Agenda Date: 2/7/07 Agenda Item: 8A



STATE OF NEW JERSEY Board of Public Utilities Two Gateway Center Newark, NJ 07102 www.bpu.state.nj.us

CLEAN ENERGY

IN THE MATTER OF THE RENEWABLE ENERGY) ORDER
ADVANCED POWER (REAP) PROGRAM WITH)
RAHWAY VALLEY SEWERAGE AUTHORITY)
(RVSA)) DOCKET NO. E006020117

(SERVICE LIST ATTACHED)

BY THE BOARD:

In October, 2003, the Office of Clean Energy (OCE) of the Board of Public Utilities (Board) issued a grant solicitation under the Renewable Energy Advanced Power (REAP) program. REAP is designed to facilitate the construction of distributive energy generation projects in New Jersey using renewable energy sources. Such renewable sources may include wind, solar, landfill and biomass gas, or renewable fuel cells. OCE's objective in issuing this solicitation was to provide seed grants and access to capital that would make renewably powered electricity cost competitive with conventional power plants. The resulting diversity of power supply is expected to provide significant environmental benefits to the people of New Jersey and to encourage the development of a thriving renewable energy market in this State.

This order addresses a grant application received by OCE Staff from the Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority (RVSA) for funding to install a digester gas powered internal combustion engine to the Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority Cogeneration/Sludge Drying Facility to Energy Project (project). The project involves the installation of four engines, one of which will operate on digester gas, and will provide all electrical power necessary to run the expanded and upgraded wastewater treatment facility. The project will eliminate the need for an onsite emergency generation plant and eliminate the need to replace existing diesel blower drives. It has met or exceeded all applicable emissions standards required to obtain the requisite permits from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

REAP is one of five New Jersey Clean Energy Programs managed in partnership with the New Jersey Economic Development Authority. This program provides grants of up to twenty percent and long-term, low interest financing for Class I renewable energy projects exceeding one megawatt in electricity generating capacity. The program was offered through an open solicitation released on October 1, 2003.

The Office of Clean Energy granted conditional approval for the design, construction, and operation of a 1.515 MW digester gas powered internal combustion engine to the Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority Cogeneration/Sludge Drying Facility to Energy Project on October 3, 2005. Approval was conditioned upon the successful demonstration of project funding and the acquisition of all necessary permits from the DEP. OCE also asked the Board Economist to review the project financial data to determine whether this was a project that would be cost effective without providing Clean Energy Program funds.

The total capital cost of the project is \$27,200,000. Since only one of the four engines will use digester gas, a renewable resource, the estimated renewable energy project cost is \$4,237,669. The project developer has requested an \$847,534 grant from the Renewable Energy Advanced Power Program, equal to twenty percent of that figure. The Economist's Office asked for and received additional project financial background data from RVSA. After reviewing this material, the Economist's Office recommended and the applicant agreed to a reduced grant award of \$500,000. RVSA has received additional financing from the New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Trust to fund the remaining project costs.

Staff anticipates that benefits will accrue from this project to taxpayers as a result of electricity cost containment, and to New Jersey citizens through improved air quality and reduced greenhouse gas emissions. RVSA reports making a significant investment in studying interconnection issues with PSE&G. As a result of the study, the project developer has invested in protective equipment to ensure the adequacy of project interconnection with the local distribution system.

Discussion and Findings

In considering the eligibility of this project for funding under the Renewable Energy Advanced Power program, the Board looks first to the contribution it will make to REAP's goal of promoting distributed generation using renewable energy. By utilizing digester gas as an energy source, this project will eliminate the need for an onsite emergency generation plant, and will also eliminate the need to replace existing diesel blower drives. In addition, Staff has noted that future use of landfill gas from an adjacent facility is anticipated, further reducing reliance on non-renewable energy sources. Lastly, as noted above, as a pre-condition to receiving consideration for funding by this Board, the project has received all applicable approvals from the DEP.

Thus, the Board <u>FINDS</u> that this project constitutes distributed generation of renewable energy and will contribute to the goals and objectives established by the Legislature under the Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act of 1999 and the Governor's Renewable Energy Task Force, which calls for 300 MW of Class I renewable energy to

be installed by 2008. The Board <u>FURTHER</u> <u>FINDS</u> that a grant of \$500,000 under the REAP program to the Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority is appropriate and constitutes a proper expenditure of the ratepayer funds.

Now, therefore, in accordance with the policy established by the Board and the approval of the Clean Energy Program fund payment policies and procedures, the Board HEREBY AUTHORIZES a grant of \$500,000 to the RVSA for the purpose of designing, constructing and installing the digester gas powered internal combustion system, in accordance with the terms herein and in Department of Treasury approved contracts to be executed by the parties. The Board ORDERS that a letter under the Board President's signature be sent to the New Jersey Economic Development Authority authorizing its payment of the grant monies to the project developer upon OCE approval of invoiced expenses. The Board FURTHER ORDERS that the OCE Director and the Board's Chief of Staff be authorized to approve the payment of invoices when they are received and found to be in order.

DATED: 2/7/07

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES BY:

JEANNE M. FOX PRESIDENT

FREDERICK F. BUTLER

JOSEPH L. FIORDALISO COMMISSIONER CONNIE O. HUGHES

CHRISTINE V. BATOR COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

KRISTI IZZO

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the within document is a true copy of the original in the files of the Board of Public

Utilitie

Board of Public Utilities BPU Docket No. EO06020117 Service List

BPU STAFF

Kristi Izzo, Secretary Board of Public Utilities Two Gateway Center Newark, New Jersey 07102

Michael Winka
Office of Clean Energy
Board of Public Utilities
P.O. Box 350
Trenton, New Jersey 086250350

Mona Mosser Office of Clean Energy Board of Public Utilities 2 Gateway Center Newark, NJ 07102

Benjamin Hunter Office of Clean Energy Board of Public Utilities P.O. Box 350 Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350

<u>DAG</u>

Rebecca Hobbs
Division of Law
Dept. of Law & Public Safety
124 Halsey Street
P.O. Box 45029
Newark, New Jersey 07102

Susan Vercheak, DAG Division of Law Dept. of Law & Public Safety 124 Halsey Street P.O. Box 45029 Newark, NJ 07102

<u>DEP</u>

Joseph Carpenter NJDEP P.O. Box 409 401 East State Street Trenton, NJ 08625-0409

DCA

Darren Port
NJDCA
NJ Green Homes Office
Div of Housing and Comm Res
101 South Broad Str.
P.O Box 806
Trenton, NJ 08625

RATEPAYER ADVOCATE

Seema M. Singh, Acting Ratepayer Advocate & Director Division of Ratepayer Advocate 31 Clinton Street, 11th Floor P.O. Box 46005 Newark, New Jersey 07102

CONECTIV

Mark Mucci, Esq. LeBoeuf, Lamb, Greene & MacRae One Riverfront Plaza Newark, NJ 07102 Walt Davis-79NC82 Conectiv Power Delivery P.O. Box 9239 Newark, DE 19714-9293

JCP&L

Julie Friedberg, Esq. Thelen Reid & Priest, LLP 65 Madison Avenue Morristown, NJ 07960

Christopher W. Siebens GPU Energy 2800 Pottsville Pike P.O. Box 16001 Reading, PA 19640

Maura Watkins JCP&L P.O. Box 1911 300 Madison Av. Morristown, NJ 07962

PSE&G

Fred Lynk Public Service Electric & Gas Co 80 Park Plaza, T7 Newark, NJ 07102

Gregory Eisenstark, Esq. Assistant General Solicitor PSEG Services Corporation 80 Park Plaza, T5G Newark, NJ 07101

ROCKLAND

Kevin Jones Rockland Electric Company 390 West Route 59 Spring Valley, NY 10977

James C. Meyer, Esq. Riker, Danzig, Scherer, Hyland & Perretti, LLP Headquarters Plaza One Speedwell Avenue Morristown, NJ 07962

NJ NATURAL GAS

Tracey Thayer NJ Natural Gas Co. 1415 Wyckoff Rd. PO Box 1464 Wall, NJ 07719

Bob Gallo NJ Nat'l Gas Co. 1415 Wycoff Road Wall, NJ 07719

<u>NUI</u>

Phil Germinario NUI /Elizabethtown Gas Co. P.O. Box 760 505 Route 202-206 Bedminster, NJ 07921

Patricia Keefe, Esq. NUI /Elizabethtown Gas Co. P.O. Box 760 505 Route 202-206 Bedminster, NJ 07921 SOUTH JERSEY GAS

Bruce Grossman South Jersey Gas Co. 1 South Jersey Plaza Folsom, NJ 08037

Steven Gabel Gabel Associates 417 Denison Street Highland Park, NJ 08904

Mike Ambrosio & Associates c/o Gabel Associates 417 Denison Street Hightland Park, NJ08904

James R. Lacey, Esq. Graham, Curtin, \$ Sheridan, P.A. 4 Headquarters Plaza P.O. Box 1991 Morristown, NJ 07962-1991

Nathaniel Greene NRDC 40 W. 20th Street, 11th fl. New York, NY 10011

Michael J. Mehr, Esq. Waters, McPherson, McNeill 300 Lighting Way P.O. Box 1560 Secaucus, NJ 07096-1560

Kate McNamara
Delaware River Port Authority
Port Authority Transit Corp.
One Port Center
2 Riverside Drive
Camden. NJ 08101

Marvin Spira Food Policy Institute 71 Lipman Drive New Brunswick, NJ 08901

Jack O'Connor Rutgers Food Policy Institute ASB III, 3 Rutgers Plaza New Brunswick, NJ 08901

Frank Felder, Senior Policy Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning & Public Policy Rutgers, The State U of NJ 33 Livingston Avenue, Suite 300 New Brunswick, N J 08901

NJPIRG 11 North Willow Street Trenton, New Jersey 08608

Mr. Rex Luzader Millennium Cell One Industrial Way West Eatontown, New Jersey 07724

Jeff Demme Demme Mech Inspections, Inc. 168 Susan Street Toms River, NJ 08753 Thomas Leyden, VPt PowerLight Corp. East Coast PO Box 354 Crosswicks, NJ 08515

Mike Palladino Manager of Operations WorldWater Corporation 55 Route 31 S. Pennington, NJ, 08534

Thomas W. Iannuzzi, P.E. Concord Engineering Group 520 South Burnt Mill Road Voorhees, NJ 08043

Aaron R. Thurlow McConnell Energy Solutions 4001 Kennett Pike Suite 318 Greenville, DE 19807

Jim Nappi Law Office of James A. Nappi Nine Locust Drive Asbury Park, NJ 07712

Keith S. Hartman Public Energy Solutions 407 Sette Dr., S4 P.O. Box 1849 Paramus, NJ 07653-1849

Kenneth I. Nowak, Esq. Zazzali, Fagella & Nowak One Riverfront Plaza Newark, NJ 07102

Lyle Rawlings, PE Mid-Atlantic Solar Energy 66 Snydertown Road Hopewell, NJ 08525

R. William Potter, Esq. Potter & Dickson 194 Nassau Street Princeton, NJ 08542

David Holland Regional Operations Manager Honeywell DMC Services, Inc. Wayne Interchange Plaza 1 143 Route 46 West Wayne, NJ 07470

Dale S. Bryk, Esq. Natural Res Defense Council 40 West 20th Street – 11th Flr. New York, NY 10011

David Nichols 1070 Beacon Street, Suite 6B Brookline, MA 02446

Darren Port NJDCA- Green Homes P.O. Box 806 101 S. Broad Street Trenton, NJ 08625

Board of Public Utilities BPU Docket No. EO06020117 Service List

Mr. Fred Hauber President Eastern Energy Services 60 Fostertown Road Medford, New Jersey 08055

Ms. Liz Johnson Exec Director ISLES 10 Wood Street Trenton, New Jersey

Rev. Fletcher Harper Exec Dir Partners for Environ Equality 240 West State Street Trenton, New Jersey 08608

Dir of Facilities The College of New Jersey PO Box 7718 Ewing, New Jersey 08628-0718

Ms. Rose Smith New Jersey Economic Development Authority 36 West State Street PO Box 990 Trenton, NJ 08625-0990

RAHWAY

James R. Wancho Paulus, Sokolowski & Sartor, LLC 67A Mountain Blvd Ext. P.O. 4039 Warren NJ 07059

Richard P. Tokarski Exec Dir Rahway Valley Sewage Auth. 1050 Hazelwood Avenue Rahway, NJ 07065

Ronald K Jackson Research Scientist 2 NJ Board of Public Utilities Office of Clean Energy P. O. Box 350 44 South Clinton Avenue Trenton, NJ 08625-0350