



THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK

COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

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May 25, 2021

Attn: Aida Camacho, Secretary
New Jersey Board of Public Utilities
Sent Via Email

Re: DOCKET NO. QO20020184
New Jersey 2019/2020 Solar Transition Solar Successor Program: Staff Straw Proposal

To the Members of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities:

I am Highland Park Mayor Gayle Brill Mittler, and I appreciate the opportunity to write in support of PSE&G's role in expanding solar power in New Jersey.

Highland Park has a long history of environmental stewardship and in 2019 was among 82 municipalities in New Jersey to achieve Sustainable Jersey certification for enacting projects that foster healthy, sustainable communities.

Highland Park also has the good fortune to host a PSE&G Solar 4 All landfill solar farm that can power 100 homes and help New Jersey achieve its clean energy goals. The Highland Park solar+storage project combines 2,000-kilowatt-hour Tesla batteries with a 1,764-panel, 605kW solar farm. The solar panels provide clean, renewable energy directly to the power grid and also charge the batteries that are used to reduce voltage fluctuations due primarily to issues like intermittent cloud cover. It's a cutting edge project that will test technology to help integrate more renewable energy onto the grid, paving the way for even more solar energy projects in New Jersey.

The kind of experience and technical expertise demonstrated by PSE&G will be crucial if New Jersey is going to reach its goal of 12.2GW of installed solar capacity by 2030, and 17.2GW by 2035. These aggressive solar goals require a build rate of 950MW per year, roughly triple what New Jersey's solar market has delivered annually over the past five years.

Only about 21% of New Jersey solar is grid supply compared with other leading solar states that have over 60%. Grid supply landfill and brownfield solar projects have historically been among the most difficult projects to develop, yet will be vital to reaching the State's targets. I believe PSE&G's Solar 4 All Program will significantly enhance the State's chances of meeting its solar targets.

Sincerely,

Mayor Gayle Brill Mittler
Borough of Highland Park
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