

Obtaining Certificate of Public Good(s) for additional net metering

Background: The Town of Middlebury currently has over 250 kW of available net metering it can add before reaching the limit of 500 kW. Net metering is the electricity generated from renewable energy sources added to the electrical grid for which Green Mountain Power (GMP) will pay on a per kilowatt-hour basis. This payment is received as a credit on the existing electricity bill.

The Energy Committee met with Ian Phair from the solar installation company, Vermont Solar Fund, LLC (VSF). As we discussed opportunities (i.e. Town Office Building, Amtrak Rail canopy) within the town for additional solar installations, Ian mentioned that the net metering rates are changing on September 1, 2022, which will result in a less favorable rate for the town. The current rate is \$0.16413/kwh. This rate will be reduced by \$0.01/kwh or approximately 6%. He offered to obtain a Certificate of Public Good (CPG) which will lock in the current rate if obtained before September 1st. There is no obligation for us to move forward with these installations and there will be no commitment to use VSF as the installer allowing the town to issue a Request for Proposal as required for the bidding process.

Given the expediency this requires with the rate change on September 1st, we are bringing it to the August 23rd Selectboard meeting for approval to move forward obtaining a CPG to lock in the more favorable rate.

Request:

Seeking approval from the Selectboard to allow Vermont Solar Fund LLC (VSF) to file CPG applications for both i) a solar project on the train platform structure and ii) a solar project on the roof of the Townhall building. However, the Town has no obligation to work with VSF on either of these projects. Further, VSF has agreed that it will work with the Town to assign the CPG to another party at the Town's sole discretion.