



March 30, 2017

Ms. Debra A. Howland, Executive Director
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, NH 03301

Re: DE 16-576, Development of New Alternative Net Metering Tariffs

Dear Director Howland:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above-referenced docket as the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission (PUC) develops new alternative net metering tariffs pursuant to RSA 362-A:9.

Clean Energy Collective (CEC) is a pioneer and national market leader in developing community shared solar projects. Since 2009, we've worked with 27 utilities in 12 states and have well over 100 community solar projects either online or under development. We focus exclusively on community-shared energy solutions, and we are engaged in every aspect of the business, from project development and financing, marketing and customer acquisition, integration with utility billing systems, to long term operations and maintenance. CEC is currently evaluating potential investments in New Hampshire under the new Group Net Metering statute, and the outcome of this proceeding will be a determining factor in that decision.

CEC strongly supports the joint settlement proposal filed by the Energy Futures Coalition (EFC). We feel the framework EFC proposed meets the statutory objectives of HB 1116, establishing "a balanced energy policy that supports economic growth and promotes energy diversity, independence, reliability, efficiency, regulatory predictability, environmental benefits, a fair allocation of cost and benefits, and a modern and flexible electric grid that provides benefits for all ratepayers."

Regulatory predictability and fair compensation for customer-generators are of paramount importance to companies like CEC looking to invest and grow in the Granite State. Our community solar products guarantee subscribers a defined percentage savings off their electricity bill for a period of 20 years or more. To date, CEC customers have realized over \$10 million in energy savings.

For the community solar model to grow and deliver access to renewable energy to all New Hampshire ratepayers, the PUC must send a clear signal that customer-generators will be compensated fairly for the energy they produce, and that the regulatory framework is predictable and built to last. Both joint settlement proposals filed in this case recognize the importance of predictability by eliminating caps and grandfathering customers through 2040. These are essential components of a final program design.

In terms of compensation for customer generators, we urge the Commission to adopt EFC's proposal of retail supply rates for both large and small generators, as well as its proposal for 100% transmission rates and a phased approach to distribution. EFC's design sends a clear signal to ratepayers and developers that New Hampshire values the energy resources customer-generators are producing.

Thank you for your consideration. CEC looks forward to participating in the development of a successful, next-generation energy future for New Hampshire.

Sincerely,
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