

Solar Update Highlights in PA – 10/25/2018

- Act 40 – Closing PA Borders (Oct 30, 2017) – All out of state projects originally certified as eligible to sell SRECs into PA's AEPS have been recoded as Tier 1 resources. Any of those projects with valid contracts with complying entities (EDCs or EGSs) need to file a petition to the PA PUC to reinstate their solar status under the AEPS.
- In spite of Act 40, far less solar is being installed in PA in 2018 compared to 2017 (PA has North of 350 MW installed), and PA needs about 500 MW by June, 2019 – to meet the solar requirement. But, still have significant surplus of banked SRECs, thus keeping the crashed SREC price (\$7-\$12/SREC); Don't expect the price to rise for at least a year out. However, in contrast to that, there has been a recent spike in the PJM queue with more than 1 GW of solar project activity for PA !
- C-PACE (Act 30) – Philadelphia Energy Authority and The SEF (PPL) has taken the lead on holding three stakeholder meetings across PA to frame out the rules for C-PACE for counties and municipalities. All going very well!
- Alternative Ratemaking (Decoupling, etc.) - PA PUC is preparing the rules for alternative ratemaking in PA; Keystone Energy Efficiency Alliance (KEEA), ACEEE, NRDC, and others, including PASEIA, participate in a workgroup to stay engaged in this (I,e, prepare comments).
- AEPS-2 – A small working group (including PASEIA) continues to frame out key elements for extending the Alternative Energy Portfolio Standard (AEPS). One important step needed is a new study to be conducted by a third party – reviewing other states 'RPSs and alternative programs,; potential for PA; potential ratepayer impact , etc.
- PECO Interconnection Issues – 4 kV distribution lines continue to be problematic.....PASEIA polling solar installers regarding their experience with this; coming up with a plan to present to PECO.
- Community Solar – HB2681 introduced (referred to Consumer Affairs Committee) on 10/3/2018 - PA Community Solar Collaborative continues to build with more experienced solar developers that have worked on community solar projects around the country. The bill was introduced prematurely, but the coalition has been redlining it for the next round.
- Carbon Cap & Trade for PA – A strong initiative has been launched to draft a petition for rulemaking with the Environmental Quality Board ((EQB) for a carbon cap & trade program in PA. Proposed regulations have already been drafted for this. PASEIA will be seeking out co-signers from the solar industry as this develops.