



OFFICE OF UTILITIES REGULATION

Regulating Utilities for the Benefit of All

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OUR fast-tracks Renewable Energy Power Purchase Agreements

(KINGSTON, Jamaica; February 14, 2014): The Office of Utilities Regulation (OUR) has moved up the date for the signing of the Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) for the three entities selected to provide the 78 MW of renewable energy capacity. They are now expected to sign the PPAs with Jamaica Public Service in February 2014 instead of the June 2014 original date.

“Given the country’s imperative under the National Energy Policy, the regulatory body is keen to have the agreements signed as a step towards the official start and eventual completion of the projects,” says OUR’s Director General, Albert Gordon.

From the recent Request for Proposals (RFPs) for 115 MW of renewable energy capacity, three bidders were selected for energy only projects totalling 78MW. They are Blue Mountain Renewables LLC, to supply 34MW of capacity from wind power at Munro, St. Elizabeth; Wigton Windfarm Limited, to supply 24MW of capacity from wind power at Rose Hill, Manchester; and WRB Enterprises Inc., to supply 20MW of capacity from Solar PV from facilities in Content Village, Clarendon.

The OUR expects to be in a position to return to the market later in the year to identify firm capacity from renewable sources as no suitable bids for such projects were identified in the proposals received. The OUR will continue to provide updates on these and other critical projects according to the respective developments.

BACKGROUND:

On November 26, 2012, the OUR issued an RFP inviting interested entities to submit proposals for the supply of one or more plants of varying configurations greater than 100kW and up to 115 MW of renewable energy electricity generation to the national grid on a Build Own and Operate (BOO) basis.

The Ministry of Science, Technology, Energy and Mining (MSTEM) in its National Energy Policy (NEP) 2009-2030, has identified fuel diversification and the development of the country’s renewable energy sources as two of its main objectives. The request for renewable electrical energy and/or capacity from renewable sources is in keeping with the Government of Jamaica’s (GOJ’s) vision of having 12.5% electrical energy from renewable energy sources by 2015 as set out in the NEP 2009-2030 and the draft National Renewable Energy Policy (NREP) 2010-2030.

Based on the projected system configuration for 2015 in conjunction with the NEP, 115 MW capacity from renewable energy sources is required to be commissioned by 2015, which was the subject of the RFP.

A power purchase agreement is a contract between two parties for the sale and purchase of electricity. The PPA embodies all the legal, commercial, technical and operational agreements that constitute the contract.

-30-

Elizabeth Bennett Marsh



Public Education Specialist
Office of Utilities Regulation

36 Trafalgar Road

3rd Floor PCJ Resource Center

Kingston 10

Phone: 968-6053-4 / Fax: 929-3635

Mobile: 322-7539

email: ebennett@our.org.jm

website: www.our.org.jm

facebook.com/officeofutilitiesregulation