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**Via Electronic Delivery**

September 9, 2025

Hon. Michelle L. Phillips, Secretary  
New York State Public Service Commission  
Three Empire State Plaza  
Albany, NY 12223-1350

Re: Case 20-E-0249 - In the Matter of a Renewable Energy Facility Host Community Benefit Program.

Dear Secretary Phillips:

Pursuant to the New York State Public Service Commission's ("Commission") Order Adopting A Host Community Benefit Program ("HCBP Order"), issued on February 11, 2021, and the Ruling on Extension Request, issued on July 24, 2025, in the above-captioned proceeding, the Village of Groton ("Village") hereby provides its Host Community Benefit Program ("HCBP") Implementation Plan for the Yellow Barn Solar Facility ("Yellow Barn HCBP Plan").<sup>1</sup>

In the HCBP Order, the Commission directed that municipal electric utilities, including the Village, to file individual Implementation Plans within thirty days following notice by New York State Energy Research and Development Authority ("NYSERDA") that NYSERDA has entered into a Renewable Energy Credit ("REC") contract for a Facility located within the affected utility's territory. The Village received a letter from NYSERDA on June 25, 2025, notifying the Village that it had entered into a REC contract with the Yellow Barn Solar Facility ("Facility"). On July 24, 2025, the Secretary granted the Village's request to extend its Implementation Plan filing deadline to September 26, 2025.

**Implementation Plan**

**Summary**

The HCBP will provide an annual bill credit to the Village's residential electric utility customers for each of the first ten years that the Facility operates. The Renewable Owner of the

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<sup>1</sup> Case 20-E-0249, *In the Matter of a Renewable Energy Facility Host Community Benefit Program*, Order Adopting A Host Community Benefit Program (Feb. 11, 2021) ("HCBP Order"); Case 20-E-0249, *supra*, Ruling on Extension Request (July 24, 2025) .

Facility will fund the credits by paying an annual fee (“Program Fee”) of \$500 per megawatt (“MW”) of nameplate capacity. The Facility is located in the Towns of Groton and Lansing. The fees paid by the Facility, less any administrative fees, will be distributed equally among the Village’s residential utility customers, and residential customers served by New York State Electric & Gas Corporation (“NYSEG”) in the Towns of Groton and Lansing. The bill credit will be provided on the first electric bill of the calendar year, after all other adjustments have been applied.

### General Rules

1. The Village shall provide an annual bill credit to its residential electric utility customers for the first ten years that the Facility operates.
2. If the Facility becomes operational before December of a given year, the Renewable Owner will transfer the first annual Program Fee to the Village by December 1, and eligible customers will receive the bill credit on their first electric bill of the following year. If the Facility becomes operational in December, the Renewable Owner will pay the first Program Fee during the next calendar year and eligible customers will receive the bill credit on their first electric bill of the year following receipt of the Program Fee. Delays in remitting payment on the part of the Facility may impact the credit application process to eligible customers.
3. The Village shall apply the bill credit after all other adjustments to the bill have been made. Any remaining credit will be rolled over and applied to the subsequent month’s bill, after all other adjustments have been made, until the bill credit has been depleted. If a customer discontinues service while a credit remains, the Village shall provide that amount to the customer as it would any remaining credit balance.
4. In the case of a new or changing occupant of an eligible residence, the customer of record as of the first billing period of the calendar year will be entitled to the full bill credit for that year. If there is an account transfer, the bill credit will stay with the customer or will be disbursed to the customer if they leave the Village’s service territory. The new customer in the applicable residence will begin receiving the bill credit in the next bill credit implementation cycle and will not receive a proration of the bill credit for the current Program year.

### Administrative Tasks

1. The Village will be notified by the Renewable Owner when the Facility is interconnected.
2. The Village will contact NYSEG. The Village and NYSEG will identify the total number of eligible residential customers within their respective service territories. The utilities will then work together to determine the portion of those customers served by each utility. They will communicate each utilities’ applicable percentage to NYSERDA, so that it may be included on the November 1 notification that NYSERDA will send to utilities. This is a manual task with no plans for automation.
3. The Village will receive notification (the “Notification”) from NYSERDA by November 1 of each year. The Notification shall identify the Facilities that are required to pay the Program Fee that year, the amount of each Facility’s fee, and the utility to be paid.

4. The per customer bill credit amount will be calculated after subtracting an administrative fee, as directed by a Commission Order, from the Program Fees. The Village will then calculate the per customer bill credit amount by dividing the dollar amount of the particular facilities' annual fee by the number of eligible customers served by the Village. The Village will coordinate with NYSEG to ensure each recipient receives the same bill credit amount regardless of village, town, city, or utility. This is a manual task with no plans for automation.
5. The Renewable Owner will transfer the program fee to the utility(ies) by December 1.
6. The Village will compare the Program Fees received on December 1 to the Notification to determine whether the Renewable Owner submit its required payment. If correct payment is not received, the Village will notify NYSERDA. This is a manual task with no plans for automation.

### Disbursement of Bill Credits

1. *Existing feasibility and limitations.* The disbursement of bill credits to eligible residential customers is feasible using existing Village systems and resources. The Village does not anticipate any limitations.
2. *Expected processes administering the bill credits, including processes for identification and verification of applicable beneficiaries.* All of the Village's residential customers are located in the Village of Groton and are served under Service Classification No. 1 of the Village's service tariff. The bill credits will be automatically applied to a residential customers' first bill of the calendar year by adding a new line item reflecting such credits onto their bills. If the credit exceeds the remaining balance on the customer's bill for the month, the remaining credit will be applied to the subsequent month's bill.
3. *How the utility will manage and correct errors in customer identification.* If an error has been found in the identification of a customer, the customer may contact the Village main office or electric department. Village personnel will make note of the information and will review the issue and determine whether a correction is needed.
4. *A mechanism for how customers who believe they are eligible for the bill discount, but who do not receive it, can demonstrate eligibility.* A customer who believes they are eligible to receive a bill credit, but did not receive one, may contact the Village main office or electric department. Village personnel will work with the customer to determine their eligibility.

### Customer Bills

1. *How the utility proposes to identify the bill credits on customers' bills.* The bill credit will be identified as a separate line item on a customer's bill.
2. *Provide examples of how the project(s) will be identified on customers' bills.* As indicated above, the Village will identify the bill credit on a customer's bill as a separate line item. The Village's billing software only allows a line item with 24 characters. The Village proposes the line item description to be as follows: Yellow Barn Fac. HCBP Cr.
3. *Indicate barriers, if any, to providing individualized line items or bill messages.* None.

4. *Include proposed bill message language and any other proposed customer outreach methods.* The Village does not propose any bill messages as the bill credit line item is sufficiently detailed.

Cost Estimates

*Initial Implementation of Program*

IT Development	\$55.87/hour *2 hours	\$111.74
Development of Implementation Plan	\$265/hour * 5 hours	\$1,325.00
Coordination with NYSEG	\$55.87/hour *2 hours	\$111.74
Total		\$1,548.48

*On-Going Annual Costs*

Identifying Eligible Customers	\$55.87/hour * 1 hour	\$55.87
Coordination with NYSEG	\$55.87/hour * 1 hour	\$55.87
Calculating Bill Credit	\$55.87/hour *2 hours	\$111.74
Reconciliation of Bill Credits	\$55.87/hour *2 hours	\$111.74
Reporting and Compliance	\$265/hours * 2 hours	\$530.00
Total		\$865.22

Reporting

Ordering Clause 7 of the HCBP Order, requires the Village to file an annual report by April 1 for the prior calendar year, for each year in which the utility administered the Program for at least one Major Renewable Energy Facility. The Village will submit this report consistent with the annual report guidance documents submitted by Department of Public Service Staff on March 10, 2022.<sup>2</sup>

Please contact the undersigned should you have any questions. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

READ AND LANIADO, LLP  
Attorneys for the Village of Groton

By: Zachary W. Perdek  
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Konstantin Podolny

Attachment

cc: DMM Party List

<sup>2</sup> See Case 20-E-0249, *supra*, HCB Annual Report Guidance (Mar. 10, 2022).