

City Council

Motion without Notice

MM9.40	ACTION			Ward:All
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Supporting the Economy and the Environment through Rooftop Solar Panels - Renewal for the 2015 3.1 and 4.0 Provincial Feed in Tariff Applications - by Councillor Josh Matlow, seconded by Councillor Joe Cressy

** This Motion has been deemed urgent by the Chair.*

** This Motion is not subject to a vote to waive referral. This Motion has been added to the agenda and is before Council for debate.*

Recommendations

Councillor Josh Matlow, seconded by Councillor Joe Cressy, recommends that:

1. City Council confirm its support for the construction and operation of rooftop solar generation projects anywhere in the City of Toronto.
2. City Council approve the template Municipal Council Blanket Support Resolutions for FIT 3.1 and FIT4.0.1 as attached.
3. City Council authorize the Speaker of Council to sign the template Municipal Council Blanket Support Resolutions for FIT 3.1 and FIT 4.0.1 attached.
4. City Council confirm that this resolution's sole purpose is to enable the participants in the Province's FIT Program to receive priority points under the FIT Program and may not be used for the purpose of any other form of municipal approval in relation to the Application or Projects, or any other purpose.
5. City Council confirm that this support shall expire twelve (12) months after its adoption by Council.

Summary

The Province's Feed in Tariff (FIT) Program encourages the construction and operation of rooftop solar generation projects (the "Projects"). One or more Projects may be constructed and operated in the City of Toronto. In 2014, there were 39.7 MW of renewable energy capacity installed in Toronto, generating 23,816 MWh of electricity.

Pursuant to the rules governing the FIT Program (the "FIT Rules"), Version 4.0.1 Applications

whose Projects receive the formal support of Municipalities will be awarded priority points, which may result in these Applicants being offered a FIT Contract prior to other persons applying for FIT Contracts.

This Motion is urgent as the application window for the FIT 4.0.1 program is opening October 5, 2015 and applicants have five business days from submission of their electronic application to get their hard copies in. Applications are reviewed based on priority points and where projects have the same number of priority points, based on submission date.

Toronto City Council passed a motion on June 10, 11 and 12, 2015 in support of the FIT 4.0 program. Further to this, the City has been made aware that the Independent Electricity Service Operator (IESO) Municipal Council Blanket Support Resolution must be adopted exactly as worded with no modifications/additions or deletions. This necessitated the need for a new motion to confirm support for FIT 4.0.1 and approve the Municipal Council Blanket Support Resolution template provided by IESO. The template for Version 4.0.1 is attached.

Previously, Toronto City Council passed a blanket support resolution for FIT 3.0 at its meeting on October 8, 9, 10 and 11, 2013 which expired twelve (12) months after adoption. FIT 3.1 is a continuation of FIT 3.0 and, unfortunately, most FIT 3.1 Projects were offered contracts in December 2014, two months after the Council support resolution expired. The IESO now requires a new separate support resolution to extend the confirmation that the municipality supports renewable specific to the FIT 3.1 contracts that have already been issued. The template for Version 3.1 is attached.

To notify applicants of the new Municipal Council Blanket Resolution, once the Motion has passed, a notice will be posted on the Economic Development web page and all proponents who have made inquiries about the City of Toronto blanket support resolution will be contacted.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM9.40

Municipal Council Blanket Support Resolution for FIT 3.1

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2015/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-84303.pdf>)

Municipal Council Blanket Support Resolution for FIT 4.0.1

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2015/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-84304.pdf>)