

Distributed Generation Board Meeting
Thursday, July 23rd, 2015
4:00-5:30 p.m.
Department of Administration – Conference Room B

Board Members Present: Samuel Bradner, Sue AnderBois, Ken Payne, Bill Furguson, Marion Gold, Ian Springsteel

Others present: Shauna Beland, Chris Kearns, Vito Buonomano, Hannah Morini, Michelle Carpenter, Laura Rodormer, Julian Dash, Sierra Club members

Call to Order: Chairman Payne called the meeting to order at 4:09pm.

1. Approval of June 2015 Meeting Minutes

Sam Bradner made a motion to approve the June meeting minutes. Sue AnderBois seconded the motion and all approved.

2. Review and consideration for approval of the REG Installations – Solar Quality Assurance Study

Shauna Beland provided an update about the Solar Quality Assurance Study and Report. The Request for Proposal has been drafted for a vendor to perform the work and permission to move forward with the RFP was requested of the Board. Inspections would include the 2016 PV megawatt classifications. Selected consultant will present findings to the DG Board as requested. Chairman Payne spoke in favor of the quality assurance work. Sue AnderBois made a motion to approve the Q/A Study, seconded by Sam Bradner.

Discussion regarding the motion:

Sam Bradner: Will the process be similar to the ceiling price RFP?

Chris Kearns: The same process for the ceiling price RFP will be used with this RFP. OER will work with DOA legal to confirm that the funding request is within state law and will work with the PUC on a reconciliation funding docket.

Sam Bradner: How was the \$125,000 funding amount decided?

Shauna Beland: We looked at the Renewable Energy Fund's quality assurance work in 2014-15 to come up with the figure. The REF runs a very similar Q/A program that is proposed in the RFP.

Bill Furguson: The Board has been through this process with PUC before and it works well

Sue AnderBois: We have an obligation to make sure that safety concerns around solar PV are mitigated.

Marion Gold: The RFP will include other technologies in addition to solar PV.

Ian Springsteel: National Grid holds safety at the top of the priority list.

Chris Kearns: The PUC is aware of the upcoming filing for this work.

Public Comment: none

Ken: 40 Points for technical and 25 points for vendor qualification. Very glad to see that technical experience is a top priority.

Sue AnderBois made a motion to approve and Sam Bradner seconded the motion. All approved.

3. Updates on the Development of the 2016 Renewable Energy Growth Program

Chris Kearns provided an update on the current process for the development of the 2016 ceiling prices which included the timeline. The Board will be voting to approve the 2016 ceiling prices and allocation plan during the October 2015 meeting. SEA sent out a data request form to solar stakeholders on Friday, July 10th. Data is due back from stakeholders by August 3rd.

4. Updates on the Low Income Multi-Family Working Group

Shauna Beland provided an update on the working group's efforts since May. The group has been meeting monthly and will be proposing ceiling prices specific with the various sectors the group represents. The group will be working with SEA on the development of the prices. The working group members are knowledgeable about these sectors and are providing good input into the group's efforts.

5. National Grid Overview of the REG Commercial Application Portal and Process

Omar Muneeruddin provided a live demonstration of the REG Commercial Application Portal and process for accepting applications online. National Grid is moving towards a paperless process for project applications. Marion Gold asked if this online portal was available during the DG Contracts program. Omar indicated that this online portal was new and that the prior projects submitted applications via email.

6. National Grid Presentation on 2016 Energy Efficiency and the Small Solar REG program.

Ian Springsteel presented a new program called SolarWise. Public comment on the presentation was given by the Sierra Club who praised National Grid's efforts but had concerns about the procurement of the vendors to perform the work. Chairman Payne recommended that National Grid take that into account when further developing the program.

Chairman Payne called for a motion to Adjourn. Bill Furguson made the motion, seconded by Sue AnderBois. The meeting concluded at 5:39pm.