



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

PUBLIC UTILITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY

CONNECTICUT DISTRIBUTED GENERATION POLICY WORKING GROUP

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday, April 26, 2022

9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Location: Microsoft Teams

9:00 AM – 9:05 AM Introduction

Non-Residential Cost Sharing Discussion

- Zak began with a summary of PURA's request that the working group provide information on a non-residential cost sharing proposal and asked whether a process based on MA DPU Order 20-75 is still the foundation of the proposal
- UI mentioned that it was concerned about the details of cost recovery
- Noel proposed a plan in which a developer pays a set fee rather than a variable cost and the rest is rate based over five years
- Members discussed concerns about the timeframe of upgrades as they related to individual projects as well as overall program deadlines
 - Substation upgrades can take 2-3 years and can be influenced by supply chain constraints
- Noel expressed a desire to have substations upgraded sooner rather than later and not necessarily only after an interconnection application has been triggered the need for an upgrade – build it and they will come-type of approach
- UI agreed that we need to be forward-looking but still need to do due diligence to ensure that upgrades will be utilized
- Brian R. of Eversource stated that the Massachusetts model does not project where solar would be built, which would require too many assumptions, instead it would look at queue
- Massachusetts has enacted a pre-authorization tariff
 - The DPU will authorize going-forward upgrades and fee setting
 - The EDC, however, still needs to demonstrate prudence in service
- Noel stated that we already know where solar projects will go, based on land costs and he was concerned by a potential 3-5 year wait for projects to go in service if a substation was constrained
- Brian stated that CT ratepayers were more likely to see benefits than in MA because the MA SMART program wasn't based on competitive bids

Interconnection Queue

- Some developers reiterated the need for a public queue

- Eversource stated that the vast majority of applications (5812 of 6404) were below 25kW and that 638MW of the 735MW in queue were from projects greater than 25kW
- Based on this, Eversource questioned the value of a public queue and stated that it may cut down on the flexibility to allow developers to remain in the queue beyond time limits
- Mike F. stated that the public queue is not important for residential developers; Noel also agreed that residential interconnections need not be included in the interconnection queue
- Noel stated that for larger projects it would be valuable to know how many projects are in the queue, especially on circuits that are currently at or near capacity
- Noel is open to solving the problem through the hosting capacity maps

RRES Discussion

- Sean mentioned that he was seeing issues with residences wanting to add storage to their solar systems and running into the 25kW cap, e.g. wanting to add two power walls
 - Problem is most pronounced with RSIP homes that want to add storage
 - Generally homes requiring over 13kW can either get full offset or storage but not both
 - Adding 3 power walls would limit PV to 10kW
 - In Massachusetts battery storage does not count against the cap
- Carl stated that current rules are based on total nameplate capacity
- In National Grid territory (MA) 100% net metering is set at 10kW; could add two power walls to an 8kW system