

GENERAL INFORMATION

40. Renewable Energy Access and Community Help Program (“REACH”) Program

A customer participating in the Company’s Low-Income Program, as specified in Rule 4.U, that also resides within an area deemed to be a Disadvantaged Community (“DAC”) by the Climate Justice Working Group (“CJWG”), which may be modified at the discretion of the CJWG may receive a monthly credit under the REACH Program.

a. Definitions:

Customer Share: is the amount of Value Stack compensation that remains after the Small-Scale REACH Project Payment, and the Utility Administration Fee.

Large-Scale REACH Projects: Renewable energy projects or bulk energy storage projects sized greater than 5 MW that participate in the REACH Program through direct coordination with the New York Power Authority (“NYPA”).

REACH Credit Pool: is the sum of all Small-Scale REACH Projects’ Customer Share revenue in addition to the revenue received from NYPA for Large-Scale REACH Projects and Third-Party Participants, plus any returned Utility Administration Fee. Any associated carrying charges shall be applied based on the Company’s pre-tax Weighted Average Cost of Capital (WACC) to the balance of the REACH Credit Pool throughout the year. The REACH Credit Pool balance as of November 1st of each year shall be used in the calculation of the monthly REACH Customer Credit.

REACH Project Compensation Level: percentage of the total Value Stack compensation, in accordance with Rule 26.B, paid to NYPA or their designee that is determined at the time of project enrollment.

REACH Project Payment: Monthly payment made to NYPA or their designee participating in REACH.

Small-Scale REACH Projects: Renewable energy projects sized 5 MW or less that are planned, designed, developed, financed, constructed, owned, operated, maintained or improved, or contracted for by the NYPA as a renewable energy project participating in the REACH Program as authorized by Public Service Law §66-p.

Third-Party Participants: Third parties participating in the REACH Program through direct coordination with NYPA.

Utility Administration Fee: a fee to offset incremental costs incurred to implement and administer the REACH Program.

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b. Project Eligibility:

- i. Small-Scale REACH Projects are eligible for the REACH Program subject to the conditions below:
 1. Non-Operational Projects
 - a. Small-Scale REACH Projects that have paid the 25% interconnection deposit or when an SIR Contract has been executed, if no such payment is required, may elect to participate in the REACH program at that time.
 - b. Small-Scale REACH Projects must qualify for Value Stack compensation pursuant to the eligibility requirements set forth in Rule 26.B.
 - c. Small-Scale REACH Projects electing to participate must forgo the following awarded NY-Sun incentives: Community Adder (“CA”), Community Credit (“CC”), Market Transition Charge (“MTC”), or the Inclusive Community Solar Adder (“ICSA”).
 2. Operational Projects
 - a. Small-Scale REACH Projects owned, operated, maintained or improved, or contracted for by NYPA may transition from Value Stack Community Distributed Generation (Rule 23) to the REACH Program.
 - b. NYPA must make the Company aware of the intent to enroll such projects in the REACH Program by submitting to the Company an allocation form with no subscriber accounts at least 60 days prior to date in which the project wishes to participate in the REACH Program.
 - c. The monetary amount in a transitioning Small-Scale REACH Project’s host bank at the time of transition would be split between the REACH Project Payment, REACH Credit Pool, and the Utility Administration Fee, based on the current Compensation Level set forth on the effective S-SFA Compensation Statement found at the end of this Schedule.
- ii. The Small-Scale REACH Project shall complete a REACH Project Participation Agreement with the Company.
- iii. The Small-Scale REACH Project shall provide the necessary information as provided in the REACH Procedural Requirements for the Company to pay the project.
- iv. The Small-Scale REACH Project must be current on their utility account to be eligible and participate in REACH.
- v. The Company shall confirm a Small-Scale REACH Projects eligibility with NYPA prior to enrollment.

c. REACH Program Customers

The REACH Program shall provide a monthly credit to eligible customers participating in the Statewide Solar for All Program pursuant to Rule 39. All limitations and policies specified in Rule 39 apply to REACH program recipients including dual participation and removal from the program.

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d. REACH Customer Credit Calculation

- i. The Company shall determine the fixed dollar amount that will be credited to participating REACH Program Customers’ total electric charges on a monthly basis for the upcoming year.
- ii. The monthly REACH Customer Credit will be determined as:
 - a) $\text{REACH Customer Credit} = \text{REACH Credit Pool} / (\text{number of eligible REACH Program Customers at the time of the REACH Customer Credit calculation} / \text{number of billing months in which customers will receive the REACH Customer Credit})$
 - b) Any overcollection of the Utility Administration Fee compared to actual administrative and implementation costs shall be added to the REACH Credit Pool for disbursement to REACH Program Customers.
 - c) The REACH Customer Credit shall be aggregated with the S-SFA Customer Credit (Rule 39) and shall be displayed on a customer’s bill as “S-SFA/REACH”.
- iii. The REACH Customer Credit will be applied to the electric portion of customers’ bills, after the application of any other applicable customer bill credits.
- iv. If the REACH Customer Credit causes a customer’s monthly bill to be less than zero, the amount less than zero caused by the REACH Customer Credit will be banked to a customer’s account and applied to future bills.
 - a) If a customer closes their account with a negative balance that was the result of a REACH Customer Credit, such credit shall be returned to the Credit Pool.
- v. By October 1 of each year, beginning in 2026, NYPA shall distribute to the Company the allocated revenues from Large-Scale REACH Projects and Third-Party Participants accumulated over the previous year.
 - a) The Company shall include Large-Scale REACH Project and Third-Party Participant revenue received from NYPA in the REACH Credit Pool.

e. REACH Project Compensation Methodology

- i. The compensation for the REACH Project shall be in accordance with Rule 26.B. Value Stack, multiplied by the project’s established Compensation Level.

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f. REACH Project Compensation Level and Payment

- i. The REACH Project Compensation Level shall be assigned to a Small-Scale REACH Project at the time the project has paid at least 25% of their interconnection costs or when an SIR Contract has been executed, if no such payment is required, based on the current New York State Energy Resource and Development Authority (“NYSERDA”) Standard Offer.
 1. The Standard Offer accepted by a project shall remain with the project for a period of 25 years.
- ii. Standard Offer Compensation Levels shall be set by the NYSERDA and reviewed at least annually by Department of Public Service Staff (“DPS Staff”).
- iii. Payments to NYPA or their designee shall be issued within 40 days from the end of the Small-Scale REACH Project bill date.
- iv. The Small-Scale REACH Project must be current on their utility account tied to the project.
- v. The payment shall not be reduced for amounts owed to the Company on the retail bill. However, the Company shall withhold payments until the Small-Scale REACH Project is current on their utility account.
- vi. NYPA shall provide the Company with the necessary information for the Company to pay the compensation in the REACH Participation Agreement.

g. REACH Project Unenrollment

- i. A participating Small-Scale REACH Project may unenroll from the REACH Program with a minimum of twelve (12) months’ notice. Small-Scale REACH Projects that unenroll retain any Value Stack component rates locked-in at time of interconnection.
- ii. Payments based on the Compensation Level will expire at such time that the Small-Scale REACH Project terminates participation in the REACH Program or has reached the end of the 25-year compensation period, whichever is sooner.
- iii. If there is a change in account name for the premises on which the Small-Scale REACH Project is located, the new Customer must apply for service under this Rule to receive compensation.
 1. A change in account name shall not reset the 25-year compensation period.

h. Utility Administration Fee

- i. The fee will be one percent of the Value Stack compensation of each Small-Scale REACH Project and one percent of revenue received from NYPA for Large-Scale REACH Projects and Third-Party Participants.

i. Statement

- i. The REACH Customer Credit statement shall be filed with the Public Service Commission on not less than fifteen (15) days’ notice prior to the effective date. Such statement may be found at the end of this Schedule.