

**Belmont Net Metering Working Group Meeting Minutes**

24 August 2015

2015 SEP -1 AM 9:56

**Town Hall Conference Room 2**

Present: Tony Barnes, Roy Epstein, Robert Gallant, Steve Klionsky & Henry Jacoby

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 p.m.

Chair Epstein opened with notice that the Working Group (WG) had been invited by the Chair of the Light Board to give an update on its progress at the Board's meeting on the morning of 28 August. Epstein told Board Chair Baghdady that the Working Group might have a final report by August 28, but was informed that only an update was expected.

**Editing and Correction of a Draft Working Group Report**

Epstein presented a draft of the WG report, which contained a number of suggested revisions by Member Klionsky. The Group reviewed the draft, sentence by sentence, on a computer with a large screen, making editorial corrections and clarifications in the text. By the end of the available time the Group had progressed to paragraph 18 of the draft report.

**Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the August 4 and 11, 2015 meetings were reviewed, with small corrections made, and approved by vote of the Committee.

**Public Contributions**

Chair Epstein opened the meeting for public comment.

Phil Thayer, commenting on Tony Barnes's expression of a desire for a tariff that is easy to understand, called attention to an August 15, 2014 document that provided a guide to a tariff. A link to the document was provided in an email he had sent to the WG that morning.

Commenting on grandfathering, Thayer pointed out that Phase II was constructed with no grandfathering and suggested that the WG was ratifying the view of Ashley Brown.

Claus Becker, also on grandfathering, commented on the risk taken by those who invested in the interim 2011 to date and pointed out that it is different case for owners coming in with a new (certain) tariff.

Darrell King again described that, when he was considering a solar investment, BL could not explain the Phase I/Phase II tariff situation.

Phil Thayer asked why the recommended provision for potential compensation for solar host that invested before 2011 involved a return period of 15 years. Why not 10 years? Epstein explained that the time period involved compensation, not investment incentive (the longer period being favorable to the solar host).

Mark Robbins argued there is a problem with the way the WG deals with SRECs in its tariff deliberation because other utility systems have to supply RECs whereas BL does not, and he challenged the interpretation of SRECs and RECs as accounting for the social value of solar.

On grandfathering, Robbins argued for five or six years, to create better feeling. He felt the WG's process was better than MLAB's, but that a small amount of money for good feeling would be well spent.

Darrell King inquired about whether the WG's recommendation suits solar hosts who are leasing, pointing out that they acquire no SRECs.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:32 p.m.