Message

From: Katherine Sparkes [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=DB35AB1EAB764FB98ADFCC8273E65E1D-KATHERINE S]
Sent: 2017-06-07 10:57:16 PM
To: Terry Young [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=872fa3f6e61a48709b11458c0c3b6ca6-Terry Young]
Subject: Fwd: CanSIA Position re: GOF residential solar incentives and microFIT program timing

FYI.

Begin forwarded message:

From: Wes Johnston <wjohnston@cansia.ca>
Date: June 7, 2017 at 8:44:07 PM EDT
To: Katherine Sparkes <Katherine.Sparkes@ieso.ca>
Cc: Wes Johnston <wjohnston@cansia.ca>
Subject: FW: CanSIA Position re: GOF residential solar incentives and microFIT program timing

Hi Katherine,

I was great to meet with you on Monday.

I realize I owe you a few deliverables which I will get to you before the end of the week. In the meantime, I wanted to share this email with you which I sent to both the MOECC and MOE. From my conversations with both Adam Shedletzky and Meaghan Coker, they appeared to support the idea of there being some overlap between the GOF solar incentives and the microFIT program. Let me know if you have any thoughts or comments on the below points and I would be happy to discuss.

Thanks,
Wes

Wesley Johnston, MBA, MAES
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From: Wes Johnston
Sent: June 7, 2017 8:37 PM
To: Adam.Shedletzky@ontario.ca
Cc: Coker, Meaghan (ENERGY) <Meaghan.Coker@ontario.ca>; Wes Johnston <wjohnston@cansia.ca>
Subject: CanSIA Position re: GOF residential solar incentives and microFIT program timing

Hi Adam,

It was good to meet you yesterday and thank you for taking the time to speak with the group. As per our discussion, please find the requested information below.

GOF residential solar incentives and microFIT program

CanSIA's understanding, according to the IESO, is that the official closure of the microFIT program will take place during the month of December 2017, however, the official date and communications messaging around this announcement are still being developed. To ensure a smooth transition from microFIT to net metering utilizing Green Ontario Fund (GOF) residential solar incentives, CanSIA believes that there should be at least three (3) to four (4) months overlap between the two programs. Therefore, CanSIA believes the GOF solar incentives program should be launched in September 2017. CanSIA's rationale for this overlap approach includes the following points:

1) Program Beta Testing: The three (3) to four (4) months overlap in 2017 can serve as a testing period for the program delivery agent (e.g. IESO). This period will allow the program delivery agent to make necessary changes, work out any kinks, and to ensure that the program implementation is working properly in advance of the official closure of the microFIT program.

2) Industry Transition: Officially announcing the GOF solar incentives program as early as possible (i.e. July or August) and officially launching the GOF solar incentive program in September 2017, provides solar companies with greater market certainty for business planning purposes regarding capital, human, and other resource investments. CanSIA has recently heard from some members they expect to exit the solar industry due to unfeasible project economics (without solar incentives).

3) Fair Hydro Plan Impacts: The impact of the Ontario Fair Hydro Plan has resulted in all potential net metered solar projects being uneconomical. By making net metered solar projects eligible for the forthcoming GOF residential solar incentives, it would enable this market sector to start operating again and help solar companies retain their staff, instead of laying them off and trying to have them return later.

4) Eliminate Double Dipping: Have the forthcoming GOP residential program structured in a way that eliminates the possibility for one solar project to take advantage of two incentives programs, the other being the microFIT program.

Furthermore, as a backup measure, if the launch of the GOF residential solar incentives must wait until January 1, 2018, due to administrative and technology implementation challenges or other reasons, it would be helpful to provide clear guidance to the industry regarding the incentive eligibility requirements. Easy to understand and pre-approved eligibility criteria could enable the solar industry to start the sales process with potential customers, even if the official GOF cheques or vouchers are delivered in early 2018. As such, projects sold and build during this time could be 'grandfathered' into the GOF solar incentives program.

In addition, CanSIA would also recommend that the commercial and industrial solar incentives be launched in the fall due to the fact that the FIT program has already officially closed.

Thank you for your consideration. Please let me if you have any questions or would like to discuss these points further.

Best regards,
Wes

P.S. I have included Meaghan Coker on this email as I had a similar conversation with her on this matter and she was also interested in understanding CanSIA's position. I'm happy to follow up with both if you have any comments or questions.

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