

Renewable Energy Program Opportunities

Tuesday, February 4, 2013



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

**OFFICE OF
ENERGY RESOURCES**

First Step – Energy Efficiency

State Energy Efficiency Programs

- **Make sure that you maximize the incentives available from the state's energy efficiency programs administered by National Grid, including free home energy audits.**
- **Rebate information and scheduling an energy audit can be viewed at the National Grid website.**
- **These programs are funded by all gas and electric ratepayers.**

Renewable Energy in Rhode Island

- The renewable energy market has become active over the last 3 years, with the launching of incentive programs for homeowners, businesses and municipalities.
- The following programs/incentives are currently available or being developed:
 1. Distributed Generation Contracts Program
 2. Renewable Energy Fund
 3. Net-Metering
 4. Property Assessed Clean Energy

Distributed Generation

- The Distributed Generation Contracts (DG) Program allows a business or municipality to size a renewable energy project between 50 kW and 3 MW.
- The renewable energy produced from the system is sold back to National Grid through a 15 year standard contract.
- There have been DG solar projects proposed in 29 municipalities. More than 25 DG solar contracts and 2 DG wind contracts have been executed by National Grid.
- DG projects awarded contracts have been installed or are being planned for construction in the following municipalities:

Providence

Gloucester

East Providence

Jamestown

Middletown

North Smithfield

Woonsocket

Cranston

West Greenwich

Johnston

Hopkinton

West Warwick

Cumberland

Portsmouth

Warren

Pawtucket



Distributed Generation

- The DG program is entering its 4th year of operation.
- The DG Board submitted the 2014 program recommendations to the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) for review.
- A PUC decision is expected by mid March.
- There will be three open enrollments in 2014. The first enrollment will likely occur in April.



City of East Providence - 3.71 MW Solar Project

Net-Metering

- The Net-Metering program allows a homeowner, business and municipality to utilize the electricity produced on site from a renewable energy installation.
- A homeowner or business is allowed to produce an excess 25 percent at the property. That excess generation can either be credited to future electric bills or receive monetary compensation.
- A municipality has the ability to meet the energy needs of the specific property, or it can virtual net-meter the energy produced to multiple town/city electric accounts.
- A municipal net metered project can be up to 5 megawatts (MW) in size.
- Example: Town of Coventry 1.5 MW Wind Project being installed by Spring/Summer 2014.

Property Assessed Clean Energy

- The Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program legislation was signed by Governor Chafee in July 2013.
- This new program currently under development, will provide an additional financing mechanism for both renewable energy and energy efficiency projects.
- There is a Q&A fact sheet about the PACE program posted on the OER website. A copy of the PACE legislation is also posted there.
- The OER is now drafting PACE Rules and Regulations for the program, which should be released for public comment in early-Spring 2014.
- Any municipality interested in participating in the PACE program would need to pass a resolution allowing their constituents to participate.

RI Energy Expo!



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RI Energy Expo



RI ENERGY EXPO at the Home Show April 3-6, 2014

RI Convention Center – Providence, RI

*Sponsored by Energy Efficiency and Resource
Management Council & National Grid*

Features:

Over 100 energy vendors

Energy workshops

Kids' educational activities

Question/Comments

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