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State of Vermont Public Utility Commission

MEDIA RELEASE

VERMONT PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION APPROVES CONTRACTS FOR OVER 10 MW OF RENEWABLE ENERGY UNDER 2018 STANDARD OFFER PROGRAM

Montpelier, VT – On July 20, 2018, the Vermont Public Utility Commission ("Commission") approved the award of four contracts under Vermont's Standard Offer program. These four contracts are in addition to three contracts awarded on June 15, 2018. The seven projects range from 90 kW to 2.2 MW in a diverse range of renewable energy technologies – five solar, one food waste anaerobic digestion, and one small wind. The successful projects will result in more than 10 MW of additional renewable energy in Vermont.

The Standard Offer program uses a competitive bidding process, with price caps related to the cost of different technologies and with the lowest-priced bids accepted first. All four contracts awarded in this round were for solar projects ranging in price from approximately 8.8 cents to 11 cents per kilowatt-hour, which ranks them among the lowest-priced solar in the state.

The Standard Offer program was established in 2009, pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 8005a, and is intended to promote the rapid deployment of small renewable generation through long-term, fixed-price contracts. The total program capacity of 127.5 MW is distributed in annual increments, with 10 MW available annually going forward. Program costs, along with each project's renewable energy credits ("RECs"), are distributed among Vermont utilities based on their share of electric sales. The annual request for proposals ("RFP") specifies total available capacity, capacity allocated to each technology, and price caps for each technology.

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For more information about the Standard Offer program, contact: the Standard Offer Facilitator (802-362-0748) or PUC Utilities Analyst Mary Jo Krolewski (802-828-2358).

The Standard Offer Facilitator also maintains <u>a website for the program</u> that includes the annual RFP and other information.

Locate the June 15, 2018, and July 20, 2018, Orders (Case No. 17-3935-INV) by searching for the case number using ePUC, the PUC's online document management system.

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