
TO: GENERAL COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: FEED IN TARIFF, COUNCIL SUPPORT RESOLUTION

WARD: ALL

PREPARED BY AND
KEY CONTACT: B. THOMPSON C.E.T., C.E.M. *Ben Thompson*
MANAGER OF ENERGY MANAGEMENT (Ext. 4557)

SUBMITTED BY: *For* K. BRADLEY BA., MLA,, *Ben Thompson*
DIRECTOR OF FACILITIES AND TRANSIT

GENERAL MANAGER
APPROVAL: R. FORWARD, MBA, MSC, P. Eng. *R. Forward*
GENERAL MANAGER OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND GROWTH MANAGEMENT

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE
OFFICER APPROVAL: C. LADD *C. Ladd*
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

RECOMMENDED MOTION

1. That the construction and operation of rooftop solar generation projects in industrial, commercial, and institutional areas across the City of Barrie as part of the Province's Feed in Tariff (FIT) Program Version 4.0 or any successor program substantially similar to the FIT Program be supported.
2. That the purpose of this support is to enable the participants in the 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.
3. That the Director of Facilities and Transit or his/her designate, be authorized to issue on behalf of the City of Barrie an applicable Municipal Council Support Blanket Resolution, Municipal Council Support Resolution or Municipal Council Support Resolution Confirmation attached as Appendix "B", "C" and "D" to Staff Report FT006-15 to proponents for the construction and operation of rooftop solar generation projects in industrial, commercial, and institutional areas in the Province's Feed in Tariff (FIT) Program Version 4.0.

PURPOSE & BACKGROUND

4. The purpose of this Staff Report is to gain Council support for applications the City may receive under the Provincial Small Feed in Tariff program from proponents of roof top solar renewable energy projects greater than 10 kW and less than 500 kW that request a Council support Blanket Resolution.
5. On November 4, 2013 Council passed motion 13-G-268 Feed in Tariff Council Support Resolution.
 - a) That the City of Barrie support the construction and operation of rooftop solar generation projects in industrial, commercial, and institutional areas in the Province's Feed in Tariff (FIT) Program Version 3.0 across the City of Barrie, subject to review by staff in the Facilities and Transit Department.
 - b) That the purpose of this support is to enable the participants in the 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.

- c) That the protocol outlined in Appendix "A" of Staff Report FCT02-13 be adopted in order to process requests for obtaining support for solar rooftop energy projects in industrial, commercial and institutional areas for the Province's Feed in Tariff (FIT) Program Version 3.0
 - d) That the Municipal Council Support Blanket Resolution, Municipal Council Support Resolution or Municipal Council Support Resolution Confirm attached as Appendix "B:", "C" and "D" to Staff Report FT02-13 be provided to proponents of the construction and operation of rooftop solar generation projects in industrial, commercial and institutional areas in the Province's Feed in Tariff (FIT) Program Version 3.0 where such projects meet the criteria identified in the Protocol and are deemed satisfactory by Director of Facilities and Transit or his or her designate and the Director be delegated the authority to execute such blanket resolution on behalf of The Corporation of the City of Barrie.
6. The Province opened a window for applications of small FIT projects between December 14, 2012 and January 18, 2013. A second FIT application window was opened from November 4, 2013 until December 13, 2013 and the Province has now announced a third window for Sept 30, 2015 until Oct 23, 2015. The Province has updated the priority points and some other conditions within the application process. Municipal Councils have three resolution options to support the projects known as a Municipal Council Support Resolution, a Municipal Council Blanket Support Resolution, or a Municipal Council Support Resolution Confirmation which is used only for applications that were submitted under the previous window but not approved by the Province. The Municipal Council Support Resolution must be approved for each individual application. The Municipal Council Blanket Support Resolution would be used to support all applications for a particular technology that the Council deems appropriate.
 7. This Staff Report is recommending that Council endorse all applications for roof top solar power between 10 kW and 500 kW in industrial, commercial, and institutional areas, and that any applications under this technology would receive a Municipal Blanket Council Support Resolution or the Municipal Council Support Resolution Confirmation if the application received a supporting resolution under the previous FIT application window.
 8. A new condition placed by the Ministry this year requires that any project to which the City has a financial interest, which PowerStream Inc. is interpreting to be any project proposed by PowerStream on a City facility, needs a blanket resolution in order to receive the two priority points for having a Municipal Support Resolution.

ANALYSIS

8. Staff have previously only awarded Municipal Council Support Resolutions for Roof Top solar projects that have met the Protocol previously approved by Council. (Appendix B)
9. The Council motion 13-G-268 was intended to be used going forward by not having it expire after twelve months; however, FIT updates rules each year and it appears resolutions will have to be updated yearly.
10. The protocol guidelines are largely in keeping with FIT rules and are only used by the proponent to get priority points, staff have never received a submission that did not meet our protocol requirements.
11. By moving to a Blanket Resolution PowerStream Inc. can receive priority points for their applications at the Surface Water Treatment Plant and the Wastewater Treatment Facility and staff can administratively update the FIT Blanket Resolution Form for the current version.
12. A Council support resolution is not a mandatory requirement under the FIT program. Proponents of eligible projects may not necessarily seek a Council support resolution.

13. Renewable green energy projects are not subject to the Planning Act. As such, the Official Plan and Zoning By-law do not apply.
14. Council is not obligated to provide a supporting resolution to proposed Small FIT projects and can choose to not deal with any requests.
15. There are a number of priority points now available for projects proposed under the Small FIT program.

Priority Points Table

Price Reduction Priority Points	PRIORITY POINTS
Tier 1	1
Tier 2	2
Tier 3	3
NON-PROJECT TYPE	PRIORITY POINTS
Municipal Council Support	2
Aboriginal Support	2
Municipal Site Host or Public Sector Entity Site Host	2
System Benefit	1

Applicants have the opportunity select a Price Reduction Tier which will reduce the Base Price by the percentage indicated in the selected tier. Applicants that have selected a Price Reduction in the Application Form will be eligible to receive Price Reduction Priority Points corresponding to the Price Reduction Tier. Please note, Applicants must provide an Application Security payment should they choose a Price Reduction.

16. Rooftop solar projects in industrial, commercial, and institutional areas have minimal impact on surrounding properties and these projects provide all of the benefits of renewable power installations while utilizing currently unused space.
17. As of August 28, 2015, the City has received sixteen requests for a Council resolution supporting roof top solar projects and one confirmation request. All of these represent projects were submitted in the previous application window and received supporting resolutions from Barrie, PowerStream Inc. is making ten applications including the Waste Water Treatment Facility and the Surface Water Treatment Plant.
18. While it is impossible to know all of the types of projects that may be proposed in Barrie under the Small FIT program, technologies such as wind, land based solar in residential areas, bio gas plants, and small hydro plants are eligible and have a much higher likelihood of some level of concern for neighbouring properties. If the proponents choose to ask for Council support, then these types of projects should be discussed at Council to ensure that all of the implications of the project are understood.
19. In order to ensure priority points are awarded to a proponent of a Small FIT application, it is recommended that the wording of the Provincial Template resolution be kept.
20. Should staff wish to pursue any renewable energy projects at City Facilities these projects will be brought to Council for support before applying to the FIT program.

ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

21. The following environmental matters have been considered in the development of the recommendation:
- a) By providing a blanket supporting resolution Council aids these renewable energy projects in gaining Provincial contracts and therefore being implemented in Barrie.

ALTERNATIVES

22. There is an Alternative available for consideration by General Committee:

Alternative #1

General Committee could choose to keep the existing protocol and update the Municipal Council Support Resolution to FIT version 4.0 and continue to delegate the Director of Facilities or his designate in the Facilities and Transit Department authority to endorse any roof top solar installations in industrial, commercial, and institutional areas that meet the protocol of roof top solar projects in Barrie and that are applying to the Small Fit program.

This Alternative is not recommended as it would mean that staff could not supply a support resolution to PowerStream for the two projects at the Surface Water Treatment Plant and the Wastewater Treatment Facility as the FIT rules now state it must be a Blanket Resolution for these facilities and PowerStream would therefore not receive the two priority points associated with that application putting the projects at more risk of rejection by the Province.

FINANCIAL

23. The current fee associated with the submission of an application is \$100. The fee is based on a total of approximately one (1) hour of time required for a level 8 Union Pay Scale and Level 17 Non Union pay scale plus benefits and corporate overheads. From the sixteen applications received (PowerStream and City applications did not pay a review fee) the City has collected a fee of \$600 for the review of these applications. Going forward the Blanket resolutions will not collect a fee which would impact revenue by approximately \$3,000 to \$4,000 per year depending on the number of applications.

LINKAGE TO 2010 – 2014 COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLAN

24. The recommendation(s) included in this Staff Report are not specifically related to the goals identified in the 2010-2014 City Council Strategic Plan.

APPENDIX "A"

**Protocol for Obtaining A Supporting Council Resolution
for Solar Rooftop Energy Projects In Industrial, Commercial, and Institutional Areas**

1. Purpose and Background

The purpose of the Renewable Energy support resolution protocol is to detail the review process for an application to obtain a staff delegated blanket support Council resolution for a proposed renewable energy project.

This protocol applies only to industrial, commercial, and institutional roof top solar applications and not any other type of renewable energy application. Any other type of renewable energy application will have to go before Council in order to obtain a supporting resolution.

2. Process Requirements

2.1 The designated contact for the City of Barrie for proponents of solar rooftop renewable energy projects in Barrie who would like to obtain a support Council resolution is the Director of Facilities and Transit or his/her designate.

2.2 The Director shall review with the proponent the following matters:

- Review site location and solar panel layout
- Documentation indicating property owner has been contacted and has agreed to the installation

3. City Location Policy

3.1 Solar rooftop installations over 10 kW and less than 500 kW which is the criteria for this protocol must be located in institutional, industrial or commercial zoned areas.

3.2 Installation of panels shall respect and not detract from the preservation of historic sites, districts and neighbourhoods or tourist attractions.

4. Application Requirements

4.1 The following information must be submitted:

- Site plan drawing
- Proposed solar layout and size
- Documentation showing owner of property is in agreement with proposed project

4.2 The City will review and forward a decision to the proponent within five working days for roof top solar applications.

4.3 The recommended fee for the review is \$100.

4.4 Projects proposed by PowerStream and the City of Barrie will be exempt from this fee.

5. Municipal Council Support Resolution

5.1 Where an application is deemed to meet the criteria identified in Section 3 of this policy and is satisfactory in the sole discretion of the Director of Facilities and Transit or his or her designate, the Director may execute a Municipal Council Support Resolution or a Municipal Council Support Resolution Confirmation on behalf of The Corporation of the City of Barrie.

APPENDIX "B"



**FEED-IN TARIFF
PROGRAM**

120 Adelaide Street West, Suite 1600
Toronto, Ontario M5H 1T1

T 416-967-7474
F 416-967-1947
www.ieso.ca

Instructions: Municipal Council Blanket Support Resolution
Section 5.1(g)(i) of the FIT Rules, Version 4.0

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Capitalized terms not defined herein have the meanings ascribed to them in the FIT Rules, Version 4.0.

INSTRUCTIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL RESOLUTIONS

1. The instruction page is not required to be submitted with the hard copy Application materials.
2. The first page of the resolution must be marked, by the Applicant, with the FIT Reference Number associated with the Application.
3. Where the resolution has multiple pages, the resolution should be stapled.
4. Information provided in the resolution must be consistent with the information provided in the electronic Application Form in order for the Application to be awarded Priority Points.
5. Apart from the completion of any blanks in the template resolution, no amendments, other than those outlined in paragraph 6 below, may be made to the wording of this form.
6. Words in between square brackets (i.e. "[" and "] ") are immaterial to the intent of the template resolution and may be modified to follow standard procedure of the issuing body. Wording not contained within square brackets must not be changed in order for the Application to be awarded Priority Points.
7. The entirety of the resolution (all blanks) must be completed and it must be signed by an appropriate individual(s) in order for the Application to be awarded Priority Points, and all Prescribed Forms must be signed to be considered complete.

INSTRUCTIONS SPECIFIC TO THE RESOLUTION

8. Local municipal councils have the option of drafting the Template: Municipal Council Blanket Support Resolution on the Council or equivalent governing body letterhead. The language of the Template: Municipal Council Blanket Support Resolution must be the same as shown in the template in order for the Applicant to obtain Priority Points. Priority Points will not be awarded if the blanket support resolution includes additional conditions or delegation of authority to staff for additional approvals.
9. The Prescribed Form: Municipal Council Resolution Confirmation is not required to be used for a Template: Municipal Council Blanket Support Resolution.
10. If applicable, a FIT 3.0 Municipal Council Blanket Support Resolution previously issued by the Municipality in support of Projects in the Municipality may be submitted providing the one year effective period has not expired at the time the electronic Application Form has been submitted.
11. Where no resolution number exists, insert "N/A" into the appropriate field.



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Toronto, Ontario M5H 1T1

T 416-967-7474
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Template: Municipal Council Blanket Support Resolution
Section 5.1(g)(i) of the FIT Rules, Version 4.0

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Resolution Number: _____

FIT Reference Number: _____

Date Resolution was passed: _____

(The FIT Reference Number must be inserted by the Applicant in order for the resolution to comply with the FIT Rules, even where Local Municipality letterhead is used. This is not to be inserted by The Local Municipality.)

[WHEREAS] capitalized terms not defined herein have the meanings ascribed to them in the FIT Rules, Version 4.0.

[AND WHEREAS] the Province's FIT Program encourages the construction and operation of <insert Renewable Fuel (e.g., Solar (PV) (Rooftop), Biogas)> generation projects (the "Projects");

[AND WHEREAS] one or more Projects may be constructed and operated in <insert the name of the Local Municipality>;

[AND WHEREAS], pursuant to the FIT Rules, Version 4.0, Applications whose Projects receive the formal support of Local Municipalities will be awarded Priority Points, which may result in the Applicant being offered a FIT Contract prior to other Persons applying for FIT Contracts;

[NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT]:

Council of the <insert the name of the Local Municipality> supports the construction and operation of the Projects anywhere in <insert the name of the Local Municipality>.

This resolution's sole purpose is to enable the participants in the 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 for any other purpose.

This resolution shall expire twelve (12) months after its adoption by Council.

Signed:

Signed:

Title:

Title:

Date:

Date:

(Signature lines for elected representatives. At least one signature is required.)

APPENDIX "C"

Capitalized terms not defined herein have the meanings ascribed to them in the FIT Rules, Version 4.0.

INSTRUCTIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL RESOLUTIONS

1. The instruction page is not required to be submitted with the hard copy Application materials.
2. The first page of the resolution must be marked, by the Applicant, with the FIT Reference Number associated with the Application.
3. Where the resolution has multiple pages, the resolution should be stapled.
4. Information provided in the resolution must be consistent with the information provided in the electronic Application Form in order for the Application to be awarded Priority Points.
5. Apart from the completion of any blanks in the template resolution, no amendments, other than those outlined in paragraph 6 below, may be made to the wording of this form.
6. Words in between square brackets (i.e. "[]") are immaterial to the intent of the template resolution and may be modified to follow standard procedure of the issuing body. Wording not contained within square brackets must not be changed in order for the Application to be awarded Priority Points.
7. The entirety of the resolution (all blanks) must be completed and it must be signed by an appropriate individual(s) in order for the Application to be awarded Priority Points, and all Prescribed Forms must be signed to be considered complete.

INSTRUCTIONS SPECIFIC TO THE RESOLUTION

8. Councils of Local Municipalities have the option of drafting the Template: Municipal Council Support Resolution on the Council or equivalent governing body letterhead. The language of the Template: Municipal Council Support Resolution must be the same as shown in the template in order for the Applicant to obtain Priority Points. Priority Points will not be awarded if the resolution includes additional conditions or delegation of authority to staff for additional approvals.
9. The Template: Municipal Council Support Resolution must be attached to the separate Prescribed Form: Municipal Council Resolution Confirmation as Exhibit "A".

10. A pre-existing Municipal Council Support Resolution may be provided to the IESO by the Applicant that had received a FIT Rules, Version 3.0 Municipal Council Support Resolution (that was not a blanket support resolution) that was issued by the Municipality and that is still in effect in relation to the Applicant and the Project. In this case the Applicant must attach the pre-existing Municipal Council Support Resolution to the separate Prescribed Form: Municipal Council Resolution Confirmation as Exhibit "A".
11. The Prescribed Form: Municipal Council Resolution Confirmation may not be used as a substitute for a Municipal Council Support Resolution where no Municipal Council Support Resolution was previously issued for the Project.
12. Where no resolution number exists, insert "N/A" into the appropriate field.
13. Applicant Legal Name, Project Address and Renewable Fuel type must be the match the information provided in the electronic application.

APPENDIX "D"

The Prescribed Form may be completed and provided to the OPA by an Applicant that had received a FIT Rules, Version 2.1 Template: Municipal Council Support Resolution (that was not a blanket support resolution) that was issued by the Local Municipality prior to October 9, 2013 in relation to the Applicant and the Project. The Prescribed Form: Municipal Council Support Resolution Confirmation may not be used as a substitute for a Template: Municipal Council Support Resolution where no Template: Municipal Council Support Resolution was issued for the Project previously.

Capitalized terms not defined in this form have the meanings ascribed thereto in the FIT Rules, Version 3.0.

1. I am the/an: _____ of the

(the "Municipality"),

and have the delegated authority to provide this confirmation on behalf of the Municipality and without personal liability.

2. _____ (the "Applicant")

(This must be the same Applicant (i.e. same name) as stated in the Municipal Council Support Resolution originally provided as attached)

proposes to construct and operate a0 _____
(This must be the same description as stated in the Municipal Council Support Resolution originally provided as attached)

(the "Project") on _____
(This must be the same description as the Lands in the Municipal Council Support Resolution originally provided as attached)

(the "Lands") in the Municipality under the Provinces FIT Program.

3. The Council of the Municipality (the "Council") had previously provided the Municipal Council Support Resolution attached as Exhibit "A" for the Project indicating by resolution the Council's support for the construction and operation of the Project on the Property.

4. I have confirmed that the Project being proposed by the Applicant under the Province's FIT Program is the same Project on the same Lands as the Project that was the subject of the Municipal Council Support Resolution attached as Exhibit "A".

5. I confirm that the Municipal Council Support Resolution attached as Exhibit "A" is still in effect and that the Council has not rescinded, revoked or repealed such resolution and confirm that the Municipality supports the construction and operation of the Project on the Lands.

DATE: _____

Signature: _____

FIT reference number: _____
(The reference number must be inserted by the Applicant in order for the resolution to comply with the FIT rules, even where Local Municipal letterhead is used. This is not to be inserted by the Local Municipality.)

Signature: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____