

ALM Electric Co., Inc.

COMMERCIAL-INDUSTRIAL
ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS
LIC. & BUS. PERMIT NO. 8435

(973) 402-2211
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May 24, 2021

Aida Chamaco-Welsh, Secretary of the Board

New Jersey Board of Public Utilities

44 South Clinton Avenue

3rd Floor, Suite 314

P.O. Box 350

Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350

Email: board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov;

RE: In the matter of the New Jersey 2019/2020 Solar Transition Solar Successor Program:
Staff Straw Proposal

DOCKET NO. QO20020184

Dear Secretary Chamaco-Welsh,

Good afternoon I'm Mario Lapolla, principal of Flanders-based ALM Electric, and I appreciate the opportunity to advocate for PSE&G's continued role in expanding solar power in New Jersey.

As an electrical contractor that has worked with PSE&G on a number of solar projects, I can say with first-hand knowledge that utilities must play a role if New Jersey is to fulfill its ambitious solar power targets.

My company worked with PSE&G to build a 910kW solar facility on Newark Public Schools that went into service in 2010. We were also contracted by the utility to replace and retrofit roof-mounted solar systems with new inverters for the Newark school district and for the Community Foodbank of New Jersey in 2017.

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This year, we've entered into a contract with PSE&G to replace inverters and retrofit ground mounted solar facilities.

PSE&G has proven to be a reliable partner, which is critical for service providers like us operating in a state that now seeks to significantly increase its solar capacity.

Gov. Phil Murphy and the state legislature have proposed that New Jersey reach 12.2GW of installed solar capacity by 2030, roughly triple the state's current annual installed solar capacity over the past five years. That will require an acceleration in solar growth that utilities like PSE&G are well positioned to spearhead.

PSE&G, through its Solar 4 All® program, has also demonstrated success in grid supply brownfield and landfill solar development. Only about 21% of New Jersey's solar power is grid supply compared with other leading solar power states that have over 60% grid supply solar. Increasing grid supply solar in New Jersey is the most cost-effective way to meet the state's solar goals.

PSE&G's experience in solar power will be essential if the state is to achieve its targets, and assure that the most underserved segments of the solar market are addressed.

For these reasons and based on my personal experience working with PSE&G on solar projects, I enthusiastically support the utility's role in helping New Jersey achieve its solar goals to provide all the benefits that solar power offers to the Garden State.

Thank you for your time.

Respectfully submitted

Mario La Polla

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