

MA-B3-1

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**Sent:** September 18, 2013 1:34 PM

**To:** Wes Johnston; John Gorman

**Cc:** Sarah Simmons; uamaral@sunedison.com; Carlo Di Gioacchino; Mezzanotte Rita

**Subject:** CanSIA\_Solar Energy Benefits for Municipalities through FIT 3

## CanSIA FIT 3.0 Update

### CAOs and Clerks of the Municipalities of Ontario,

The **Canadian Solar Industries Association (CanSIA)** is pleased to reach out to the Municipalities of Ontario to share information about how to participate in and support the development of Ontario's clean energy economy through the **Feed in Tariff (FIT) Program** and to share the benefits of Solar Electricity with their residents and communities.

- 1) Provide the benefits of **clean solar generation** to your municipality and residents
- 2) Get involved in the **FIT 3 draft rules review**. Provide input on how a municipality can issue and continue support for solar. Deadline for comments to the **Ontario Power Authority is Sept 20<sup>th</sup>**
- 3) Support Solar by providing **Municipal Council Resolutions for Priority Points under FIT (points table and relevant timelines below)**
- 4) Build your own Solar projects with FIT and benefit from preferential access to **Municipal project capacity set asides** and **priority points for Municipal participation** and greater than 15% Municipal equity partnerships
- 5) Incorporate solar into your municipal planning and qualify for funding through the **Municipal Energy Plan Program**

See below for further details

- 1) **Provide the benefits of clean solar generation to your Municipality and residents**

The benefits of Solar Generation include the following:

- high public support
- empowers consumer choice
- cleanest form of electricity generation
- continuously declining costs
- provides peak electricity load reduction capabilities
- defers transmission & distribution investments
- significant local economic development and employment opportunities

For further details on the benefits of Solar Generation click [here](#)

- 2) **Get involved in the FIT 3 DRAFT rules review and provide input on how a Municipality can provide and continue support for solar**
  - The **Ontario Power Authority** has posted **DRAFT Feed in Tariff (FIT) rules and program documents** available [here](#)

REFERRAL TO \_\_\_\_\_  
RECOMMENDED \_\_\_\_\_  
DIRECTION REQUIRED \_\_\_\_\_  
RECEIPT RECOMMENDED \_\_\_\_\_

Recommendations and feedback regarding the draft rules should be provided to the OPA by **September 20, 2013** - Submit your comments by emailing this [feedback form](#) to [FITsubmissions@powerauthority.on.ca](mailto:FITsubmissions@powerauthority.on.ca)

On September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2013 the OPA delivered a webinar providing an overview of the FIT 3 rules and program documents. During this webinar it was acknowledged that the OPA was looking for feedback specific to a number of matters with respect to municipalities.

- A confirmation process to reaffirm support provided by a previous Municipal Council Support Resolution
- Details about whether a specific support resolution, new or existing should be based on a site address or applicant entity
- Should a municipality be able to support one of its own projects or a partnership project with at least 15 % Municipal participation by providing either a project specific or blanket support resolution to be eligible for FIT support resolution priority points?
- What are the lead times associated with bringing a new support resolution before council and how should this be addressed and considered by the OPA in terms of timelines for posting prescribed forms and relevant application windows?
- It is anticipated that the OPA will soon be hosting a separate webinar for Municipalities to review the draft program material

**Anticipated fall 2013 FIT procurement schedule**

<b>Final Documents &amp; Forms Posted</b>	<b>Application Window Opens</b>	<b>Application Window Closes</b>
October 7 <sup>th</sup> , 2013	November 4 <sup>th</sup> , 2013	December 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2013

**3) Support Solar in your Municipality by providing Municipal Support Resolutions for Priority Points in the FIT program**

- Support individual solar projects or all solar projects within your municipality with a council support resolution
  - i. DRAFT FIT 3 versions of Municipal Council Support Resolution prescribed forms are available below
  - ii. Project Specific Resolution:
  - iii. Blanket Support Resolution:
  - iv. Support Resolution Confirmation (of a previous resolution)

**4) Build your own Solar projects through FIT and take advantage of exclusive project capacity set asides for Municipalities**

- Municipal Projects with **50 % project equity** have **exclusive access** with other Public Sector entities to **41.88 MW of set aside capacity**
- Municipal Projects or Projects with 15 % equity or greater are eligible for project type priority points
- Eligible for non- project type points as a Municipal Host for Solar Projects

**FIT Priority Points Table**

<b>PROJECT TYPE</b>	<b>PRIORITY POINTS</b>
<i>Community Participation Project</i>	<b>3</b>
<i>Aboriginal Participation Project</i>	<b>3</b>
<i>Municipal or Public Sector Entity Participation Project</i>	<b>3</b>
<b>NON-PROJECT TYPE</b>	<b>PRIORITY POINTS</b>
<i>Municipal Council Support</i>	<b>2</b>
<i>Aboriginal Support</i>	<b>2</b>
<i>Municipal Site/Public Sector Entity Site Host</i>	<b>2</b>
<i>System Benefit</i>	<b>1</b>

- See the Municipal Entity Participation Project Declaration DRAFT prescribed form [here](#)
- For a Ministry of Energy slide deck overview of **Renewable and Solar Energy Opportunities for Municipalities** click [here](#)

**5) Incorporate solar into your municipal energy planning and qualify for funding through the Municipal Energy Plan Program**

For information on how to apply for funding of up to \$90 000 click [here](#)

- **Application deadline: November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

CanSIA is committed to help facilitate the success of the Feed in Tariff program for Municipalities and ensure that the benefits of Solar PV can be an important part of Municipal Planning and electricity options for clean generation.

Please contact [pluukkonen@cansia.ca](mailto:pluukkonen@cansia.ca) if you have further questions subsequent to the review of this information.

Kindest regards,

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