

## Minutes of the September 20, 2021 Interconnection Working Group (IWG) Meeting

### Attendees:

#### DER Industry/DPS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Company</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Company</u>
Danielle Shultz	NYSEIA	Gurudatta Belavadi	Boreggo Solar
Dhruv Patel	NYSEIA	Katherine Cox Arslan	Boreggo Solar
Gregory Sachs	Empower Solar	Scott Maskin	SUNation
Tara McDermott	Empower Solar	Ronnie Mandler	Best Energy Power
Chris Otness	S R Energy	Jean Pierre Clejan	GreenLogic
Steve Foley	Sunrise Power	Patrick Bean	Tesla
Elizabeth Grisaru	DPS	Nick White	Tesla
Jason Pause	DPS	Kyle Breuning Evans	Tesla

#### PSEG LI/LIPA

<u>Name</u>	<u>Company</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Company</u>
Don Mathew	PSEG LI	Amrit Singh	PSEG LI
Anie Philip	PSEG LI	Anthony Gorgone	PSEG LI
Robert Grassi	PSEG LI	Alex Majeru	PSEG LI
Iram Iqbal	PSEG LI	James Domozych	PSEG LI
Louis Aguilar	PSEG LI	John Ng	PSEG LI
Scott Brown	PSEG LI	Mike Heyer	PSEG LI
Josh Brown	PSEG LI	Reigh Walling	PSEG LI Consultant
Mike Simione	LIPA		

## **Introduction**

Mr. Brown opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and conducting a roll call.

## **IWG Compliance Guidelines**

Mr. Grassi reviewed the Compliance Guidelines with participants, including expectations, procedures, policies and topics to avoid which are stated in the compliance document.

### **1. Voting for Industry Lead & Alternate**

Mr. Brown briefly explained the election procedure for the positions of Industry Primary Lead and Alternate Lead, and asked each nominee to provide a short bio of themselves. Mr. Sachs provided his bio, and Mr. Patel followed shortly thereafter. Mr. Brown thanked the nominees, and commenced the voting process via Zoom. Once the voting concluded, the meeting proceeded to the first presentation on the agenda.

### **2. Industry Presentation: NYS-SIR Updates for PSEGLI: SLD for Solar & ESS Apps, etc.**

Mr. Sachs presented the Industry presentation, which noted the key differences between the SIR (Standardized Interconnection Requirements) and the SGSGIP (Smart Grid Small Generator Interconnection Procedures) documents.

Mr. Sachs and Mr. Brown discussed the Cost-Sharing 2.0 proposal. Ms. Grisar mentioned that there is a sub-team of ITWG members working on further details of the SIR. Ms. Grisar said it would be about 2-3 months before Cost-Sharing 2.0 is finalized, and that the final language would be adopted into the tariffs once approved.

Mr. Sachs said the industry believes well-formed single-line diagrams should be adequate at the application phase. Mr. Sachs also asked the question of whether a well-formed three-line diagram can provide enough information to perform the CESIR, mentioning the Industry believes this to be true. Mr. Mathew, Ms. Iqbal, Mr. Maskin, Mr. Gorgone and Mr. Sachs engaged in discussion regarding the topics of single and three-line diagrams during the application and construction phases. Mr. Mathew stated that SGIP applications are usually not rejected during the application phase based on insufficient electrical diagrams, but pointed out that PSEG LI usually requests more detailed versions later on in the process.

Mr. Sachs said the goal is to try to keep New York State and PSEG LI in sync, and urged the utility to use the material presented as a resource. Mr. Sachs concluded the presentation.

### **3. PSEG LI Presentation: Hosting Capacity Study (U2.0 Plan) / HCM Stage 3 Update**

Mr. Singh presented the Hosting Capacity Study U2.0 plan presentation.

Mr. Sachs asked Mr. Singh to describe what the Hosting Capacity Study analysis is doing in terms of finding constrained areas on the network. Mr. Singh said that the Hosting Capacity Map, through EPRI DRIVE, provides restraints from certain limiting factors and thresholds, but does not focus on solutions. Mr. Singh explained that the study looks toward granular solutions. Mr. Sachs asked if the study is

ultimately looking to determine the best solutions to increase Hosting Capacity, to which Mr. Singh confirmed.

Ms. Philip said the tentative start date of the study would be January 2022, depending on the positive recommendation from NYS Department of Public Service (DPS). Ms. Philip also said that the length of the study would most likely be one year, depending on the amount of work, but that PSEG LI would make all efforts to finish earlier.

Mr. Singh said PSEG LI should have the Stage 3 Hosting Capacity Map up and running by the end of 2021. Mr. Sachs asked for a brief overview of what the Stage 3 map will entail. Mr. Singh said Stage 3 will provide granular, node by node information on what can be interconnected, instead of just feeder-level information.

#### **4. Industry Presentation: Tesla Backup Switch Meter Collar**

Mr. Bean and Mr. Evans introduced themselves as representatives of Tesla, and Mr. Evans gave the presentation on Tesla's Backup Switch Meter Collar.

Mr. Domozych said that the device would need to be reviewed and approved by PSEG LI's Meter Engineering department. Mr. Evans agreed, and expressed that the core objective is to collaborate with the IWG to review the device. Ms. Iqbal asked which New York State utility is currently using this device. Mr. Evans explained that Tesla does not yet have a utility partner in New York State, and that they are still in the transition phase. Mr. Evans added that Tesla is currently going around the country to get approval of the device from different entities. Ms. Iqbal said PSEG LI would take the topic back, and would eventually reach out with more questions.

Mr. Sachs said that the DER Industry will be presenting to the Joint Utilities in a few weeks. Ms. Philip asked if Con Edison is using the device. Mr. Sachs said Con Edison is not using this device, but is using a connector/line-side tap device. Mr. Mandler asked about commercial use of the device. Mr. Bean clarified; stating that by 'commercial use' they meant the device was brought to market.

Mr. Bean said that Tesla is pivoting mainly toward Solar plus Energy Storage.

Mr. Domozych said safety would be the primary review item by PSEG LI, with reliability coming in as a close second, seeking to avoid liability for any potential damages caused by the device or tampering of it. Mr. Evans assured Mr. Domozych that the device has been thoroughly tested with such scenarios in mind. Ms. Iqbal said PSEG LI would take the issue back and discuss it internally.

Mr. Bean said that Tesla has been doing outreach to utilities and regulators in California, but that there is still not really a published process. Mr. Bean added that they are trying to establish a process for transparency.

Mr. Sachs said that the industry is trying to minimize overall cost, and that the goal is to bring in other companies like Tesla to present ideas and new technology. Ms. Philip thanked the Tesla representatives for presenting, and moved on to the next agenda item.

## **5. Announcement of Industry Lead & Alternate**

Mr. Brown presented the election results, and announced the new Industry Primary Lead as Mr. Dhruv Patel, with Mr. Gregory Sachs elected as the Industry Alternate Lead.

Ms. Philip recapped the election results, and thanked all involved for their efforts. Mr. Patel and Mr. Sachs expressed gratitude for the opportunity to serve as the leads of the IWG. Mr. Foley thanked Mr. Sachs for all the work he put in during his time as the IWG Industry Primary lead.

Ms. Philip paused for final comments and questions, thanked everyone for attending, and adjourned the meeting.

**Meeting Adjourned**