

**STATE OF VERMONT  
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

Case No. 20-0789-INV

Vermont Public Utility Commission orders  
and memoranda issued in response to the  
COVID-19 pandemic

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE'S COMMENTS REGARDING  
A POTENTIAL EXTENSION OF COMMISSIONING DEADLINES FOR NET-  
METERING AND STANDARD-OFFER PROJECTS**

On April 30, 2020, the Vermont Public Utility Commission (“Commission”) issued an order requesting comments regarding actions considered by the Commission as a response to the impacts stemming from the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Specifically, the Commission considered whether to extend the commissioning deadlines, by one year, for all net-metering or standard-offer projects whose Certificates of Public Good (“CPG”) were set to expire between March 25, 2020 and December 31, 2020. On May 13, 2020, the Vermont Department of Public Service (“Department”) submitted comments supporting the Commission’s proposed one-year extension, and on May 21, 2020, the Commission approved the extension. Recently, on November 25, 2020, the Commission issued a second order requesting comments on another potential extension of commissioning deadlines for all net-metering and standard-offer projects. Particularly, the Commission requests comments on whether it would be appropriate to grant a one-year extension of all commissioning deadlines for net-metering and standard-offer projects whose commissioning deadlines fall on or after December 31, 2020, through March 1, 2021.

The Department supports the adoption of another commissioning deadline extension as proposed by the Commission. As stated in its May 13, 2020 comments, the Department understands that construction moratoriums, COVID-19 related disruptions to project component

supply chains, and broader economic instability have frustrated many projects' abilities to meet CPG requirements in a timely manner. A one-year CPG extension would afford Vermont's renewable energy industry some flexibility and certainty while still affording the Commission the discretion to administer the net-metering and standard-offer programs as additional information becomes available. As such, the Department supports extending all standard-offer and net-metering CPGs set to expire between December 31, 2020 and March 1, 2021 by one year.

Thank you, and please contact me with any questions.

Dated in Montpelier, Vermont on this 7th day of December, 2020.

VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE

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