

## Thetford Strafford Community Solar – Questions Raised During the 3/10 Gathering

- Which is less costly – house or community solar? Community solar allows for economy of scale, but has insurance, taxes, lease payments.
- What does it cost to retain the RECs? Essentially we lose the solar adder (\$.04/kWh)
- How does the Town of Thetford benefit? By agreeing to purchase ~11% of the array net-metering credits at a 10% discount.
- What kind of risks for the shareholder? The responsibility of on-going costs of maintaining the array, covering the deductible for any damage to the array, decommissioning the facility at the end of its useful life.
- What happens if the shareholder moves? If in GMP territory, can transfer credits to new account. If no longer GMP, then can sell the shares, first offered to other members, then to new folks.
- Would the array be visible from the road? Depends on the amount of tree clearing, but most likely not.
- How is the LLC managed? Similar to the water groups in town.
- What happens if shareholder dies and has no heirs in GMP territory? The same options are available to the estate as to the shareholder.
- If you buy more than you use in a year, you can make arrangements for another meter to benefit. Changes can be made to the meter allocation 2 times per year.
- How do the administrative tasks get taken care of? The LLC has a board and an operating agreement.
- Credits go away at the end of a rolling year.
- Is a gift of extra net-metering credits to a non-profit tax deductible? Ask your tax advisor.
- How do the next steps go? The LLC chooses an installer; signs the lease; submits the Certificate of Public Good application (with a group of members – does not have to be the final group)
- How do you know how large to build the array? For economy of scale – large as possible – sweet spot just under 150 kW AC.
- Will the cap get raised? PSB deciding, but has a goal of 90% renewable by 2050, so most likely yes.
- Will there be other opportunities for community solar projects? Yes, smaller 15 kW community solar projects could be built this year...Energy Committee can help.
- When technology changes, can we adapt? Members can choose to do incorporate new inverters/panels over time.

- If the project becomes oversubscribed, will there be a back list? Yes – and then a second array can be built.
- How much energy does a heat pump use per year? Depends on individual usage (and whether used for AC in summer). Bob Farnham to share estimates from Efficiency Vermont.
- Why is there a Net-Metering cap? To monitor and control growth of the industry to protect rate payers.

Do you have more questions? Please ask us by emailing [dori.wolfe@gmail.com](mailto:dori.wolfe@gmail.com) or calling Dori on her cell – 802-272-2328.