

STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Case No. 20-0789-INV

Vermont Public Utility Commission orders and memoranda issued in response to COVID-19 pandemic	
--	--

Order entered: 04/30/2020

ORDER REQUESTING COMMENTS

ON POTENTIAL FURTHER EXTENSION OF COMMISSIONING DEADLINES

Both the State of Vermont and the federal government have declared a state of emergency due to the outbreak of the new coronavirus known as COVID-19. The Vermont Public Utility Commission (“Commission”) recognizes the importance of helping to slow the spread of COVID-19 in Vermont.

Construction and interconnection of new generation facilities have been affected by measures put in place to slow the spread of the virus in Vermont, including Governor Scott’s Stay Home, Stay Safe Executive Order 01-20 and addenda to that order. In addition, measures put in place to help slow the spread of COVID-19 in Vermont and elsewhere are affecting supply chains.

The Commission recognizes that these disruptions to supply chains and construction activities may affect the ability of new generation facilities to meet their commissioning deadlines, as established in their certificates of public good or in their standard-offer contracts. As a result, the Commission previously extended commissioning deadlines for net-metering and standard-offer projects whose commissioning deadlines fall on or after March 25, 2020, through June 1, 2020. Commissioning deadlines during that time period have been extended to September 1, 2020.¹

The conditions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic are constantly evolving, and the Commission is now considering whether further changes to commissioning deadlines would be appropriate. Specifically, the Commission is considering whether it would be appropriate to grant a one-year extension of all commissioning deadlines for net-metering and standard-offer projects whose commissioning deadlines fall on or after March 25, 2020, through December 31,

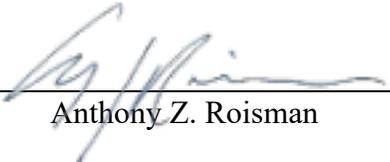
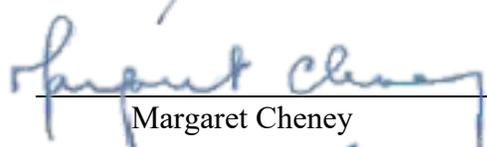
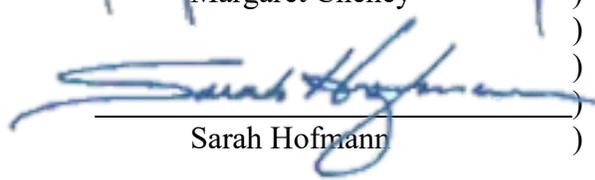
¹ Order of 3/27/20.

2020. If such an extension were granted, then the September 1, 2020, deadline would no longer apply. Instead, the new commissioning deadlines would be one year from the last commissioning deadline established for a project before the Commission's March 27, 2020, order extending certain deadlines. (In other words, the new commissioning deadline for a project whose commissioning deadline was originally May 1, 2020, would be April 30, 2021.)

In today's Order we ask for public comments by May 13, 2020, on whether such an extension would be appropriate. Public comments may also propose alternative extensions or recommend that the Commission not grant further extensions. Such public comments should be filed in Case No. 20-0789-INV in ePUC; if you are attaching a document, instead of typing "See attached file" in the comment text box, please type "re commissioning deadlines" to make it easier for all users to identify those public comments that are responsive to this order.

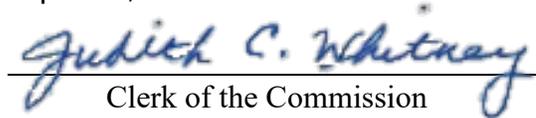
SO ORDERED.

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 30th day of April, 2020.

 _____ Anthony Z. Roisman)	PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF VERMONT
 _____ Margaret Cheney)	
 _____ Sarah Hofmann)	

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

Filed: April 30, 2020

Attest: 
Clerk of the Commission

Notice to Readers: This decision is subject to revision of technical errors. Readers are requested to notify the Clerk of the Commission (by e-mail, telephone, or in writing) of any apparent errors, in order that any necessary corrections may be made. (E-mail address: puc.clerk@vermont.gov)