



MSEIA SOLAR REPORT FOR NEW JERSEY DECEMBER 2016 SUMMARY

Strategic Highlights

Note: this month we're providing highlights on activities in neighboring markets...

SEIA cites community solar as driving Q3 2016 growth. On December 13, GTM Research and the Solar Energy Industries Association's (SEIA) released their [Q4 2016 U.S. Solar Market Insight report](#), which highlighted that 4.143 GW of solar PV capacity were installed in the United States in the third quarter of 2016. Also of interest, community solar added more capacity during 3Q 2016 than the segment installed in all of 2015, "playing a key role in supporting the second-largest quarter ever for the non-residential PV market," per the report...

Two recent reports on net metering present opposite findings. Environment New York released the [Shining Rewards report](#) that documents the rewards of net metering, and highlights how solar panels provide more benefits than they received from utilities. While the Electric Markets Research Foundation (EMRF) released preliminary results of a research study on [The Sustainability of Net Metering](#), indicating that the value of solar diminishes as more rooftop solar is added to the grid – and that the costs of net metering to customers without rooftop solar become so significant over time that it is not a sustainable policy...

Oral arguments scheduled for U.S. Court of Appeals review of FERC's approval of PJM's proposed changes to the Reliability Pricing Model. Respondents filed briefs supporting FERC's conclusion that the default cap would represent a low-end competitive offer from a low-cost resource...

Proposed community solar implementation tariffs in the Maryland community solar pilot program docket to be considered at the December administrative meeting. Energy advocates filed comments urging the MDPSC to support policies that maximize savings for all Marylanders when considering utility compliance and tariffs, specifically regarding the prompt application of credits to subscribers' utility bill...

Comments filed by stakeholders in the Massachusetts emergency net metering cap rulemaking. The AG urged the DPU not to establish a monthly minimum reliability charge (MMRC) because the law signed by Governor Baker does not allow for its approval at this time. Consumer advocates and solar associations echoed these sentiments, and the Solar Energy Industries Association recommended that the DPU open a separate proceeding to determine whether an MMRC is actually needed...

BPU Staff issued its Microgrid Report. Staff's recommendations include determining New Jersey definitions for DER and microgrids, and developing a stakeholder process to develop and implement TCDER microgrid pilot projects...

The Ohio Legislature passed a Renewable Energy Standards bill. The bill eliminates the renewable energy and energy efficiency requirements for 2017 and 2018, and decreases energy efficiency program requirements. The bill has been transmitted to Governor Kasich and is awaiting his action...



New Jersey - Renewable Energy

Reference No.	NJ Utilities SREC II Financing Program <i>(Opened on 12/17/2015)</i>
Description	Utilities Atlantic City Electric, Jersey Central Power & Light, and Rockland Electric Company have issued a Request for Proposals (“RFP”) to select solar projects with which to enter into contracts for the purchase of SRECs.
Why It Matters	Opportunity to sell SRECs in the NJ market.
Recent Action	Round Five bids closed (11/30/16). Bids are under evaluation and and review.
Next Action	Final recommendations due to the BPU by 12/20/16. Selections will be announced after either the 1/17 or 2/17 BPU meeting.



New Jersey - Renewable Energy

Reference No.	NNCEP Strategic Plan Survey <i>(Opened on 12/02/2016)</i>
Description	New Jersey's Clean Energy Program (NJCEP) is developing a strategic plan that will serve as a roadmap for the design and implementation of programs beginning in fiscal year 2018 (7/1/17 - 6/30/18). Key steps in creating the plan include the articulation of key objectives for NJCEP by the BPU and the development of operating principles to help shape program design and budget allocations.
Why It Matters	The BPU is seeking input from stakeholders who have been active NJCEP participants to establish the goals of the program whose overall mission is to provide programs will maximize the benefits delivered to New Jersey's ratepayers.
Recent Action	<p>Existing Multi-Family Energy Efficiency focus group meeting held. Focus was on owners, property managers, owners' associations, housing providers for both low rise and high-rise multi-family properties, and contractors performing work on these properties (12/2/16).</p> <p>Existing Homes (single family market) focus group meeting held. Focus was on HVAC and shell retrofit contractors and other critical stakeholders (12/2/16).</p>
Next Action	<p>Small Business Energy Efficiency Meeting scheduled for 12/16/16.</p> <p>Industrial and Large Commercial Energy Efficiency meeting scheduled for 12/19/16.</p> <p>Government and Municipal Facilities Energy Efficiency meeting scheduled for 12/16/16.</p>



New Jersey - Renewable Energy

Reference No.	NJCEP Renewable Energy Committee <i>(Opened on 09/01/2016)</i>
Description	New Jersey's Clean Energy Program (NJCEP) promotes increased energy efficiency and the use of clean, renewable sources of energy including solar, wind, geothermal, and sustainable biomass. The Renewable Energy Committee works with public stakeholders to further the program's renewable goals.
Why It Matters	Offers financial incentives for renewable energy investment to residential, commercial, and municipal customers.
Recent Action	NJCEP Renewable Energy Committee meeting scheduled for 12/13/16 has been cancelled.
Next Action	Publication of the November solar activity report is expected on 12/21/16.



New Jersey - Renewable Energy

Reference No.	BPU Docket No. E016050412 <i>(Opened on 05/10/2016)</i>
Description	PSE&G filed petition for approval by the BPU of an extension of its "Solar 4 All" program, which the utility says would result in the addition of 100MW of new solar capacity constructed in New Jersey over the next four years. the focus would be on building capacity on landfill and brownfield sites in the state. PSE&G is seeking recovering of almost \$300 million over a five-year period. According to the utility, "the NJBPU initially approved the program in 2009 for 80MW-dc and extended it in 2013 for an additional 45MW-dc of solar capacity. The program currently has 115MW-dc in service through 174,000 pole attached solar units and 28 centralized solar projects, which is enough to power just over 18,000 average-size homes annually. The remaining 10MW-dc of the currently approved 125MW-dc total will be in service by the end of 2016."
Why It Matters	PSE&G connects solar to the grid on behalf of all ratepayers, effectively creating a situation in which it is acting as a generator and getting full cost recovery from ratepayers. This program, while in force for several years, nevertheless remains a concerning example of skewed competitive markets that favor utilities over third-party suppliers.
Recent Action	The BPU issued an order approving an increase in the SGIEIIP component of PSE&G's RGGI Recovery Charge to \$0.001149 per kWh, including SUT effective for service rendered on or after 1/1/17 (11/30/16). As a result, a typical residential customer using approximately 1,000 kWh per month will see an increase of \$0.04 or 0.00% on a total monthly bill. The BPU approved the stipulation, and directed PSE&G to file revised tariff sheets in compliance with the terms and conditions of the stipulation prior to 1/1/17.
Next Action	PSE&G directed to filed revised tariff sheets by 1/1/17.



New Jersey - Smart Grid

Reference No.	Town Center DER Microgrid Feasibility Study <i>(Opened on 07/29/2016)</i>
Description	BPU issued an order on 6/29/16 establishing the Town Center DER Microgrid Feasibility Study incentive program and budget.
Why It Matters	State interest in increasing the use of microgrid technologies to improve the grid’s resiliency and reliability in the event of a major storm.
Recent Action	<p>BPU Staff issued its Microgrid Report (11/30/16). Staff recommendations include the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish New Jersey definitions for DER, microgrids and the different levels of microgrids. 2. Establish a stakeholder process to develop and implement TCDER microgrid pilot projects. 3. Develop and implement a Town Center microgrid feasibility study incentive program as part of the current NJCEP budget. 4. Develop and implement a Town Center microgrid financing program <p>BPU accepted Staff’s microgrid report and directed Staff to begin a process to develop New Jersey microgrid policies for the BPU's consideration. The report provides detailed information on advanced microgrid systems and distributed energy resources (DER) technologies and recommendations on policy considerations. (11/30/16).</p>
Next Action	Awaiting next action.



New Jersey - Renewable Energy - RPS

Reference No.	NJBPU Docket No. Q016080781 <i>(Opened on 04/19/2016)</i>
Description	In the matter of the New Jersey Renewable Portfolio Standard request for BPU action extending NJ RPS compliance deadline for energy year 2016. The compliance true-up period commences immediately after the end of the energy year (5/31), and ends on 10/1. Each retail electric supplier and Basic Generation Service provider with retail sales in New Jersey during the EY must submit an annual compliance report to the BPU by 10/1 of each year, demonstrating that it has complied with the RPS for Class I, Class II, and solar renewable energy. The Annual Reports for Energy Year 2016 are therefore due on 10/1, 2016. The Annual Reports must demonstrate how compliance with the RPS was achieved by including the total number of megawatt-hours of electricity sold to retail customers, Solar Renewable Energy Certificates and Renewable Energy Certificates retired, and Solar Alternative Compliance Payments and Alternative Compliance Payments paid.
Why It Matters	Once filed with the BPU, suppliers' and Basic Generation Service Provider's annual RPS compliance reports may provide intelligence on wholesale and retail solar electricity sales.
Recent Action	Suppliers and BGS providers had to file their annual RPS compliance reports (11/1/16).
Next Action	<i>This entry will be archived on 12/31/16.</i>



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