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**State of Vermont
Public Utility Commission**

MEMORANDUM

To: Participants in Commission Case Number 19-0855-RULE
From: Jake Marren, Staff Attorney JM
Re: Agenda for August 24, 2021, Workshop
Date: August 20, 2021

Attached is the agenda for the August 24, 2021, Net-Metering Rule workshop regarding the certificate of public good application process. Several participants have requested to present at the workshop and those requests are reflected in the agenda. After each presentation, there will be an opportunity for participants to ask questions and make comments about the presentation. Some presentations will be segmented so that there is an opportunity for stakeholders to discuss a specific topic before other topics are presented.

Participants are reminded that Vermont law prohibits *ex parte* communications regarding contested cases.¹ The workshop is not an appropriate forum for discussing specific cases that are pending before the Commission. Participants are encouraged to focus discussion on the policies and purposes underlying the certificate of public good process and may not discuss the application of any current statutes or rules to a specific set of facts.

¹ 3 V.S.A. § 813 “Unless required for the disposition of *ex parte* matters authorized by law, members or employees of any agency assigned to render a decision or to make findings of fact and conclusions of law in a contested case shall not communicate, directly or indirectly, in connection with any issue of fact, with any person or party, nor, in connection with any issue of law, with any party or his or her representative, except upon notice and opportunity for all parties to participate.”

Net-Metering Application Process Workshop Agenda

1. Overview of topics for workshop (staff led)
2. Tree clearing (group discussion)
 - a. ANR Presentation
 - a. Importance of forests
 - b. Data regarding tree clearing resulting from net-metering projects
 - c. Potential ways to address tree clearing through the Rule (possible standards, definitions, etc.)
 - b. REV presentation
 - c. Group discussion, including opportunity for VHB to comment
3. CPG application process (group discussion)
 - a. REV presentation
 - b. Group discussion
 - i. Are there ways to simplify and streamline the Section 5.107 application process to make application and review easier for all parties involved including, applicants, intervenors and the public, and state entities and other stakeholders?
4. Relationship between CPG application process and the Rule 5.500 interconnection application process (staff led and group discussion)
 - a. Department of Public Service presentation
 - c. Group discussion:
 - i. What is the appropriate relationship between the interconnection process and the CPG process? Should they be the same process or separated or coordinated in some way?
 - ii. How can the Commission reduce the number of filings required for registration cases?
 - iii. Other issues?
5. Administrative issues related to CPGs (group discussion)
 - a. Department of Public Service presentation
 - b. Amendments
 - i. The Commission has issued guidance about amendments: (<https://puc.vermont.gov/document/net-metering-registration-guidance-amendments-faqs>). Should this guidance be incorporated into the Rule? Should the Commission make any changes to the amendment process?
 - ii. What effect should an amendment to an existing system have on the rates the system receives?
 - b. Transfers
 - i. Should the Commission collect information about transfers of net-metering systems? Small systems? Large systems?
 - ii. To the extent that the Commission collects information about CPG transfers, how should the Commission process CPG transfers? Notice only filing? Opportunity for comment?
 - c. Abandonment/Expiration
 - i. Should the Commission extend commissioning deadlines to 2 years, rather than 1 year?

6. Should the Commission adopt a prohibition on facilities that participate in any wholesale market from receiving a net-metering CPG? (group discussion)

a. Department of Public Service presentation

b. Timeframe for any resource currently participating in any wholesale market and in the net-metering program to terminate its capacity supply obligation?

PUC Case No. 19-0855-RULE - SERVICE LIST

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