

June 24, 2024

Sherri L. Golden
Secretary of the Board
44 South Clinton Avenue, 1st Floor
PO Box 350 Trenton, NJ 08625-0350

Dear Secretary Golden,

Solar Landscape respectfully offers comments to Docket No. QO23090679, regarding the Dual Use Energy Pilot Program (“Pilot Program”). Solar Landscape is a vertically integrated solar company headquartered in Asbury Park, New Jersey. Specializing in community solar on commercial and industrial rooftops, we develop, design, construct, own, operate, and subscribe community solar projects. Solar Landscape is proud to own and operate the nation’s largest portfolio of community solar projects serving low/moderate-income (LMI) households, the majority of which are based here in New Jersey.

Solar Landscape thanks the Board of Public Utilities (“Board”) for the opportunity to provide comments on the proposed rules and wishes to seek clarification on the following:

- **Allow community solar projects to qualify under the Pilot Program:** The rules should specify that community solar projects are eligible to qualify as dual-use Pilot Program projects, as they currently do not specify which types of projects will qualify. While the application will require that interested parties identify the anticipated means of electricity sale, the project types that are allowed to apply are not spelled out specifically in the proposed rules, leading to uncertainty for developers on how they will be able to pursue and develop projects. This will lead to fewer denials from the EOI process and lead to more quality applications into the Pilot Program.
- **Clarify that the Pilot Program capacity will not take capacity from the Community Solar Energy Program (“CSEP”), or other programs under the ADI Program:** The rules as proposed in the Pilot Program do not explicitly say where the program capacity for the Pilot Program will reside under the Successor Solar Incentive (“SuSI”) Program. The current rules just state that the size of the project will determine project category eligibility for incentives (i.e. projects over 5MWdc will be placed into the Competitive Solar Incentive Program (“CSI”) and projects under 5MWdc will be placed into the Administratively Determined Incentive Program (“ADI”). This is problematic as this means that projects that are applying into the Pilot Program (where it remains to be seen if projects will pencil for developers) would then take capacity from tranches from market segments where it has been proven that projects can be turned on and provide renewable energy to the grid, especially the CSEP which also provides savings to low-and-moderate income residents of the state. Capacity for the Pilot Program should be in addition to any capacity granted in the CSI or ADI programs. If this is not possible, the Board should look to tranches where capacity has not been allocated such as the Built Environment tranche of the CSI program. This allows capacity to remain available for projects in programs with a proven track record of success in providing renewable energy to the grid and allows for MWs that have already budgeted in other unused tranches to be used for the Pilot Program.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments and work to ensure a clean energy future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'MS' with a stylized flourish.

Mark Schottinger

President & Chief Legal Officer

Solar Landscape

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