

**State of New Hampshire
Public Utilities Commission**

DE 15-271

Electric Distribution Utilities, Interconnection and Queue Management Processes for Net-Metered Customer-Generators

Petition for Intervention

Now Comes Clifton Below and petitions the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission, pursuant to NH Code of Administrative Rules PUC 203.17 and PUC 203.02 and New Hampshire Revised Statute Annotated 541-A:32, to allow myself on behalf of Vital Communities and its Solarize Lebanon-Enfield program, as well as Energy Emporium, Erik Russell and Hana Masseur, Marie McCormick, One Court Street Associates, and myself personally to intervene in the above-captioned matter for the following reasons:

1. Vital Communities is a nonprofit organization based in White River Junction, Vermont, that brings together citizens, organizations, and municipalities in the Upper Connecticut River Valley of Vermont and New Hampshire to take on issues where an independent voice and regional approach are essential. Vital Communities serves 69 towns in the Upper Connecticut River Valley region of Vermont and New Hampshire, including 34 towns in New Hampshire. A goal of the Energy Program at Vital Communities is to help move the Upper Valley toward energy independence by catalyzing local efforts to meet 90% of our energy needs through a mix of energy efficiency and renewable energy sources by 2050.
2. Two years ago, with foundation grant funding and based on successful pilot programs in Connecticut and Massachusetts Vital Communities initiated the Solarize Upper Valley program using social networking, community outreach, tiered discounted volume pricing by competitively selected program partner installers, to more than double the number of residential PV installations in participating Vermont and New Hampshire towns.
3. The NH communities that have participated in past Solarize programs supported by Vital Communities are Orford, Hanover, Cornish, Plainfield, Andover, New London, Wilmot, and Lyme. Solarize Lebanon and Enfield, the latest communities to participate, are currently in the middle of its site visit and sign period of June-September, 2015. This ad hoc program is led by a

group of community volunteers including members of the Lebanon Energy Advisory Committee and Enfield Energy Committee, with the support of town officials and leaders.

4. Thus far, in the participating NH communities 209 households or small businesses have signed 209 contracts to install PV solar systems in Eversource Energy, Liberty Utilities, and New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc. service territories, all or virtually all of which have been approved for or are seeking net metered interconnections and most of which have been installed. A total of 1.04 MW of PV has been installed or contracted for and 980 site visits have been requested to date. Compared to the baseline numbers provided by the PUC in May 2013, we have increased solar adoption in participating towns by 600%. Across non-Solarize Upper Valley towns, we've seen a 200% increase.

5. In the current Solarize Lebanon and Enfield program to date there are 24 signed contracts, 26 filed net metered interconnection applications (most or all of which are currently pending), an undetermined number of interconnection applications still being or to be prepared to file, 123 site visits, 48 requested but uncompleted site visits, and 78 proposals currently out and pending action but not signed (out of 110 proposals, with 24 contracts and 8 definitive declines).

6. In the closed Solarize Hanover program where contracts were signed by January 1, 2015, the partner installer, Energy Emporium had been requesting interconnection about 2 weeks prior to scheduled installation date until we learned of the urgency to get in the queue just last week. There were 55 signed contracts, with 40 approved interconnection applications and 15 files, but pending interconnection applications, with 23 installations completed and 4 currently in progress.

7. I am a volunteer with the Solarize Lebanon Enfield leadership team, as well as a member of the Lebanon City Council and the City Council representative to the Lebanon Energy Advisory Committee, although I am not seeking to intervene on behalf of the City of Lebanon.

8. I am Vice President of the Board of Directors of Vital Communities and have been authorized by the Executive Director and the President of the Board to petition to intervene and represent the interests of Vital Communities in this docket.

9. Energy Emporium, owned by Kimberly Quirk, of Enfield, NH is Solarize Lebanon-Enfield's installer partner and has numerous customer contracts and contract proposals for net metered

PV installations currently pending including a number with pending interconnection applications.

10. I have been authorized by Kimberly Quirk to intervene in this docket on behalf of Vital Communities.

11. Erik Russell and Hana Masecar are Enfield residents who have signed a contract with Energy Emporium for installation of a 6.27 kW PV system as part of the Solarize Lebanon-Enfield program and Hana Masecar, the Liberty Utilities account holder has filed an interconnection application with Liberty Utilities that is currently pending. I have been authorized by them to intervene on their behalf in this docket.

12. Marie McCormick is a Lebanon residential customer of Liberty Utilities who has signed a contract for a 4.5 kW PV system with Energy Emporium for installation as part of the Solarize Lebanon-Enfield program and has filed an interconnection application with Liberty Utilities that is currently pending. I have been authorized by Marie McCormick to intervene on her behalf in this docket.

13. One Court Street Associates (OCSA) is a New Hampshire limited partnership of which I am the managing general partner. OCSA owns and operates a 27,000 square foot office and restaurant building in downtown Lebanon with a 9,000 square foot roof, of which up to about half is suitable for PV installation.

14. OCSA has engaged a structural engineer to help evaluate and design various changes in structural loads as we prepare to replace remove existing ballast, add more roof insulation, install a new roof membrane, replace and upgrade the energy efficiency of existing HVAC rooftop equipment, and plan for installation of PV systems before the expiration of the federal 30% federal tax credit for such installation at the end of 2016, including possible structural attachment points for PV racking systems.

15. OCSA has a financial, planning and design interest in how the net metering interconnection queue is managed and closed-out, including any possible wait list arrangements.

16. I am personally a residential net metered customer-generator of Liberty Utilities, and personally completed and filed the Simplified Interconnection Application and Service

Agreement, as well as the Certificate of Completion, with Liberty Utilities so I am quite familiar with the process.

17. My intervention on behalf of the above referenced parties will not impair the orderly and prompt conduct of the proceedings, will not result in undue delay in the Commission's proceedings, and will not prejudice the interest of any party.

WHEREFORE, I do hereby request that the Commission grant this petition to allow myself on behalf of all of the above described interested parties to be made a full intervenor in this proceeding, and grant such other relief as is just and proper.

Respectfully submitted this 28th of July, 2015.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Clifton Below". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Clifton Below

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Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that on this 28th day of July, 2015, copies of the foregoing filing were sent by both regular and electronic mail to the Public Utilities Commission, and electronically to all persons listed on the Commission's on-line service list for Docket No. DG 15-271.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Clifton Below", is written over a horizontal line.

Clifton Below