

of Energy Resources

RESTRUCTURING ROUNDTABLE Forging Sustainable Solar (and Storage) Incentives for New England

DECEMBER 14, 2018

MASSACHUSETTS DEPT. OF ENERGY RESOURCES COMMISSIONER JUDITH F. JUDSON



NATIONAL LEADER IN SOLAR



89,000+ installed projects, 2,300+ MW DC

Solar in all 351 cities and towns



- November 26th start date for SMART
- Long term certainty with 10

 20 years of fixed revenue streams
- Alternative on-bill credit mechanism

- Incentives for projects on brownfields, landfills, parking lots, rooftops
- 1st in the nation solar + storage incentive
- \$4.7 billion in cost savings to ratepayers when compared to previous solar programs

DER SMART IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE

Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources





2,850+ applications for over 640 MW of capacity submitted so far

| | # of Applications | Capacity |
|-------------------|-------------------|----------|
| Large: >25kW AC | 474 | 626 MW |
| Small: <=25 kW AC | 2,377 | 18 MW |
| TOTAL | 2,851 | 644 MW |

Block capacity

- Small projects: Block 1 for all service territories
- Large projects:
 - Eversource West: Waitlist
 - Unitil: Waitlist
 - National Grid: Block 7
 - Eversource East: Block 1
 - Nantucket: Block 1



DER Massachusetts Department **SMART INITIAL APPLICATION STATISTICS**

Adders and Subtractors

of Energy Resources

- Location Based
 - 62% of large projects (19% of capacity) applied for a location adder
 - i.e. rooftop, parking lot canopy, landfill, brownfield, etc.
 - 13% of large projects have subtractors
- <u>Off-taker Based</u>
 - 58% of large projects (74% of capacity) applied for off-taker adders
 - i.e. community shared, low income community shared, low income property, public entity
 - Majority are Community Shared Solar facilities
- Energy Storage
 - 135 projects with approximately 70 MW/150 MWh of Energy Storage
 - More projects applied for storage adder but did not yet have signed ISA, so it is likely additional projects will add storage



SMART NEXT STEPS

- Post-information on project queue order
- Begin discussion with stakeholders on 400 MW Program Review
 - Land use
 - Project diversity
 - Geographic Diversity and Block availability
 - Accessibility of program to low income and environmental justice communities
 - Other administrative fixes
- Pending proceedings at DPU
 - Utility compliance tariffs, SMART cost recovery
 - DPU 17-146
 - Net-metering and capacity rights for solar projects paired with storage



OTHER SOLAR POLICY ISSUES

Challenges Associated with High Solar Penetration – "Duck Curve"

- After SMART is completed, over 4,000 MW of solar in MA
- MA has peak load of approximately 12,000 MW and minimum daytime load of approximately 6,000 MW
 - By 2022/2023, solar may meet 1/3 of peak load and 2/3 of min daytime load



Pairing of solar and storage will continue to be an important objective



OTHER SOLAR POLICY ISSUES

Challenges Associated with High Solar Penetration - Interconnection

- Nearly all solar in MA is connected to distribution system, which is reaching saturation points in certain areas
- Interconnection costs and timelines have become significant challenges for continued solar development





PAIRING SOLAR WITH STORAGE

- State of Charge report found that solar paired with storage results in many benefits, including:
 - Increasing on-site consumption
 - Reducing reverse power flow
 - Mitigating distribution system upgrade costs
 - Shifting solar energy production to peak
 - Frequency/voltage regulation
 - Improved power quality
- Future programs should continue to promote solar + storage to make solar more dispatchable and improve its ability to address new peak periods, interconnection costs, and reduce on-site load



POLICY SUPPORT FOR ENERGY STORAGE

- Over \$60 million in grants for demonstration projects
 - Energy Storage Initiative
 - Clean Energy Resiliency Initiative
 - Peak Demand Reduction Grants
- Storage adder in SMART program
- DPU approval of utility owned storage investments
- Inclusion in Green Communities Program
- Inclusion in 2019-2021 three-year EE plan
- Clean Peak Standard





3 PROJECTS 1.4 MW / 0.45MWh



December 2018 with launch of SMART





Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources

THANK YOU