

November 5, 2021

Submitted Electronically

Kimberly D. Bose
Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20426

Re: *New York Independent System Operator, Inc.*, Proposed Tariff Amendments to Modify the Data Reporting Requirements for Small Intermittent Power Resources that Depend on Solar Energy for Their Fuel; Docket No. ER22-____-000.

Dear Ms. Bose:

The New York Independent System Operator, Inc. (“NYISO”) submits this filing pursuant to Section 205 of the Federal Power Act,¹ and Part 35 of the regulations of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (“Commission”), proposing amendments to its Market Administration and Control Area Services Tariff (“Services Tariff”).² As further explained in Section V of this filing letter, the tariff amendments described herein are proposed to become effective at different times. The proposed revisions to Services Tariff Section 5.8.1 that will exempt small Intermittent Power Resources that depend on solar energy as their fuel (*i.e.*, 20 MW or fewer) from the requirements to collect and communicate Energy forecasting data are contained in Attachments I and II to this filing letter, and are proposed to become effective January 5, 2022. A second set of proposed modifications contained in Attachments III and IV to this filing letter revises the solar forecasting data requirements for Distributed Energy Resources (“DER”), also located in Services Tariff Section 5.8.1.³ The NYISO proposes to make the second set of proposed tariff revisions submitted with this filing effective when the NYISO implements its Commission-accepted DER participation model.⁴

The NYISO Management Committee unanimously approved both sets of the proposed revisions submitted with this filing on September 29, 2021.

¹ 16 U.S.C. §824d.

² Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meaning specified in the Services Tariff.

³ The NYISO’s DER participation model tariff reversions were accepted by the Commission in Docket No. ER19-2276-000, *et al.* See *New York Indep. Sys. Operator, Inc.*, 170 FERC ¶ 61,033 (Jan. 23, 2020) (“DER Order”).

⁴ The NYISO anticipates making its DER participation model effective in the fourth quarter of 2022. The actual date upon which the NYISO makes its DER participation model effective will also depend on the result of the NYISO’s Order No. 2222 compliance filing proceeding in Docket No. ER21-2460-000.

I. List of Documents Submitted

The NYISO submits the following documents with this filing letter:

1. A clean version of the proposed revisions to the NYISO's Services Tariff to be effective on January 5, 2022 ("Attachment I");
2. A blackline version of the proposed revisions to the NYISO's Services Tariff to be effective on January 5, 2022 ("Attachment II");
3. A clean version of the proposed revisions to the NYISO's Services Tariff to be effective on the date the NYISO implements its DER participation model ("Attachment III"); and
4. A blackline version of the proposed revisions to the NYISO's Services Tariff to be effective on the date the NYISO implements its DER participation model ("Attachment IV").

II. Correspondence

All communications and correspondence concerning this filing should be directed to:

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III. Background and Justification

A. Intermittent Power Resources that Depend on Solar Energy as Their Fuel

Services Tariff Section 5.8.1 requires all Intermittent Power Resources that depend on solar energy as their fuel (referred to herein as "solar resources") to collect certain data for Energy forecasting and provide such data to the NYISO, or its agent. The NYISO introduced these requirements in 2018, consistent with the obligations set forth in Order No. 764⁵ and the

⁵ *Integration of Variable Energy Resources*, Order No. 764, 139 FERC ¶ 61,246 at P 177 (2012).

NYISO's previously established data submission requirements for wind resources. Today, the NYISO requires each solar resource, regardless of its size, to provide data on plane of array irradiance and back panel temperature. The data provision requirements were designed to facilitate the NYISO's ability to develop site-specific energy forecasts for solar resources that participate in the NYISO-administered wholesale energy markets.

The NYISO proposes herein to revise its Services Tariff to exempt small solar resources, defined as resources with a nameplate capacity of no larger than 20 MW, from the Services Tariff Section 5.8.1 data collection and reporting requirements. NYISO's forecast vendor has access to or is provided all of the data necessary from other sources to forecast Energy production from small solar resources consistent with the characteristics and location of such facilities. The forecast vendor uses a combination of satellite data, weather data and data from the New York State Mesonet⁶ ("NYS Mesonet") stations to prepare the Energy production forecast used by the NYISO. NYS Mesonet data, comprised of irradiance and weather information for all areas of New York State, is sent to the NYISO once per hour.

The NYS Mesonet data makes requiring small solar resources to collect and provide data for Energy forecasting duplicative. The NYISO's forecast vendor has access to the data necessary to prepare consistent and accurate Energy forecasts for small solar resources. Therefore, requiring small solar resources to collect and provide the same data is unnecessary and can be eliminated to reduce expenses and burdens on small solar resources. The NYISO's proposal to exempt small solar resources from collecting and reporting data for Energy forecasting will reduce the burden and expense imposed on all small solar resources participating in NYISO's markets, including the eighty-eight small solar resources currently in the NYISO's interconnection queue.

The NYISO's proposal to exempt small solar resources from forecasting data collection and reporting requirements is consistent with the Commission's directives in Order No. 764. Order No. 764 was focused on large generators, *i.e.*, *more* than 20 MW, and the order provided flexibility for regions to develop targeted data reporting requirements to satisfy the forecasting entity's specific needs.⁷ The NYISO will continue to require all Intermittent Power Resources

⁶ The NYS Mesonet includes 126 standard weather stations located in every county of the state. Each station is equipped with automated sensors that measure irradiance (watts per square meter of sunlight) and weather data, such as temperature, humidity, snow depth, soil moisture and wind speed. The network's data is collected every five minutes and transmitted to a headquarters located at the University of Albany for quality control. NYS Mesonet also provides accurate forecasting data for behind-the-meter solar resources (*e.g.*, rooftop solar).

⁷ *See*, Order No. 764 at PP 177, 192, 194, and 196. In the order, the Commission amended the pro forma LGIA to include the reporting requirements adopted. Paragraph 196 of the order states that "the Commission declines suggestions to implement data reporting requirements through the pro forma OATT instead of the pro forma LGIA or to include the requirements in the pro forma SGIA".

that are classified as large generators to submit data necessary for accurate Energy forecasting, consistent with the directives of Order No. 764.⁸

B. Aggregations Containing Intermittent Power Resources that Depend on Solar Energy as Their Fuel

Consistent with the discussion above and the NYISO's forthcoming DER participation model, the NYISO proposes a second set of revisions to Services Tariff Section 5.8.1 that will exempt Aggregations of solar resources from the otherwise applicable data reporting requirements when the total capability of the Aggregation is 20 MW or less. The NYISO's forecast vendor will be able to forecast Energy production from these solar resource Aggregations based on the same data it utilizes to forecast Energy from stand-alone solar resources of 20 MW or less.

IV. Description of Proposed Revisions to Services Tariff Section 5.8.1

A. Proposed Revisions to Services Tariff Section 5.8.1 applicable to stand-alone solar resources

The first set of proposed revisions submitted with this filing modifies the currently-effective Services Tariff Section 5.8.1 as shown in blackline in Attachment II. These proposed revisions specify that the obligation to collect and communicate Energy forecasting data shall not apply to any Intermittent Power Resource that depends on solar energy as its fuel with a nameplate capacity of 20 MW or fewer.

B. Proposed Revisions to Services Tariff 5.8.1 applicable to Aggregations of solar resources

The second set of proposed revisions modifies Services Tariff Section 5.8.1 as applicable to Aggregations of solar resources. These proposed revisions, shown in blackline in Attachment IV, expand the revisions shown in Attachment II to specify that the obligation to collect and communicate Energy forecasting data shall not apply to (i) any *stand-alone* Intermittent Power Resource that depends on solar energy as its fuel with a nameplate capacity of 20 MW or fewer (consistent with the revisions discussed above), or (ii) any Aggregation comprised entirely of Intermittent Power Resources that depend on solar energy as their fuel with a total nameplate capacity of 20 MW or fewer.

⁸ Small Intermittent Power Resources with wind as their fuel source will also be required to continue to comply with the data requirements outlined in Services Tariff Section 5.8.1. NYISO's forecast vendor does not have the necessary data to forecast Energy production from small wind resources.

The NYISO also proposes ministerial revisions to Services Tariff Sections 5.8 and 5.8.1 to correct grammar, to organize the list of exceptions in a logical manner, and to clarify references to the exceptions.

V. Effective Date

The NYISO respectfully requests a January 5, 2022 effective date (*i.e.*, the day following the end of the statutory 60-day notice period) for the tariff revisions described in Section IV.A of this filing letter and proposed in Attachments I and II to this filing.

The NYISO further requests a flexible effective date for the tariff revisions described in Section IV.B of this filing letter and proposed in Attachments III and IV to this filing. The NYISO proposes to make these tariff revisions effective in conjunction with the implementation of the DER participation model. The NYISO cannot propose a precise effective date at this time.⁹ The NYISO proposes to submit a Notice of Effective Date for the applicable tariff revisions in in this Docket, and all applicable dockets related to the NYISO's DER participation model, at least two weeks prior to the requested effective date. Consistent with Commission precedent, the compliance filing will provide adequate notice to the Commission and Market Participants of the implementation date for the proposed revisions.¹⁰

VI. Stakeholder Approval

The Management Committee unanimously approved the proposed revisions to the Services Tariff on September 29, 2021. The NYISO Board of Directors approved the proposed tariff revisions on October 18, 2021.

VII. Service List

The NYISO will send an electronic link to this filing to the official representative of each of its customers, each participant on its stakeholder committees, the New York State Public Service Commission, and the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities. The NYISO will also post the complete filing on its website at www.nyiso.com.

⁹ The NYISO originally intended to make its DER participation model effective between October 1, 2021 and December 31, 2021, but now anticipates making it effective in 2022.

¹⁰ See, e.g., *New York Indep. Sys. Operator, Inc.*, 106 FERC ¶ 61,111 at P 10 (2004); Docket No. ER 11-2544-000, *New York Indep. Sys. Operator, Inc.*, Letter Order at 1 (February 10, 2011); Docket No. ER15-485-000, *New York Indep. Sys. Operator, Inc.*, Letter Order at 2 (January 15, 2015); *New York Indep. Sys. Operator, Inc.*, 151 FERC ¶ 61,057 at P 20 (2015).

VIII. Conclusion

The NYISO respectfully requests that the Commission accept the tariff revisions proposed in this filing, without modification, with the two distinct effective dates described in Part V above.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ James H. Sweeney

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