Supervisor Romaine Announces PSEG Long Island Award of Feed-In-Tariff for Four Renewable Energy Generating Facilities on Town-Owned Sites

posted on 5/7/2014 10:28:31 AM

May 7, 2014

Farmingville, NY - At a press conference today, Brookhaven Town Supervisor Ed Romaine announced that the Town has been awarded a Feed-in-Tariff for solar arrays on four Town-owned sites. This is Phase Two of Long Island's multi-phase Clean Solar Initiative program, implemented by PSEG Long Island, designed to produce clean, renewable power for Long Island. The locations for the projects are the Town Landfill in Brookhaven hamlet, the Holtsville Ecology Site (pictured below), Brookhaven Calabro Airport in Shirley and the Manorville Compost Facility. The Town will lease the land to American Capital Energy, a solar developer, who will construct the solar arrays and sell the energy to PSE&G Long Island under a long term Power Purchase Agreement. The Town anticipates receiving funds of approximately $4 million to $5 million over the life of the systems for these initial four locations and awarded capacity.

The four Town-owned facilities were selected after a review was conducted by PSEG Long Island, on behalf of LIPA to determine the likelihood of a successful project. The 54,000 solar panels that will be installed are expected to generate 12 megawatts AC (15 megawatts DC) of electricity (18,000,000 kilowatt hours a year), enough to power 2,500 homes for 24 hours a day. The Town will lease the sites to American Capital Energy, Inc. (ACE), a solar developer who will cover the cost of all construction and maintenance. ACE will provide the power to LIPA through a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with the utility company.

Supervisor Ed Romaine said, "Taking the Town green is a priority of my administration and this is a major step forward. By establishing a public/private partnership for our Renewable Energy Plan, we not only benefit the environment, but the taxpayers as well. We recently implemented the first Single Stream Recycling program on Long Island which has been very successful, and now this. Once again, Brookhaven is leading the way with an environmentally friendly program that produces substantial revenue for the Town at no cost to the taxpayer."

Councilman Tim Mazzei, Town Board Liaison to the Department of Waste Management said, "I commend the Supervisor for all he has done to help bring this plan to fruition. Renewable energy is the future and it's our responsibility to do whatever we can to protect and preserve the environment. Generations to come will benefit from the steps we have taken today."

Superintendent of Highways Daniel P. Losquadro said, "By participating in this initiative, Brookhaven Town will be paid a substantial amount of money for the use of its land while also creating ways to produce renewable energy. This program is environmentally friendly, will create jobs and require very little maintenance once these solar panels are installed."Construction will begin at the Brookhaven Landfill and Holtsville Ecology Center sites during the 3rd quarter of 2014, and at the Manorville Compost Facility and Brookhaven Calabro Airport in the 4th quarter of 2014. All four sites will be operational by spring of 2015. ACE estimates that Phase One construction will create 150 full time direct jobs during peak construction times and average 70-80 continuous jobs. In addition, as many as 30 local
support jobs (field survey, engineering, attorneys and consultants) will be created during the course of the project.

Arthur Hennessey, Chairman of American Capital Energy said, "American Capital Energy applauds the Town of Brookhaven for its participation in the PSE&G/Long Island Clean Energy Program. The Town's commitment to this clean, renewable energy project will create hundreds of jobs, dramatically lower the Town's dependence on fossil fuels and significantly reduce the Town's carbon footprint. This is a perfect example of the positive impact a public/private partnership, working together, can achieve. We look forward to continue working with the Town of Brookhaven to bring this project to completion."

"We are pleased to be working with the Town of Brookhaven and ACE to further advance the development of solar energy and the growth of clean energy jobs," said Michael Voltz, director of Energy Efficiency and Renewables for PSEG Long Island. "The success of the Clean Solar Initiative feed-in-tariff program ensures continued growth and diversification of Long Island's renewable energy portfolio, providing safe and adequate long-term energy supply for Long Island."

ACE is the premiere solar engineering, procurement and construction contractor and solar developer in the United States. They work with utilities to meet their renewable energy portfolio standard requirements through strategic partnerships with solar photovoltaic (PV) module manufacturers and experienced installation companies. ACE has installed more than 40 60 MW of solar PV in seven nine states, with an additional 30 MW of solar under construction, and their projects include some of the most challenging brownfield installations and some of the largest solar rooftop arrays in the United States. The sub-contractor on the project is Eldor Contracting Corp., a Holtsville, New York based electrical contracting construction company that specializes in utility-level scale construction for multi-megawatt projects and interconnections, will execute the installation using local labor.

PSEG Long Island operates the Long Island Power Authority's transmission and distribution system under a 12-year contract. PSEG Long Island is a subsidiary of Public Service Enterprise Group Incorporated (NYSE:PEG), a publicly traded diversified energy company with annual revenues of $10 billion.

Division of Public Information * Office of the Supervisor
One Independence Hill • Farmingville • NY 11738 • Phone (631) 451-6595 • Fax (631) 451-6258