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Reforming the Energy Vision

Low-income Solar Initiatives

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Overview of presentation

1. New York's Reforming the Energy Vision
2. NY-Sun low-income program
3. Community Distributed Generation (i.e., shared solar)
4. Other Commission developments impacting low-income solar

Reforming the Energy Vision – REV

REV is Governor Andrew Cuomo's strategy to build a cleaner, more resilient and affordable energy system for all New Yorkers.

REV places clean, locally-produced power at the core of New York's energy system, protecting the environment by reducing greenhouse gas emissions & increasing our use of renewable energy.

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Reforming the Energy Vision is…

Empowering customers to better manage energy…

…through animating markets for distributed energy resources…

… in order to drive toward higher efficiency, lower environmental impacts and increased affordability.

NY State of Opportunity – NY-Sun

Provide long-term certainty to New York's growing solar market and lower the costs for residents and businesses to invest in and benefit from solar power

- Unprecedented solar growth – 575% growth in solar from 2012 to 2015
- 18,313 solar projects installed in 2015
- 525 MW installed – enough to power nearly 85,000 homes
- Strong job growth – 8,250 employed in solar industry in 2015 – New York ranked 4th in the U.S. for number of solar workers

NY-Sun for low-income customers

- $234.5 million over the next three years – committed in 2015
- Incentives and financial support through existing programs:
  - EmPower NY
  - Assisted Home Performance with ENERGY STAR®
  - Green Jobs-Green NY financing program
  - Affordable Solar
  - Solarize

NY-Sun – Affordable Solar Program

- Added incentive for onsite solar installation with owner-occupied low income households
- Matches MW block incentive (doubles the incentive)
- Long Island incentive
- Energy efficiency requirements & income eligibility
- Can be used with various financing options, but must meet cost savings requirement and have no price escalators
- Administered through current NY-Sun incentive process

Results since October 2015

- A SOLID START…
  - 6 single-family solar projects
  - 15 projects approved

- WITH GREAT POTENTIAL…
  - 14 separate installers involved
  - More projects in the pipeline

Community Distributed Generation (CDG)

- Critical tool to effectuate many REV principles
- Expand access and increase affordability
- Compliment to other programs and policies
- Embodies the commitment to low-income energy users as part of the REV initiative

Overview of CDG foundations

- At least 10 members must participate
- Members must be located in the same utility territory and NYISO load zone as the project
- Minimum member allocation of 1,000 kWh annually
- Maximum Member Allocation of the member's historic average annual consumption

Overview of CDG foundations

- Membership terms, including exit or transfer, are defined by sponsor/member contract
- Utility service will not be affected if a member's participation is terminated by the sponsor, for non-payment or otherwise
- Members can alter, transfer or give up ownership after providing 30-day notice

Community DG Implementation

Phase 2 opens Low-income report & recs

Phase 1 opens w/ stipulations

February 10th Straw Proposal Released **2015**

July 17th CDG Order Released

September 1st Utility Community DG Opportunity Zones Filing Deadline

September 9th CDG Low Income Collaborative Meeting

September 15th Utility Tariff Filing Deadline

October 19th CDG Phase 1 Interconnection opens

May 1st CDG Phase 2 Interconnection opens **2016**

Stakeholders engaged in program design

Stakeholders engaged in low-income issues

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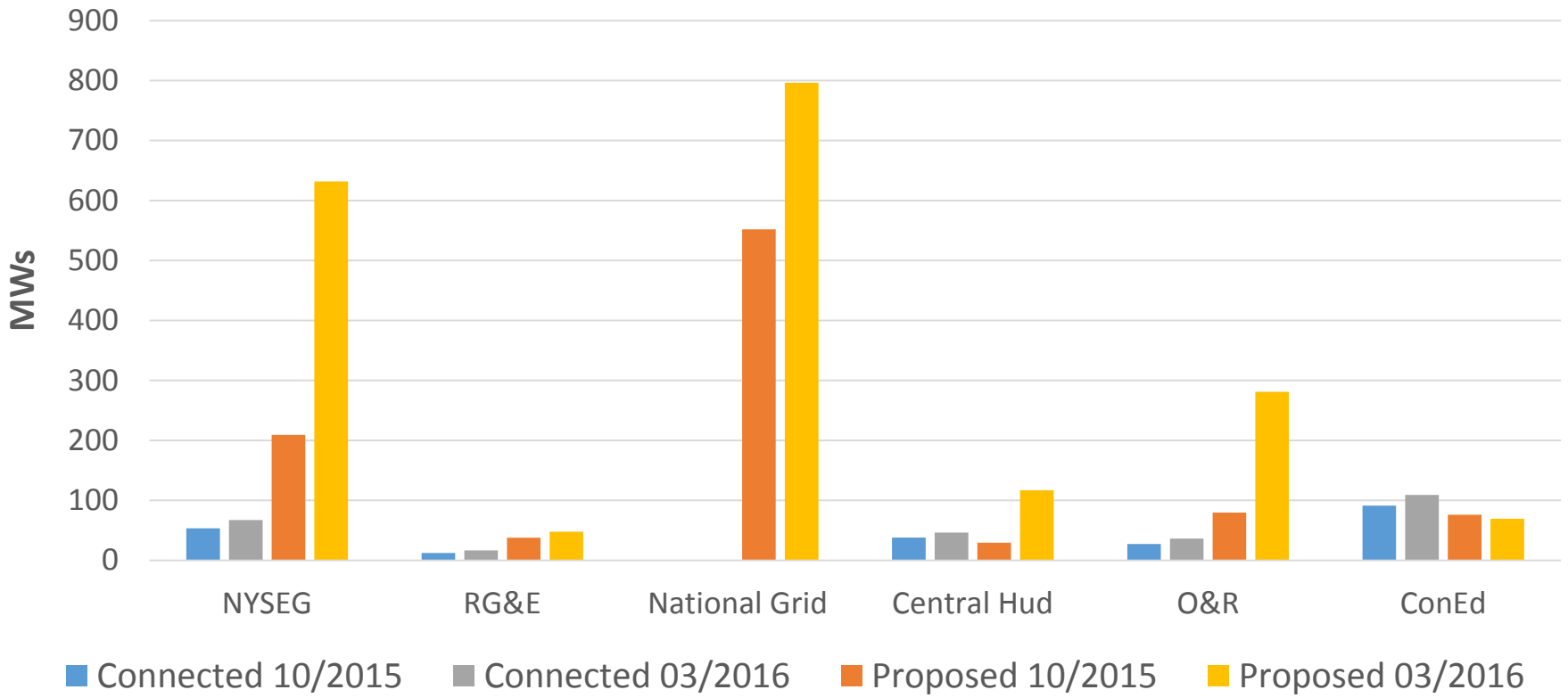
Encouraging low-income participation

- Incentives to solar developers to partner for subscribers with:
  - Portfolios of affordable or public housing developments
  - Social service program channels
  - Other channels to aggregate and enroll low-income subscribers within an existing income verification process
- Technical assistance to potential project sponsors
- Convening support for interested project partners

CDG Low-Income Stakeholder Collaborative

- Investigate barriers and deliberate solutions
- Working Groups
  - Financing
  - Energy Usage Data
  - CDG Customer
  - Incentives
  - Oversight
- Report and recommendations due April 15th

Growth in PV / non-wind – Oct '15 thru Mar '16



Other developments impacting low-income solar

- Clean Energy Standard – ***50% renewables by 2030***
- Value of Distributed Energy Resources
- Proceeding on low-income energy affordability
- Clean Energy Advisory Council – LMI Working Group
- Utility ownership of DER (e.g., National Grid fruit belt)
- Community Choice Aggregation

Where to learn more

- www.ny.gov/rev4ny
- **Follow us**: twitter/rev4ny; facebook/rev4ny
- **CDG Proceeding**: Case 15-E-0082

Thank you!

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