

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Board of Public Utilities 44 South Clinton Avenue, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350 www.nj.gov/bpu/

		CLEAN ENERGY
IN THE MATTER OF THE CLEAN ENERGY PROGRAM AUTHORIZATION OF COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY INCENTIVES EXCEEDING	)	ORDER
\$500,000 – EQUINIX, INC.	)	DOCKET NO. QO23040261

#### Parties of Record:

Brian O. Lipman, Esq., Director, New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel Bruce Frandsen, Director, Global Renewable Energy and Cleantech, Equinix, Inc.

BY THE BOARD:1

The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities ("Board" or "BPU") through New Jersey's Clean Energy Program ("NJCEP") manages several individual commercial and industrial ("C&I") energy efficiency ("EE") programs targeting the C&I market segments. Eligible applicants may receive rebates for a portion of the cost of installing energy efficient technologies such as light-emitting diode ("LED") lighting, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning ("HVAC"), and other energy conservation measures ("ECMs"). NJCEP offers incentives to large energy users to upgrade or install ECMs in existing buildings to help offset these capital costs. Incentives are also available for projects involving distributed energy resources. All proposed C&I EE financial incentives and rebates exceeding \$500,000 require explicit Board approval.<sup>2</sup>

The Combined Heat and Power & Fuel Cell ("CHP-FC") Program is open to all C&I customers of investor-owned utilities. Incentives are disbursed upon completion of three program milestones: 1) proof of purchase of equipment; 2) project installation and operation, including successful inspection; and 3) acceptance and confirmation of achievement of the required performance thresholds based upon 12 months of operating data.

By this Order, the Board considers the application of Equinix, Inc. ("Company" or "applicant"), submitted on June 30, 2022 under the Fiscal Year 2022 ("FY22") CHP-FC Program pursuant to the Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Program Plan Filing for FY22 dated March 9, 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Commissioners Guhl-Sadovy and Abdou abstained from voting on this matter.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> In re the Comprehensive Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Resource Analysis for the 2009 Through 2012 Clean Energy Program -- Revised 2012-2013 Programs & Budgets - Revised Rebate Approval Process, BPU Docket No. EO07030203, Order dated May 3, 2013.

The project is located at 105 Enterprise Avenue South, Secaucus, New Jersey 07094. The applicant requested a total financial incentive of \$1,000,000 for a project that will cost approximately \$7,132,125.

This project involves the installation of a fuel cell system consisting of three (3) 250 kilowatt ("kW") and one (1) 200 kW solid oxide fuel cells from Bloom Energy at the Company's Secaucus data center. The system efficiency is 47.9% and will have black start and islanding capabilities.

The project is anticipated to annually produce 8.322 megawatt-hours of electricity and have an estimated annual energy cost savings of \$563,209.89. The estimated payback period without incentives is 12.66 years; when factoring in the incentives, the estimated payback period is reduced to 7.6 years.

TRC Environmental Corporation ("TRC"), the Program Manager engaged by the Board to manage the CHP-FC program, attested to the accuracy of certain information regarding the project and that the project application adheres to the current terms and conditions of the program. Further, TRC, in its role as the NJCEP Program Administrator, submitted its certification that the incentives were calculated in accordance with the program's policies and procedures, the listed amounts are the true and accurate estimated incentives for which the applicant is eligible, and the documentation supporting estimated energy savings inputs was located, reviewed, and made available to calculate the rebate amounts as required by the program's policies and procedures. Based on these certifications and the information provided by TRC, Board Staff recommends approval of the above-referenced application.

#### **FINDINGS**

The Board <u>HEREBY ORDERS</u> the approval of the aforementioned application for the total estimated incentive amount of \$1,000,000 for Equinix Inc. and <u>AUTHORIZES</u> issuance of a standard commitment letter to the applicant identified above, setting forth the terms and conditions of this commitment.

The effective date of this Order is June 14, 2023.

**DATED:** June 7, 2023

**BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES** 

BY:

JOSEPH'L. FIORDALISO PRESIDENT

COMMISSIONER

DR. ZENON CHRISTODOULOU

COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

SHERRÍ L. GOLDÉN

**SECRETARY** 

I HEREBY CENTIFY that the within document is a true copy of the original in the files of the Board of Public Utilities.

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#### **DOCKET NO. QO23040261**

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