the selected consultant. Mr. Payne noted that the Board is complying with State Purchasing to satisfy their review process.

New Business:

The Board moved the Peregrine solar presentation to the front of the new business agenda. Motion was approved by the Board.

Peregrine – System Reliability Solar Study in Tiverton and Little Compton Presentation – See attached presentation filed with the August meeting minutes.

Update on the Implementation of the Renewable Energy Licensing law:

Mrs. Anderbois said that the OER and Commerce RI have surveyed the renewable energy installer community and got 12 responses. Overall there was a lot of agreement on how we should be implementing the new law. We saw the licensing issue as one of the biggest barriers to the solar industry developing in RI. The new licensing program is anticipated to launch in late September.

Mr. Payne said that this is a technical issue that's not under the jurisdiction of the Board. However, this affects how well the system functions and the ability of people to do renewable energy projects.

Mr. Kearns said that all renewable energy companies will have to have this new Renewable Energy Professional Certificate to do business in Rhode Island, so it's relevant to any of the tariff applications submitted under the REG Program in 2015.

Ms. Morini asked about people who aren't using the REG Program, such as geothermal developers?

Mrs. Anderbois said that any renewable energy technology will need to have a Renewable Energy Professional Certificate. The way we've drafted it now is focused on solar and wind, but we've put in a provision that if a developer shows us their proper training, then we can address it if it happens. Even if you're not using incentives, you still need a Renewable Energy Professional Certificate.

Mr. Kearns said that this new law was a great collaborative effort between the OER, IBEW, and NECEC during the legislative session.

REG Program – Stakeholder Questionnaire Results – See attached presentation

Mr. Kearns said that the Board released a stakeholder questionnaire in early July to survey stakeholders on the parameters of the new REG Program, including the designing of ceiling prices, length of the tariffs and the megawatt allocation plan for 2015. The goal is to start this process early to allow ample time for stakeholder feedback in the development of the program.

Ms. Maliki-West said that given that the responses were so varied, is there a way to graphically see how the responses played out?

Mr. Kearns said yes that could be provided. We will get some summary charts depicting the survey results over the next two weeks to the Board.

National Grid Updates:

Mr. Roughan said that there is a lot of work for National Grid to pull together the REG Program tariff documents by October 1st for the DG Board to begin reviewing.

Mr. Kearns said that it would be beneficial to have National Grid provide a tariff 101 presentation to the Board and public, prior to the Board receiving the tariff documents in early October. All of the Board members agreed that it would be beneficial to have a presentation on the tariff process. A presentation by National Grid for the Board meeting in late September will be scheduled.

Mr. Payne entertained a motion to adjourn. Motion to adjourn by Sheila and seconded by Bill. The meeting ended at 5:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Chris Kearns

Secretary Pro-tempore