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March 1, 2023

VIA EMAIL & MAIL

Amy Lerner and Richard Takakjy
331 Monmouth Road
Wrightstown, NJ 08562
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alerner@nhanover.com

Re: Petition of North Hanover Township School Districts for Waiver of Permission to Operate (PTO) from an Electric Distribution Company (EDC) at the New Endeavour Elementary School for the New Solar PV System - S& H Project 1885A
BPU Docket No. QW22020063

Dear Ms. Lerner and Mr. Takakjy:

This Office represents the Staff of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (“Board Staff”) in the above-referenced matter. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 1:1-10.4, enclosed please find Board Staff’s Discovery Requests S-North Hanover-1 through S-North Hanover - 5, directed to Petitioner.

Additionally, since your Transition Incentive (“TI”) program application was never accepted and this program is now closed, you will be required to resubmit your petition with the following modifications: apply for the Administratively Determined Incentive (“ADI”) Program – NJAC 14:8-11.1, -11.4, and -11.5 – and request a waiver of the Board’s rules requiring a Notice of Conditional Registration prior to the commencement of construction. The ADI rules establish incentive levels for net metered non-residential solar projects that connect to the distribution system owned by a New Jersey Electric Distribution Company or local municipality. The rules require the submission of a registration package which includes a utility bill, documentation of compliance with electrical and building codes, and an executed interconnection application designed to ensure the installation of an safe and reliable solar photovoltaic system eligible for incentives provide by New Jersey ratepayers. Note, your discovery responses should help craft a waiver of these rules. Please contact the Division of Law and Board Staff for additional information.

Please respond to the requests and submit copies of the documents requested herein within fifteen (15) days from the receipt of this letter. Please submit the responses electronically and on three-hole punched paper, and next to each response, please post the corresponding question and the person(s) responsible for each response. All electronic responses should be provided in portable document format (.pdf) containing a text searchable optical character recognition (OCR) layer.



Please note that these discovery requests impose a continuing responsibility to correct or update the responses as soon as such information becomes known or available during the course of the proceeding. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

MATTHEW J. PLATKIN
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF NEW JERSEY

By: */s/ Paul Youchak*

Paul Youchak

Deputy Attorney General

Attorneys for the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities

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Board Staff Discovery Requests, S-North Hanover-1 through S-North Hanover - 5

1. Define and provide documentation of the roles and responsibilities of United Communities (“UC”) on Joint Base MDL (“Base”). More specifically, please provide documentation of the role in managing, and qualifications of UC and/or your contractor to operate, the Base’s electricity distribution system and to authorize the interconnection of distributed electricity generation resources in compliance with BPU requirements. Please clarify who is responsible for the distribution system from the substation to the school. Who is your contact at First Energy that can provide details of the substation monitoring system?

Original response:¹ United Communities (UC), like North Hanover Township, is a separate leasee of Joint Base MDL (Base), the Land Owner, and is strictly the account holder of the electrical service with the utility company. Base reads our meter, and bills the North Hanover Township Board of Education for the electrical usage. JB-MDL is responsible for the Electrical Distribution System. They have their own Engineering Department and Licensed Engineers under the United States Air Force and must comply with all of the requirements set forth by the electrical companies that provide power to the facility.

Please confirm whether the above response is intended to convey that the Base is responsible for the distribution system from the substation to the school. If so, please provide a name with whom Staff can speak. If not, please state who is responsible.

In addition, please provide the contact information for the individual(s) or office in First Energy who can provide details of the substation monitoring system.

Please provide the documentation of responsibilities for managing the distribution system serving the school and who specifically is responsible for inspecting the interconnection of photovoltaic system for safety and reliability.

2. Since the Joint Base has stated that they had no hand in the solar system’s interconnection process, please provide the name of the Inspector, their experience, qualifications and documentation that lists the processes and protocols used to inspect, evaluate, and commission a distributed electricity generation facility for operation. Did they also inspect the system for proper grounding or perform witness tests to determine the system’s ability to rapidly shutdown? Please provide any and all documentation.

¹ Original responses reflect prior communications with Staff and are included to help provide clarity to the discovery questions.

Original response: JB-MDL is responsible for the Distribution System and has their own Civil Engineering Department under the United States Air Force. They must comply with all of the requirements set forth by the electrical companies that provide power to the facility.

Staff seeks the name of the individual who inspected the solar system after its installation, as well as that person's experience and qualifications.

Staff also needs documentation that lists the processes and protocols used to inspect, evaluate, and commission a distributed electricity generation facility for operation.

If no one on the Base is willing to inspect the school's photovoltaic system for safe and reliable operations, is the school willing to procure the services of a licensed electrical engineer able to provide certification of the system's conformity to nationally recognized standards (NEC, IEEE 1547)?

3. Please provide the building and electrical code followed by the entity or the authority having jurisdiction over implementing the building electrical code and the role of the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs or municipalities in code inspection or alternative code compliance processes.

Original response: JB-MDL is responsible for the Distribution System and has their own Civil Engineering Department and Licensed Engineers under the United States Air Force. They must comply with all of the requirements set forth by the electrical companies that provide power to the facility, this includes all Local, State, Federal and National Electrical Codes.

Please provide contact information for the person(s) at the Base who will be able to provide specific answers to this question.

4. If no code was followed due to the federal nature of the property, what is the name of the entity that inspected and the processes they follow to ensure safe and reliable interaction between the distributed electricity generation facility and the electric distribution system? Please provide documentation.

Original response: Not Applicable

Please provide contact information for the person(s) at the Base who will be able to provide specific answers to this question.

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DOCKET NO. QW22020063

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