



## **Brookfield Residential (Alberta) Lp.**

### **59.9-kW Photovoltaic Micro-Generation System**

**April 2, 2013**



**The Alberta Utilities Commission**

Decision 2013-126: Brookfield Residential (Alberta) Lp.

59.9-kW Photovoltaic Micro-Generation System

Application No. 1609366

Proceeding ID No. 2478

April 2, 2013

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The Alberta Utilities Commission

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## 1 Introduction and background

1. Skyfire Energy Inc. (Skyfire) filed an application, on behalf of Brookfield Residential (Alberta) Lp. (Brookfield Residential), with the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC or the Commission) to seek an approval to construct, operate and connect a 59.9-kilowatt (kW) solar power plant in the city of Calgary pursuant to sections 11 and 18 of the *Hydro and Electric Energy Act* and pursuant to the *Micro-Generation Regulation*. This application was registered on March 6, 2013, as Application No. 1609366.

2. The proposed power plant would consist of 255 solar modules each rated at 235 watts with a total capacity of 59.9 kW. The proposed plant would be located on the roof of two adjacent buildings in the Seton Regional Commercial Centre located at 19489 Seton Crescent S.E. in Calgary, Alberta.

3. Skyfire indicated that the solar modules utilize a high transmission low-iron tempered glass that is designed to absorb light, not reflect it. For this reason, any reflection would be less than that of a window or a skylight.

4. On March 18, 2013, the Commission issued information requests to Skyfire regarding wire owner and retailer notification. Skyfire responded to the information requests on March 26, 2013.

## 2 Discussion

5. Skyfire indicated that it contacted all pertinent government departments, and met all applicable municipal and zoning requirements for the proposed project.

6. Skyfire indicated that it conducted a participant involvement program tailored to the proposed project which did not include any consultation to the north or west because the proposed project would be shielded by other commercial buildings within the Seton Regional Commercial Centre. Additionally, the proposed project would be bordered to the north by Seton Boulevard S.E. and to the west by Deerfoot Trail, and therefore, would not be visible to any potentially affected parties in these locations. Skyfire also indicated that the area directly south of the proposed project is undeveloped. Skyfire also advised that the proposed plant would be visible to Alberta Health Service's South Health Campus and hospital, located directly east of the proposed project. Skyfire included a signed letter of support from a representative of the Alberta Health Services, South Health Campus dated March 4, 2013.

7. Skyfire indicated that Brookfield Residential had been accepted as a micro-generator by the wire owner, ENMAX Power Corporation (ENMAX).
8. ENMAX agreed to connect the solar power plant to its distribution system in accordance with the *Electric Utilities Act* and the *Micro-Generation Regulation*.
9. Skyfire also advised that the retailer (regulated service provider) had been informed, both verbally and in writing, of Brookfield Residential's intent to be a micro-generator.

### 3 Findings

10. The Commission recognizes that the *Micro-Generation Regulation* and the related AUC Rule 024: *Rules Respecting Micro-Generation* (AUC Rule 024) govern micro-generating units respecting the definition of a micro-generating unit, the development, and connection and operation of micro-generation units. All power plant applications submitted to the Commission must comply with AUC Rule 007: *Applications for Power Plants, Substation, Transmission Lines, and Industrial System Designations* (AUC Rule 007), including requirements for public consultation in preparation of the application, and must also comply with AUC Rule 012: *Noise Control* (AUC Rule 012).
11. The Commission has reviewed the application and has determined that the technical, siting, environmental and noise aspects of the power plant have been met.
12. The capacity of the solar power plant is 59.9 kW and the energy produced is derived from a renewable source. The Commission is satisfied that the solar power plant meets the definition of a micro-generator pursuant to the *Micro-Generation Regulation* and meets the requirements under the *Micro-Generation Regulation* and AUC Rule 024.
13. The Commission finds that the application complies with all requirements in sections 11 and 18 of the *Hydro and Electric Energy Act*, AUC Rule 007, and AUC Rule 012.
14. The Commission has determined that the application is minor in nature. Therefore, a notice of application was not issued and a hearing was not required as the Commission considered that its decision or order would not directly and adversely affect the rights of a person pursuant to Section 9 of the *Alberta Utilities Commission Act*.
15. Based on the foregoing, the Commission considers the project to be in the public interest in accordance with Section 17 of the *Alberta Utilities Commission Act*.

### 4 Decision

16. Pursuant to Section 11 of the *Hydro and Electric Energy Act*, the Commission approves the application and grants Brookfield Residential the approval set out in Appendix 1 – Power Plant Approval No. U2013-174 – April 2, 2013 (Appendix 1 will be distributed separately).

17. Pursuant to Section 18 of the *Hydro and Electric Energy Act*, the Commission approves the application and grants Brookfield Residential the connection order set out in Appendix 2 – Connection Order No. U2013-175 – April 2, 2013 (Appendix 2 will be distributed separately).

Dated on April 2, 2013.

**The Alberta Utilities Commission**

*(original signed by)*

Henry van Egteren  
Commission Member