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Renewable Energy Growth Program Program Year 2024 Developers' Conference

Rhode Island Energy Panelists:

Kenny Campbell, RE Growth Open Enrollment Lead

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May 23, 2024

Developers' Conference Housekeeping

During this Developers' Conference:

- Attendees will only be able to see the Panelists, not each other;
- All Attendees will be muted;
- The video function is disabled for all Attendees;
- The chat function is disabled; however,
- Attendees are able to ask questions of the Panelists using the Q&A feature.

This conference will not be recorded - the recording function is fully disabled.

The presentation used during this conference will be posted to the Rhode Island Energy (RIE) [Renewable Energy Growth Program website](#) for viewing after this conference concludes.

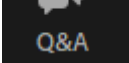
Thank you for your participation!

Submitting Questions



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Rhode Island Energy will be presenting an overview of the Renewable Energy (RE) Growth Program, with a focus on the changes to Program Year 2024. Time is reserved for Q&A at the end of the presentation.

To submit questions during this conference, please click the “Q&A” icon  at the bottom of your screen – a chat box should appear and allow you to enter your question.

Type your question into the box, send, and it will be visible to the Panelists. Please note, only the panelists will be able to see the questions submitted unless it is answered (via a written response).

The RIE Team will queue submitted questions and plans to respond to them at the end of the presentation.

If you would like an official response to a question, please email regnonsmall solar@pplweb.com for General Inquiries or with questions on the Non-Small-Scale Solar Program, or cap@rienergy.com for questions on the Small-Scale Solar Program.

Disclaimer: Any statements herein describing or providing reference to documents and agreements are summaries only and are qualified in their entirety by reference to such documents and agreements, including the Renewable Energy Growth Program Tariffs and Rules, as well as the Solar Siting Bill. Further, the Developers' Conference presentation is intended for general information and discussion purposes only; answers to questions provided during today's presentation may not represent an official response by RIE.

Agenda



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- RE Growth Program Overview
- Program Year 2024 Updates
 - Large-Scale Solar II-IV
 - Core Forests and Preferred Sites
 - 3-Year Ceiling Prices
 - 1-Year MW Allocation Plan
 - Medium-Scale Solar Extensions
 - Open Enrollment Schedule
- Q&A

Note: The Renewable Energy Growth Program is abbreviated as "RE Growth" in this presentation, and as "REG" in other locations.



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RE Growth Program Overview

RE Growth Program Overview

- RE Growth Program complies with [R.I. General Laws § 39-26.6](#).
- RIE has provided the Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission (RI PUC) approved Tariffs and Rules, available on [RIE's RE Growth website](#).
- The Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources (OER) has additional information on the RE Growth Program on the [OER website](#).
- There are a variety of Renewable Energy Classes which differ by technology and project size.
- Small-Scale Solar projects:
 - Have a nameplate capacity of up to and including 25 kW DC;
 - Have an ongoing enrollment period on a first-come, first-served basis;
 - Have a standard Performance-Based Incentive (PBI) in cents per kWh generation, and;
 - Apply to RE Growth via an [interconnection application](#).
- The Non-Small-Scale Solar Program includes solar greater than 25 kW, wind, hydropower, and anaerobic digester projects.

Note: Changes in project ownership must be communicated with your RIE CEI contact.

RE Growth Program Overview (Continued)

- Solar (Greater Than 25 kW), Wind, Hydropower, and Anaerobic Digester Projects
 - Three 2-week open enrollments in 2024, where developers can submit short-form applications to RIE, which includes a bid price that is under the Ceiling Price for the applicable Renewable Energy Class.
 - Applications will first be reviewed to determine if a project meets specified eligibility and minimum threshold requirements.
 - Projects that meet the above requirements are awarded based on the bid price, up to the Renewable Energy Class megawatt target for the year.
 - Projects must be constructed and operational within 24, 36, or 48 months, depending on the Renewable Energy Class.
 - Successful enrollees may choose to be paid directly for all output as a PBI, or may receive a combination of bill credits and the residual value of the PBI.
 - Initial Performance Guarantee Deposits (PGDs) are required for all projects, except for Medium-Scale Solar, up to \$75,000.



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Program Year 2024 Updates

Large-Scale Solar II-IV

Three new Large-Scale Solar Renewable Energy Classes have been created.

- The Large-Scale Solar Renewable Energy Classes now include:
 - Large-Scale Solar I (1 to <5 MW DC) (Pre-existing Renewable Energy Class)
 - Large-Scale Solar II (5 to <10 MW DC)
 - Large-Scale Solar III (10 to <15 MW DC)
 - Large-Scale Solar IV (15 to <39 MW DC) (only for projects sited on preferred sites)

Large-Scale Solar projects have 48 months to provide an Output Certification, instead of 24 months in previous program years.

Core Forests and Preferred Sites



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No renewable distributed-generation project can be located or planned to be in or on a core forest, unless it is on a preferred site.



“Core forest” refers to unfragmented forest blocks of single or multiple parcels totaling 250 acres or greater unbroken by development and a certain distance from mapped roads, with eligibility questions to be resolved by the DEM.



Preferred sites means a location for a renewable energy system that has had prior development, such as, landfills, gravel pits and quarries, highway and major road median strips, brownfields, superfund sites, parking lots, and rooftops.



For facilities developed in core forests on preferred sites, no more than 100,000 sq. ft. of core forest shall be removed, and the amount of core forest removed will be minimized.



Core Forests and Preferred Sites (Continued)

As of May 1, 2024, all renewable distributed generation projects will need to comply with the new “core forest” requirements resulting from changes in the solar siting law for both Renewable Energy Growth and Net Metering programs.

	Nameplate Capacity (25 kW or Less)	Rooftop of Existing Structure Installation (Any Size)	Greater than 25 kW and Not on Existing Rooftop
Required Process	Self-Certification of Core Forest Determination form	Self-Certification of Core Forest Determination form	Core Forest Determination - Review & Approval by DEM
Link to applicable form	Fillable PDF Form	Fillable PDF Form	Online Form

A Self-Certification of Core Forest Determination form, or a Core Forest Determination by DEM, will be required to be submitted for the Non-Small-Scale Solar Open Enrollments.

For more information on core forests and associated legislation and determinations, please visit [DEM's website](#).

3-Year Ceiling Prices

- The RI PUC approved 3-year ceiling prices for all Renewable Energy Classes, except for Small-Scale Solar I and Small-Scale Solar II.
- For Non-Small-Scale Solar:
 - The PBI paid is the price bid during the Open Enrollment in cents/kWh, which must be less than the applicable ceiling price.
 - PBIs are paid at a fixed rate for 20 years, providing revenue certainty for developers.
- Small-Scale Solar Standard PBIs for Program Year 2025 will be determined in a similar fashion to previous years.

<u>Renewable Energy Class</u>	<u>2024 Ceiling Price (per kWh)</u>	<u>2025 Ceiling Price (per kWh)</u>	<u>2026 Ceiling Price (per kWh)</u>	<u>Term of Service (Years)</u>
<u>Medium-Scale Solar (>25 kW-250 kW DC)</u>	33.15	31.95	31.35	20
<u>Commercial-Scale Solar I (>250-500 kW DC)</u>	29.35	28.55	28.35	20
<u>Commercial-Scale Solar II (>500 to <1,000 kW DC)</u>	24.45	23.75	23.55	20
<u>Large-Scale Solar I (1 to <5 MW DC)</u>	18.65	18.05	17.85	20
<u>Large-Scale Solar II (5 to <10 MW DC)</u>	18.05	17.45	17.25	20
<u>Large-Scale Solar III (10 to <15 MW DC)</u>	18.05	17.45	17.25	20
<u>Large-Scale Solar IV (15 to <39 MW DC)</u>	18.05	17.45	17.25	20
<u>CRDG Commercial-Scale Solar I (>250-500 kW DC)</u>	32.25	31.45	31.25	20
<u>CRDG Commercial-Scale Solar II (>500 to <1,000 kW DC)</u>	27.35	26.65	26.35	20
<u>CRDG Large-Scale Solar I (1 to <5 MW DC)</u>	21.35	20.75	20.52	20
<u>Wind (>0 to 5,000 kW)</u>	20.25	19.85	19.85	20
<u>CRDG Wind (>0 to 5,000 kW)</u>	22.05	21.65	21.75	20
<u>Anaerobic Digestion (>0 to 5,000 kW)</u>	19.05	18.95	19.05	20
<u>Hydroelectric (>0 to 5,000 kW)</u>	34.15	33.35	33.45	20

1-Year MW Allocation Plan

- The RI PUC approved the 1-Year Megawatt (MW) Allocation Plan, subject to potential reduction.
- Large-Scale Solar II and III's Program Year 2024 megawatt allocation may be modified, if the Affected System Operator interconnection studies are further delayed, or for other reasons such as a lack of competition.
- After each Open Enrollment, the remaining MW in each Renewable Energy Class will be updated on the [RE Growth website](#).
- Small-Scale Solar has an Annual MW Target of 9 MW DC, and the remaining capacity will be [updated periodically at this link](#).

Renewable Energy Class (Nameplate kW)	Annual Enrollment Target (Nameplate MW)	First Open Enrollment Target (Nameplate MW)
Medium-Scale Solar (>25-250 kW DC)	5	5
Commercial-Scale Solar I (>250-500 kW DC)	7.5	7.5
Commercial-Scale Solar II (>500-<1,000 kW DC)	10.5	10.5
Large-Scale Solar I (1 to <5 MW DC)	15	15
Large-Scale Solar II (5-<10 MW DC)	35	35
Large-Scale Solar III (10 to <15 MW DC)	15	15
Large-Scale Solar IV (15 to <39 MW DC)	0	0
Wind (>0 to 5,000 kW)	3	3
Community Remote Wind (>0 to 5,000 kW)		
CRDG Commercial Solar I (>250-500 kW DC)	0.5	0.5
CRDG Commercial Solar II (>500-<1,000 kW DC)	1	1
CRDG Large Solar (1,000-<5,000 kW DC)	5	5
Anaerobic Digestion (>0 to 5,000 kW)	1	1
Small-Scale Hydropower (>0 to 5,000 kW)		



Medium-Scale Solar Extensions

- Medium-Scale Solar projects are not required to pay an initial PGD.
- If awarded a Conditional Certificate of Eligibility in a RE Growth Open Enrollment, Medium-Scale Solar projects have 24 months to meet all other requirements pursuant to the Tariff.
- Medium-Scale Solar projects will have the option to extend their 24-month deadline of achieving operation by two additional 6 month periods, but must pay a deposit of \$7.50 multiplied by the estimated RECs to be generated during the DG Project's first year of operation for each six (6) month extension.
- For projects awarded in Program Year 2024, if a project with a Conditional COE would like an extension, the developer should reach out to their primary CEI contact, and if approved, they will provide the wire transfer instructions for the deposit.
- If an extension is granted, the Conditional COE will be updated.

Open Enrollment Schedule



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Event	1st Open Enrollment – Anticipated Dates
Enrollment Begins	June 3, 2024 – 9AM Eastern Prevailing Time
Due Date for Submission of Applications	June 14, 2024 – 5PM Eastern Prevailing Time
Notice of Selection *	July 8, 2024 – July 19, 2024
Notice of Non-Selection	July 19, 2024
File Results with RI PUC for approval and issuance of Medium-Scale Solar Conditional COEs	July 23, 2024
RI PUC Approval (estimated)	September 23, 2024

- The 1st Open Enrollment Schedule is provided above.
- The 2nd Open Enrollment is anticipated to begin on July 29, 2024.
- The 3rd Open Enrollment is anticipated to begin on September 23, 2024.

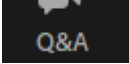


Questions & Answers

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