STATE OF CONNECTICUT

PUBLIC UTILITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY

DOCKET NO. 26-08-04
ANNUAL SHARED CLEAN ENERGY FACILITY PROGRAM REVIEW – YEAR 8

NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR WRITTEN COMMENTS
(August 25, 2026)

On December 18, 2019, the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (Authority or PURA) issued a Final Decision in Docket No. 19-07-01, Review of Statewide Shared Clean Energy Facility Program Requirements, approving the Shared Clean Energy Facility (SCEF) Program's requirements (Modified Program Requirements). Specifically, Section 3.3 of the Modified Program Requirements directs the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) to submit its proposed Procurement Price Cap and Bid Preferences to the Authority annually by September 1, starting in 2021.

On December 17, 2025, the Authority issued a Final Decision in Docket No. 25-08-04, Annual Shared Clean Energy Facility Program Review – Year 7 (Year 7 Decision), setting the Procurement Price Cap and Bid Preferences for the Year 7 SCEF procurement. See Year 7 Decision, pp. 8-13. Additionally, the Authority directed the electric distribution companies (EDCs) to submit annually by September 1, 2025, "the current SCEF Program Requirements and all [request for proposal (RFP)] documents … proposing modifications, as necessary and appropriate, that will allow the SCEF Program to better meet the Program Objectives." Id., p. 19.

Accordingly, the Authority will evaluate DEEP's proposed Procurement Price Cap and Bid Preferences, along with any proposed modifications to the SCEF Program requirements submitted by the EDCs, as part of its review of potential programmatic changes for Year 8 of the SCEF Program.

NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR WRITTEN COMMENTS

To support the Authority's ongoing evaluation and oversight of the SCEF Program, the Authority invites docket participants and interested stakeholders to submit written comments by **4:00 p.m. on Monday, September 14, 2026**, addressing the following topics:

1. **Procurement Price Caps**

In the prior annual review, the Authority adopted a procurement price cap of $182.94/MWh for the SCEF Program, consistent with the 2026 large Non-Residential Renewable Energy Solutions (NRES) zero-emission buy-all price cap, to minimize potential intra-program competition between the NRES and SCEF Programs. Year 7 Decision, pp. 10-11.

For Program Year 8, the Authority seeks stakeholder input regarding the appropriate procurement price cap for the SCEF Program. Any proposed modification to the current price cap must be supported by a clear rationale and substantial evidence. At a minimum, comments should address:

- Potential ratepayer impacts; and
- The effect of the proposed price cap on developer participation and overall project viability.

Stakeholders are encouraged to support their recommendations with relevant Program trends, project development data, market analyses, or other pertinent information.

2. Budget Reallocation

For the Year 7 procurement, the Authority adopted separate budget caps for each EDC, pursuant to General Statutes §§ 16-244z(c)(1)(A) and 16-244z(c)(1)(B). Year 7 Decision, pp. 8-9. Specifically, the approved 2026 SCEF budget caps were $9,864,750.81 for Eversource and $5,709,894.63 for UI. Id., p. 10.

However, these allocations do not reflect the typical 80/20 allocation between the EDCs based on their respective shares of statewide electric revenues. Rather, the approved values reflected the projected payment obligations associated with projects selected during the Year 5 procurement. Unlike Eversource, UI selected a fuel cell project during the Year 5 procurement. Id., p. 9, fn. 5. Because fuel cell projects generally operate at higher capacity factors than conventional solar projects, UI's resulting SCEF budget allocation exceeded the amount that would have resulted under the standard 80/20 revenue-based allocation methodology. Id. Importantly, following enactment of Public Act 25-173, An Act Concerning Energy Affordability, Access and Accountability, fuel cells are no longer eligible for participation in the SCEF Program.

Accordingly, the Authority is concerned that UI's allocated budget may remain underutilized during the final year of the SCEF Program, particularly given UI's comparatively urban service territory, the more limited availability of developable land for SCEF projects, and the fact that UI's elevated budget allocation was attributable to the selection of a fuel cell project rather than a greater volume of awarded projects during the Year 5 procurement.

Therefore, the Authority requests stakeholder comment on whether the combined SCEF budget of $15,574,645.44 should be reallocated between the EDCs using the standard 80/20 revenue-based allocation methodology. Under such an approach, the resulting allocations would be $12,459,716.35 for Eversource and $3,114,929.09 for UI.

The Authority will not consider proposals for adjusting the overall SCEF budget cap.

3. Bid Preferences

During the Year 7 annual review, the Authority retained the same bid preference categories adopted for Year 6 of the SCEF Program: specifically, a 40% bid preference for solar canopy projects and a 20% bid preference for landfill or brownfield projects. Year 7 Decision, pp. 12-13.

For Program Year 8, the Authority seeks stakeholder feedback regarding the continued appropriateness of the existing bid preferences and any proposed modifications thereto. As with the procurement price cap discussed above, the Authority expects stakeholders to provide a comprehensive justification for any recommended changes, including an assessment of:

- Potential ratepayer impacts;
- Effects on stakeholder participation, project diversity, and overall market competitiveness; and
- Consistency with and advancement of the SCEF Program's broader objectives.[1]

4. Proposed Programmatic Changes

Lastly, the Authority welcomes stakeholder input on targeted programmatic modifications that could improve the effectiveness and clarity of the SCEF Program in its upcoming year.

Please note that the Authority is not considering structural changes to the SCEF Program at this time, given the Program's maturity as it enters its final year. Accordingly, any recommendations should be limited to discrete, incremental improvements, such as:

- Clarifying existing requirements or definitions; or
- Improving transparency or efficiency in the application or selection process.

Suggestions should be specific, actionable, and focused on refining—rather than redefining—the existing Program framework.

Dated at New Britain, Connecticut, this 25th day of August, 2026.

By Direction of the Presiding Officer,



Jeffrey R. Gaudiosi, Esq.
Executive Secretary

[1] For more details on the objectives of the SCEF Program, see Year 7 Decision, pp. 3-4.