

**BEFORE  
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO**

In the Matter of the Application for Certification	)	
As an Ohio Renewable Energy Resource Generation	)	Case No. 21-1224-EL-REN
Facility for Northwest Local Schools-High School	)	

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**REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION  
SUBMITTED ON BEHALF OF THE STAFF OF  
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO**

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**CASE HISTORY**

On November 10, 2021, Northwood Local Schools (Applicant), filed an application for certification of the Northwest Local Schools-High School facility (Facility)<sup>1</sup>.

The facility is located in McDermott, OH. Comprised of 1,404 solar photovoltaic modules, the aggregate capacity of the system is 0.46332 megawatts (MW). According to the application, the facility was placed-in-service on February 8, 2019.

On November 12, 2021, Staff sent the Applicant's representative questions related to the Facility's metering and whether or not the Facility is separately metered from adjacent facilities owned by the Applicant. After discussion with the representative, Staff requested meter information specific to each facility. To date, the meter information has not been provided.

An Attorney Examiner Entry dated December 7, 2021, suspended the automatic approval process for this application.

**STAFF REVIEW**

The Staff's consideration of applications for certification of a renewable energy resource facility consists primarily, but not exclusively, of three statutory criteria: (1) the deliverability of the

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<sup>1</sup> The applicant submitted its application on November 10, 2021, and Staff initiated a case to consider the application on the Commission's Docketing Information System on December 7, 2021.

facility's output to the state of Ohio, (2) the resource/technology used at the facility, and (3) the facility's placed-in-service date.

1) Deliverability

Under R.C. 4928.64(B)(3), a qualifying renewable energy resource must either have a facility located in Ohio, or be deliverable into Ohio. Further, Ohio Administrative Code (Ohio Adm.Code) 4901:1-40-01(F) defines "deliverable into this state" as follows:

"Deliverable into this state" means that the electricity or qualifying biologically derived methane gas originates from a facility within a state contiguous to Ohio. It may also include electricity originating from other locations, pending a demonstration that the electricity is physically deliverable to the state.

The Facility is located in Ohio, meeting the deliverability requirement of the statute.

2) Resource/Technology

The R.C. defines "renewable energy resource" for purposes of the state's renewable portfolio standard (RPS).<sup>2</sup> This statutory definition of a renewable energy resource includes solar photovoltaic, and therefore Staff concludes that the Facility satisfies the resource/technology provision of the statute.

3) Placed-in-service Date

The Facility must satisfy one of the applicable statutory provisions pertaining to the placed-in-service date.<sup>3</sup> With the Facility having been placed-in-service after January 1, 1998, Staff finds that the Facility satisfies the applicable placed-in-service date requirement.

4) Additional Considerations

- (a) For electric generating facilities, Commission rules require that facilities above 6 kilowatts measure their renewable output with a utility-grade meter.<sup>4</sup>

As described above, the Applicant has not adequately demonstrated that the Facility satisfies the meter requirements for certification.

- (b) The Facility must be registered with either M-RETS or PJM EIS' GATS, the two attribute tracking systems currently recognized by the Commission. The application indicates an intent to register the Facility with GATS.

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<sup>2</sup> R.C. 4928.01(A)(37)

<sup>3</sup> R.C. 4928.64(A)(1)

<sup>4</sup> Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-40-04(C)(2)(e).

## **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Staff has completed its review of the application and any supplemental information provided by the Applicant. Because the Applicant has not adequately demonstrated that the Facility satisfies the meter requirements for certification, Staff recommends the Commission deny the application.

**This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities  
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**Case No(s). 21-1224-EL-REN**

Summary: Staff Review and Recommendation electronically filed by Chester A  
Kowalski on behalf of Staff