

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

Order Instituting Rulemaking to Enhance the Role of
Utilities and Respondents in Meeting the State's Resource
Planning Needs and Operational Requirements.

Rulemaking 9-9-13
Filed September 9, 2013

**STEM, INC. AND SOLARCITY CORPORATION COMMENTS ON THE ASSIGNED
COMMISSIONER AND ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE RULING AND SCOPING
MEMO**

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December 13, 2013

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

Order Instituting Rulemaking to Enhance the Role of
Customers and Respondents in Meeting the State's Resource
Planning Needs and Operational Requirements.

Rulemaking 19-09-0001
Filed September 19, 2019

In accordance with the California Public Utilities Commission's ("Commission's") Rules of Practice and Procedure (State Bar and SolarCity Corporation ("Joint Parties")) submitted this opening comments on the *Assigned Commission and Administrative Law Judge Ruling and Scoping Memo* issued by Assigned Commission (Michael Perry) and Assigned Administrative Law Judge Kelly Hyatt on November 13, 2019 (hereinafter the "Scoping Memo").

I. DESCRIPTION OF STEM INC.

Stem is a developed, owned and operated of grid-connected advanced energy storage systems. Stem was founded in 2011, 9 in California and has a portfolio of projects in operation and in various stages of development around the state. Stem systems install and interconnect at customer sites behind the utility meter. The Company uses advanced analytics to send control signals to charge and discharge the storage devices through forecasting customer load for optimal economic benefit. Stem systems when operated in aggregate also provide a resiliency and dispatchable grid resource located in congested load centers offering local capacity flexibility, a peaking transmission congestion relief and if so desired by the host distribution utility, distributed voltage and reactive power management to assist in the delivery of high quality power to ratepayers.

II. DESCRIPTION OF SOLARCITY

SolarCity is California's leading full service solar power provider for homeowners and businesses - a single source for engineering, design, financing, installation, monitoring and

support. Our company provides cost-effective financing that enables customers to eliminate the high upfront costs of deploying solar. SolarCity has more than 10,000,000 solar panels installed at residential facilities around the state.

III. INTRODUCTION

The Joint Parties are supportive of the Commission's efforts to increase the penetration of distributed (distributed) generation ("DG") in California's electric system. SolarCity has played a critical role in providing a liability solution in California for distributed and has an opportunity to further the distributed system cost.

IV. COMMENTS ON BIFURCATION OF DER

Joint Parties support the Commission's effort to examine splitting DER between distributed and supply (distributed). Joint Parties believe another way to view the difference between distributed and supply-side DER is by dispatchability. Distributed-side DER represents the Commission's distributed (distributed) application to non-dispatchable while supply-side DER serves to dispatchable.

As stated a robust dispatchability is a key component for reducing system cost. As such, Joint Parties support examining the state's DER program as either dispatchable or non-dispatchable.

Curent non-dispatchable DER in California is based on static (static) signals while dispatchable DER can respond to dynamic (dynamic) signals of system contingencies.

Joint Parties believe both dispatchable and non-dispatchable DER add value to the California power system but this is open to valuation separately.

V. COMMENTS ON COST ALLOCATION

If the Commission proceeds with the proposed bifurcation Joint Parties support a review of the cost allocation methodologies for supply-side or dispatchable DER. Since the program is open to all (all) stakeholders (stakeholders) (stakeholders) than time-of-use (time-of-use) signals to customers (customers) Joint Parties believe the valuation should be updated as well.

Updating the cost allocation methodology for supply-side dispatch should be part of a stakeholder process managed by the Commission.

VIII. CONCLUSION

Joint Parties support the Commission's decision to assess California's RPO goals through the lens of system cost reduction. We believe that this goal for multiple RPOs in the state (resources and the costs and benefits of those products should be considered independently.

Respectfully submitted



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