

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

Legislative Report on Costs and Benefits of LMI Adder

Solicitation of Written Public Comments

In 2019 [Senate Bill 165](#)¹ (SB 165) was enacted in part to allow eligible low-moderate income (LMI) community solar projects to receive an adder per kilowatt-hour (kWh) in the amount of 3 cents through June 30, 2021 and 2.5 cents thereafter. SB 165 requires the Department to report on the costs and benefits of the adder, as well as the development of the market LMI community solar projects, with a recommendation provided as to whether the adder should be increased or decreased. That report is due on or before July 1, 2022.

The Department is required to submit its report and recommendations to the House and Senate standing committees with jurisdiction over energy and utility matters. Under RSA 362-A:9 XVI (2), the Department must consider the following issues when preparing the report: (a) costs and benefits of the LMI adder; (b) development of the market for LMI community solar projects; and (c) recommendations on whether the adder should be adjusted upward or downward.

In connection with its preparation of that report, the Department is seeking written public comment regarding those and other related issues. The following list of specific questions and topics have been developed as a guide for stakeholders' comment; however, comments on additional issues believed to be relevant are also welcomed:

- Administrative costs incurred or anticipated in developing projects and securing the LMI adder, in particular any such costs directly related to implementation of on-bill credits and/or the LMI adder and its allocation.
- Any barriers to LMI project development, financing, construction, and operation.
- Any barriers to participation in LMI project development programs, including the Department's LMI grant program and the LMI adder for group net-metered projects.
- Current or anticipated LMI adder program benefits, including benefits to developers, group hosts, LMI participants, and utilities, including both direct and indirect benefits.
- Any financial impacts incurred by LMI adder recipients, such as loss of other program benefits, increased expenses, or tax implications.
- Information regarding specific projects intending to utilize the LMI adder that are currently under development, including details regarding the project implementation process and anticipated timeline for project completion.

This notice and any comments received as a result of this solicitation will be posted to the Department's website at www.energy.nh.gov, and will be publicly available except for any information for which confidential treatment is requested of or granted by the Department, consistent with the provisions of RSA 91-A.

¹ SB 165 is known as the Low-Income Community Solar Act and was enacted as 2019 N.H. Laws Chapter 271.

Stakeholders, including project developers, solar installers, advocates, interconnecting electric distribution utilities, and other interested individuals and organizations, are requested to submit their written comments by May 13, 2022. Comments should be submitted by electronic mail only to this address: engy.groupnetmetering@energy.nh.gov. The Department is seeking written comments only and will not hold a stakeholder session in connection with this matter.