NHPUC 25MAY'16PM1:47



May 20, 2016

Debra Howland Executive Director NH Public Utilities Commission 21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10 Concord, NH 03301-2429

RE: Request for rule waiver for the PUC 2505.09(i)(1) on-site inspection requirement, pursuant to PUC 301.05

Dear Ms. Howland,

I am writing on behalf of Locus Energy, a prospective independent verifier for New Hampshire, to petition that a rule waiver be granted for the PUC 2505.09(i)(1) on-site inspection requirement, in accordance with PUC 301.05, the requirement to "perform an initial inspection of source's meter for accuracy and capability to measure the power produced...". As Locus Energy has significant experience with metering and data validation, we feel confident that this type of initial meter validation and data accuracy verification can be completed without an on-site inspection.

Locus Energy is a data monitoring and analytics platform provider that offers independent, verified reporting to third parties. Revenue grade, production meter installation is typically completed by end users or contracted installers during the final phase of the solar panel and inverter installation. While we often supply the metering hardware, we are not typically on site at the time of installation. Therefore, Locus Energy would not be able to complete an on-site inspection in those instances. In addition, Locus Energy staffs a full time support team to offer technical troubleshooting assistance and answer any SREC-related regulatory inquiries. Excluding NEPOOL, we currently report generation data and manage portfolios for nine other incentive based programs nationwide, all of which can be monitored and validated remotely. Finally, Locus Energy is compatible with, and able to monitor other third party revenue grade meters on our platform. Because of these reasons, it is not feasible nor necessary for Locus Energy to complete on-site inspections.

Locus Energy also feels that alternative meter validations outside of an on-site inspection would sufficiently verify an installation. The purpose of this on-site inspection is to confirm the revenue grade meter's (identified by its model and MAC ID) installation location and power generation accuracy. Through our internal inventory system, we can track the association between the particular metering device (via its MAC ID) and the location. We also complete an analysis of the meter in the field and compare it with our own algorithms to calculate its location, ensuring a match. In addition, we are able to continuously validate data by juxtaposing the power generation readings from the revenue grade meter with the power generation readings archived on the system's backup meters or inverters. Therefore, through multiple methods, we are able to verify a meter's location and certify the validity of the data it is communicating.

Due to the restrictions preventing us from being onsite during an installation, and due to our alternative methods of validating the metering equipment and the data it is transmitting, we are requesting that the PUC 2505.09(i)(1) on-site inspection requirement, pursuant to PUC 301.05, be waived.

We look forward to hearing your response on this matter, and please let us know if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

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Jessica Nee Vice President, Fleet Operations Locus Energy



State of New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission 21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10, Concord, NH 03301-2429



APPLICATION TO QUALIFY AS AN INDEPENDENT MONITOR

TO VERIFY ELECTRICITY OR USEFUL THERMAL ENERGY PRODUCTION FROM ELIGIBLE CUSTOMER-SITED SOURCES*

This independent monitor application must be filed with the Executive Director of the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission (Commission). *The completed original application, as well as two copies and a cover letter requesting certification should be sent to:*

> Debra Howland Executive Director State of New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission 21 S. Fruit St, Suite 10 Concord, NH 03301-2429

An electronic version of the docket filing should be submitted to <u>executive.director@puc.nh.gov</u> and <u>barbara.bernstein@puc.nh.gov</u>. Contact Barbara Bernstein by email or phone 603-271-6011 with questions.

Any omissions and/or deficiencies which need to be corrected must be completed in a timely manner or the Commission may close the application process without prejudice.**

| Please complete the following: | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|----|-----|-------|-----------|-------|
| Applicant Name: | Sam Barnard | | | | | |
| Business Name: | Locus Energy | | | | | |
| Mailing Address 1: | 2 Hudson Place | | | | | |
| Mailing Address 2: | 6 th Floor | | | | | |
| Town/ City: | Hoboken | | | e: NJ | Zip Code: | 07030 |
| Telephone: | 1 877 562 8736 Ext. 5 | Ce | ll: | | | |
| email | Reporting@locusenergy.com | | | | | |

| 2505.09 | Independent Monitors |
|------------|--|
| 2505.09(a) | An independent monitor shall verify the <u>electricity</u> production of a customer-sited source or the production of <u>useful thermal energy</u> from an eligible source and report such production and REC calculation to the GIS. |
| 2505.09(b) | A distribution utility shall be eligible to serve as an independent monitor for customer- sited sources and sources producing useful thermal energy within its service territory, provided that the distribution utility employs one or more persons to perform monitoring tasks who meet the qualifications specified in paragraph (c) or (d). (See below). |

As **ATTACHMENT A**, please provide a copy of the license issued by the state of New Hampshire or such other qualifying certification as may be applicable.

| | Electrical Production Independent Monitors | | | | |
|---------------|---|-------------|--|--|--|
| 2505.09(c) | To qualify as an independent monitor who verifies electrical production please indicate which of the following apply to the applicant: | | | | |
| 2505.09(c)(1) | An electrician licensed by the state of New Hampshire and in good standing. | | | | |
| 2505.09(c)(2) | A professional engineer licensed by the state of New Hampshire and in good standing. | | | | |
| 2505.09(c)(3) | A certified building analyst professional or a certified mechanical professional as certified by the Building Performance Institute, Inc. of Malta, New York. | | | | |
| 2505.09(c)(4) | A certified energy manager as certified by the Association of Energy Engineers. | | | | |
| 2505.09(c)(5) | A home energy rater as certified by Residential Energy Services Network (RESNET) | | | | |
| 2505.09(c)(6) | Certified as an independent monitor under a renewable portfolio standard program in another state. | \boxtimes | | | |

| | Useful Thermal Energy Independent Monitors | | | | |
|---------------|---|--|--|--|--|
| 2505.09(d) | To qualify as an independent monitor who verifies useful thermal energy production please indicate which of the following apply to the applicant: | | | | |
| 2505.09(d)(1) | A professional engineer licensed by the State of NH and in good standing. | | | | |
| 2505.09(d)(2) | <i>For verification of useful thermal energy from solar thermal sources</i> , a North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners (NABCEP) Certified Solar Heating Installer | | | | |
| 2505.09(d)(3) | For verification of useful thermal energy from geothermal sources an International Ground Source Heat Pump Association (IGSHPA) Accredited Geothermal Installer | | | | |

| Provide your initials as an indication that you have read the following as it pertains to | Initials |
|---|----------|
| Independent Monitors and agree to uphold the rule. | |

| 2505.09(a) | An independent monitor shall verify the production of a customer-sited source or the production of useful thermal energy from an eligible source and report such production and REC calculations to the GIS. Such a customer-sited source or a source producing useful thermal energy shall either retain the services of an independent monitor directly or, if participating in aggregation pursuant to Puc 2506, through an aggregator. | SFB |
|---------------|---|----------|
| 2505.09(b) | A distribution utility that is a distribution company shall be eligible to serve as an independent monitor for customer-sited sources and sources producing useful thermal energy within its service territory, provided that the distribution utility employs one or more persons to perform monitoring tasks who meet the qualifications specified in paragraph (c) or (d). | SFB |
| 2505.09(g) | No customer-sited source or source producing useful thermal energy shall use an independent monitor: who is a member of the immediate family of the owner of the source, or, who holds a direct or indirect ownership interest in the source, or, who sold or installed the equipment used by the source. | SFB |
| 2505.09(h) | The fact that a provider of electricity installed the customer-sited source or source producing useful thermal energy shall not be a disqualifying relationship. | SFB |
| 2505.09(i) | The duties of the independent monitor shall be: | Initials |
| 2505.09(i)(1) | To perform an initial inspection of source's meter for accuracy and capability to measure the electricity or useful thermal energy produced, unless the meter is owned by a distribution utility that has already inspected it pursuant to <u>Puc 305</u> . | |
| 2505.09(i)(2) | To measure quarterly the source's electricity or useful thermal energy production or displacement used to qualify for certificates pursuant to the GIS operating rules. | SFB |
| 2505.09(i)(3) | To report the production of electricity or useful thermal energy from the source and the REC calculation to the customer and the GIS quarterly in accordance with the GIS operating rules. | SFB |
| 2505.09(j) | An independent monitor shall not receive compensation for monitoring services that is a function of the number of certificates issued to any source using the independent monitor. | SFB |
| 2505.09(k) | An independent monitor shall provide the commission with the notice prior to discontinuing services as a monitor. | SFB |

Describe your rates for Renewable Energy Source Eligibility for Independent Monitoring (add lines as needed).

| Description: | Unit | Rate |
|---|----------|-------|
| | Per hour | \$ |
| | Flat fee | \$ |
| | Annual | \$ |
| Residential automated reporting for five years. | 5 Years | \$150 |
| Commercial automated reporting for five years. | 5 Years | \$450 |

AFFIDAVIT

The undersigned applicant declares under penalty of perjury that contents of this application are accurate.

| Applicant's Signature | Ren | | ate | 5/18/16 | |
|------------------------------------|------|-----------|-----------|------------------------|------|
| Applicant's Typed Name Sam Barnard | | | | | |
| Subscribed and sworn before me | 18th | Day of | May | (month) in the year | 2016 |
| County of San Francisco | | State of | Californi | a | |

Notary Public/Justice of the Peace

My Commission Expires <u>11-13-17</u>

APRIL M. JOHNSON COMM. #2045614 NOTARY PUBLIC ALIFORNI SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY My Comm. Expires Nov. 13, 2017