



## IREC Steering Committee Meeting

### Minutes

January 10, 2023 via Zoom

**Present:** Ryan Haac, Nancy Jones, Jenevra Wetmore, Kyle Katz, Elizabeth Ferry, Erica Ko, David Lutz.

**1. No changes or additions to the agenda.**

**2. Approve December 2022 minutes** — will do at February 2023 meeting.

**3. Geoff Martin of Norwich Solar on GMP RFP for Low Income Solar**

Norwich Solar will be submitting a proposal to GMP to build 1-5 megawatt arrays to benefit low and moderate income (LMI) customers. GMP would establish a power purchase agreement with the array's owners. Included in the application proposal is an outreach plan from the developer to include community outreach in the towns that the arrays will serve. Due date: 1/28/23.

Geoff wanted to inform us so that any interested town energy committees could indicate initial support, which would be included in Norwich Solar's proposal. He noted that the RFP does not give specific information such as how LMI will be defined, the cost sharing will be handled, what the discount to customers will be, or whether the RECs will be retained or sold..

General discussion. Geoff was invited to present to the Bradford energy committee that evening.

Action: 1) If interested, other energy committees will indicate that directly to Geoff.

**4. IREC Update: Staff and Towns**

Jeff Grout, a Randolph VT native (recently returned from AZ) has been hired and will be at our next Steering Committee meeting.

We also reviewed IREC town participation for TY 2023-24: Bradford, Norwich, Strafford, Thetford, and Woodstock all anticipate funding renewal at Town Meeting in March. Sharon select board has not included it in the budget; Ryan intended to raise a motion of support from the floor. Barnard is cycling out for now.

**5. RBES Committee Updated, part of the IREC Climate Action Plan**

Summary of progress:

- A. Positive response from our legislators in both the House and Senate to our proposal to allow towns to limit the route for RBES certification to HERS rating. The groundwork has been laid for a bill to be introduced this session.
- B. Promoting resources that our towns can offer regarding efficiency measures in building projects: The steering committee is working with Kevin Geiger to create a checklist, and creating training for town staff.

**6. Forests**

It was asked if TRORC staff could make a map that shows forest blocks in the IREC towns. Bio-Finder is available, but not easy to use.

Action: Kyle will ask Pete Fellows; as Nancy notes, this may already be available.

7. **Next meeting:** 2/14/23 at 1PM.

Action: Kyle will send reoccurring Zoom link.

Respectfully submitted, Elizabeth Ferry