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NOTICE¹

Pursuant to the "Open Public Meetings Act", N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities ("Board") hereby gives notice of a Stakeholder Meeting to discuss the following matter:

Notice of Stakeholder Meeting on the Solar Act of 2012 (L. 2012, c. 24)

On July 23, 2012, L. 2012, c. 24 ("Solar Act") was signed into law by Governor Chris Christie. The Solar Act amends certain aspects of the statute governing generation, interconnection, and financing of renewable energy. Among other actions, the Solar Act requires the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities ("Board") to conduct proceedings to establish new standards and to develop new programs to implement the directives. On October 4, 2012, the Board directed Staff to initiate proceedings and convene a public stakeholder process to fulfill the directives of the Solar Act (Docket. No. EO12090832V).

An initial stakeholder meeting will be held on Friday, November 9, 2012, at 10:00 a.m. in the first floor public hearing room at the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection ("NJDEP"), 401 East State Street, Trenton, NJ 08625-0402. The agenda is as follows:

- 10:00 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. Welcome and Introductions
- 10:15 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. Initiation of a Proceeding to Investigate Approaches to Mitigate Solar Development Volatility pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:3-87(d)(3)(b).

An investigation by the Board of approaches to mitigate solar development volatility must be completed by July 23, 2014. Staff will initiate the discussion with a review of the solar market development data currently collected and distributed by the Board's Staff and New Jersey Clean Energy Program contractors.

- 10:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Implementation of Subsections (q) (r) and (s) – Processes for Designating Certain Grid-Supply Projects as Connected to the Distribution System pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:3-87 (q), (r), and (s).

Certain grid-supply projects must receive Board approval of a designation as "connected to the distribution system" in order to receive Solar Renewable Energy Certificates ("SRECs") that can be used to satisfy the solar portion of the New Jersey Renewable Portfolio Standards. The Solar Act requires the Board to review solar facilities on

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certain farmland under subsection (s), requires the development of an escrow and application process as part of the requests for designation by other grid-supply projects in energy years (“EY”) 14, 15 and 16 under subsection (q), and requires the Board to determine that relevant criteria are met for projects proposed in EY17 and beyond under subsection (r) in order to qualify for SRECs.

Board Staff will review the criteria for eligibility under each subsection of the law, provide an update on the notices filed seeking approval under subsections (2), and the criteria as stated in the law for the Board’s approval of grid-supply solar projects under subsection (r), and seek stakeholder input toward developing a recommendation to the Board for the establishment of the necessary application processes.

12:45 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Break

1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Initiation of a Proceeding to Establish a Program to Provide SRECs to Solar Generation Facilities on Brownfields, Historic Fill Areas, and Properly Closed Landfills pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:3-87 (t).

A proceeding to establish a program to provide SRECs to owners of solar electric power generation facilities certified as being located on a brownfield, historic fill area, or properly closed landfill must be completed by the Board in consultation with the NJDEP and New Jersey Economic Development Authority, and after public comment and public hearing, by January 19, 2013. For projects certified under this section, the Board shall establish a financial incentive to cover additional costs. Board Staff will discuss with stakeholders a plan for establishing the program to provide certification and alternatives for financial incentives.

2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Update on the Development of Net Metering Aggregation Standards pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:3-87 (e) (4).

The Board is required to adopt net metering aggregation standards by April 19, 2013. Staff has discussed the technical aspects of this section of the Solar Act with the Net Metering and Interconnection Standards Working Group. Staff will provide an update on the discussions, outline key concepts, and discuss next steps in the rulemaking process.

3:30 p.m. to 3:55 p.m.

Initiation of a Proceeding to Consider the Need to Supplement Incentives for Net Metered Projects Three MW or Greater pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:3-87 (w).

The Board shall, after notice and opportunity for public comment and public hearing, consider whether to establish a program to provide to owners of net metered projects three megawatts or greater a financial incentive to supplement SRECs “to further the goal of improving the economic competitiveness of commercial and industrial customers.” Board Staff will discuss next steps in the public proceeding.

The meeting is scheduled to adjourn at 4 pm.



Kristi Izzo
Secretary of the Board

Dated: October 25, 2012