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NOTICE OF TECHNICAL CONFERENCE¹

In the Matter of Offshore Wind Transmission

Docket No. QO20100630

Pursuant to the "Open Public Meetings Act," N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., Staff of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities ("NJBP" or "Board") gives notice of a Technical Conference to address certain issues referenced in the Board's November 18, 2020 Order in the above-captioned docket. The Technical Conference will be held on February 26, 2021.

By [Order dated November 18, 2020](#), the Board formally requested that PJM incorporate New Jersey's existing public policy related to offshore wind transmission into the regional transmission planning process (RTEP) through the State Agreement Approach (SAA). As part of this request, the Board referenced concerns related to disposition of commercial risk that may arise as a result of any separation of the generation and transmission functions of offshore wind development. To address these concerns, the Board directed NJBP's Staff to further examine these issues and make recommendations to minimize risk to participating commercial entities and New Jersey ratepayers.

The purpose of this Technical Conference is to further examine the risks associated with a potential separation of the generation and transmission throughout the development and operation phases of offshore wind generation development. The Technical Conference will involve three panels each focused on a separate topic as described in the following agenda. Due to public health and safety concerns, the conference will be held via webinar. All panels will be moderated by NJBP Staff.

¹Not a Paid Legal Advertisement

Parties that wish to participate as a panelist during the Technical Conference should nominate themselves for a particular panel. To self-nominate, please provide the following information by email to board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov by February 5, 2021 at 5 p.m. ET:

1. Name, title and affiliation and contact information;
2. Desired panel (please also provide a secondary panel selection); and
3. Short description (no more than a page) explaining why you should be selected for the panel.

The email must contain a subject line of “Nominations for Offshore Wind Transmission Technical Conference.”

Nominees will be notified on approximately February 12, 2021 that they have been selected for a particular panel. Staff will endeavor to ensure that various interests and a diversity of opinions and constituencies are represented on the panels. A Supplemental Notice will be issued with panelist selections in advance of the Technical Conference. Each panelist will be afforded the opportunity to make a short presentation, followed by a discussion between the panelists and staff, as well as questions from the audience. Parties not selected as panelists will still have the opportunity to ask questions and make public statements, time permitting.

Technical Conference panelists, stakeholders, and the general public are encouraged to submit post-Technical Conference comments as described below by March 12, 2021.

TECHNICAL CONFERENCE AGENDA

The meeting will be held on
Friday, February 26, 2021 – 9:30 a.m.
Register for the webinar:

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7257627078287817742>

9:30 – 9:35 a.m.

OPENING REMARKS

9:35 – 10:20 a.m.

PRESENTATION: November 18 Order

10:20 – 11:50 a.m.

PANEL ONE: Pre-Commercial Operation Delays, Mis-match of Construction Schedules

Panelists will discuss the various sources for potential pre-commercial operation delays under a separated transmission and generation approach, and the additional risks created by these potential delays. Panelists should contrast this risk profile with potential for delays under existing (i.e., radial) interconnections, including network upgrades constructed by TOs, and any changes anticipated in this risk profile as New Jersey progresses to meeting its offshore wind targets. In New Jersey's SAA framework – where potential transmission projects will be submitted through the RTEP competitive process – Panelists should explore the realistic extent of potential requests for cost-commitment and delivery dates, and the impacts of these binding commercial commitments on the risk profile of offshore wind generation and transmission developers. In addition, Panelists should discuss innovative risk minimizing and/or risk sharing commercial mechanisms to insulate ratepayers from risk of mismatched construction schedules.

11:50 a.m. – 12:05 p.m.

Question & Answer Session for Panel One

12:05 – 12:30 p.m.

BREAK

12:30 – 2:00 p.m.

PANEL TWO: Curtailment Risk

Panelists will discuss the risk of curtailment on offshore wind generation developers. Panelists should address whether this curtailment risk is anticipated to increase as New Jersey progresses to meeting its offshore wind targets under the existing (i.e., radial) interconnection framework. Panelists should address the extent to which coordinated transmission planning has the potential to minimize curtailment risk of offshore wind generators. Relatedly, Staff seeks input on methods used to evaluate beneficial improvements in curtailment risk through the evaluation of coordinated transmission solutions.

2:00 – 2:15 p.m.

Question & Answer Session for Panel Two

2:30 – 4:00 p.m.

PANEL THREE: Post-Commercial Operational Risk

Panelists will discuss the risk profile of operating offshore wind generation separate from a coordinated transmission solution. Panelists should discuss the existing paradigm related to sharing operational risk of a traditional onshore power plant. The discussion should consider whether additional risk protections are required in addition to the existing market rules related to transmission outages. Panelists are encouraged to provide innovative solutions for addressing this ongoing risk, and should especially consider methods to protect New Jersey ratepayers.

4:00 – 4:15 p.m.

Question & Answer Session for Panel Three

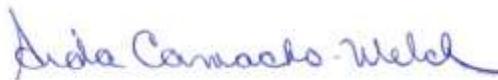
This Technical Conference will be recorded as a public record.

Panelists, stakeholders, and the general public are encouraged to file post-Technical Conference comments electronically through the Board's External Access Portal upon obtaining a MyNewJersey Portal ID. Once a MyNewJersey account is established, an authorization code is required, which can be requested by emailing the NJBPU's IT Helpdesk at BPUITHELPDESK@bpu.nj.gov. Written comments may be filed regardless of whether the commenter participated in the Technical Conference. Written comments may also be submitted electronically to Board.Secretary@bpu.nj.gov in PDF or Word format with specific reference to this docket. NJBPU will accept post-Technical Conference comments through March 12, 2021.

Please note that all comments are considered "public documents" for purposes of the State's Open Public Records Act. Commenters may identify information that they seek to keep confidential by submitting them in accordance with the confidentiality procedures set forth in N.J.A.C. 14:1-12.3.

All information on this Technical Conference will also be posted on the Board's ["Public Notices" webpage](#) prior to the event. Questions should be addressed to Joe DeLosa at Joseph.DeLosa@bpu.nj.gov.

Notices of further action may be issued in this docket.



Aida Camacho-Welch
Secretary of the Board

Dated: January 26, 2021