

## **FOR CONSIDERATION**

March 29, 2021

**TO:** The Board of Trustees

**FROM:** Thomas Falcone

**SUBJECT:** Authorization to Execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority for funding Phase 1 of the Integrated Energy Data Resource

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### **Requested Action**

The Board of Trustees (the “Board”) of the Long Island Power Authority (“LIPA”) is being requested to authorize the Chief Executive Officer or his designee to execute a memorandum of understanding with the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (“NYSERDA”) for funding the Phase 1 of the statewide Integrated Energy Data Resource program.

### **Background**

On February 11, 2021, the New York State Public Service Commission (“PSC”) adopted an order (“IEDR Order”) establishing the Integrated Energy Data Resource (“IEDR”). IEDR is intended to enable the compilation of integrated energy customer data and energy system data from across New York State to enable effective and efficient deployment of clean energy solutions to help transform the State’s electricity system into one that is cleaner, more resilient, and more affordable. According to the Order, access to useful energy data “will attract investment, enable analytics, help identify operational efficiencies, promote innovation, and encourage new business models, which will in-turn create value for customers and the State’s energy system.”<sup>1</sup>

IEDR will be implemented in two phases and in compliance with the PSC’s new policies for a uniform and comprehensive statewide Data Access Framework to govern the means and methods for accessing and protecting all types of energy-related information. IEDR will prioritize uses that materially improve or accelerate investment, operational, or regulatory decisions related to Distributed Energy Resources (“DER”), energy efficiency, environmental justice, or electrification strategies for transportation and buildings, thereby facilitating faster fulfillment of one or more of New York State’s Renewed Energy Visions (“REV”) and Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (“CLCPA”) objectives.<sup>2</sup> Phase 1 of the program will enable at least five of the highest priority use cases with the expectation that there could be ten or more achieved. Phase 2 will “expand and enhance the initial IEDR to enable approximately an additional forty use cases incrementally, by building upon the success of Phase 1. The total duration for enabling

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<sup>1</sup> PSC’s Order Implementing An Integrated Energy Data Resource dated October 11, 2021 in Case 20-M-0082 - Proceeding on Motion of the Commission Regarding Strategic Use of Energy Related Data, p. 1.

<sup>2</sup> February 11, 2021 Order, p. 14.

approximately 50 IEDR use cases shall be about 60 months. Phase 1 shall be completed in 24 – 30 months. Phase 2 shall be completed in 30 – 36 months.”<sup>3</sup>

Participation in the IEDR program would allow LIPA to align the various energy-related data activities under its control with the statewide IEDR to maximize benefits of the resource to Long Island ratepayers and New York State in general.<sup>4</sup> To that end, the IEDR Order requests that LIPA contribute an amount based on its portion of total electric load for 2019.<sup>5</sup> NYSERDA, as the Program Manager of IEDR implementation, has a Phase 1 budget cap of \$13.5 million.

The Board’s policy on Resource Planning and Renewable Energy provides for meeting the State’s clean energy goals in part by LIPA procuring cost-effective renewable resources and Renewable Energy Credits (“RECs”), and acting in coordination with other State energy authorities. Accordingly, LIPA seeks to participate and contribute to the cost of IEDR by entering into a Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) with NYSERDA for funding the Phase 1 of the program.

### **Discussion**

Recognizing that cooperation and coordination of development of useful energy data collection and analysis tools with NYSERDA will further LIPA’s and NYSERDA’s mutual goal of efficiently and effectively achieving the State’s clean and affordable energy goals, LIPA Staff proposes that LIPA enter into an MOU with NYSERDA to fund LIPA’s share of NYSERDA’s budget for Phase 1 of the IEDR implementation. The total cost to LIPA, as calculated by NYSERDA, will be no more than \$1,578,632 based on LIPA’s load share of the actual Phase 1 expenses.<sup>6</sup>

### **Recommendation**

Based on the foregoing, I recommend that the Trustees authorize the Chief Executive Officer or his designee to take all actions, including, without limitation, executing an MOU with NYSERDA to enable LIPA to contribute to funding Phase 1 of the IEDR program implementation and development.

### **Attachment**

### **Exhibit “A”** Resolution

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<sup>3</sup> Above, p.16.

<sup>4</sup> Above, p. 17.

<sup>5</sup> Above, p. 19.

<sup>6</sup> This amount does not include internal development costs for participating in the IEDR development.

**AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ("MOU") WITH NEW YORK STATE ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY ("NYSERDA") FOR FUNDING PHASE 1 OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTEGRATED ENERGY DATA RESOURCE ("IEDR") PROGRAM**

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**WHEREAS**, the New York State Public Service Commission ("Commission") has established Integrated Energy Data Resource by Order dated February 11, 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, cooperation and coordination of development of useful energy data collection and analysis tools with NYSERDA will further LIPA's and NYSERDA's mutual goal of achieving the State's clean and affordable energy goals; and

**WHEREAS**, LIPA and NYSERDA are in the process of negotiating an MOU regarding funding LIPA's share of NYSERDA's budget for Phase 1 of the IEDR implementation.

**WHEREAS**, the total cost of Phase 1 contribution by LIPA is calculated to be no more than \$1,578,632.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Chief Executive Officer or his designee be and hereby is authorized to execute and effect an MOU with NYSERDA consistent with the terms of the accompanying memorandum, and to perform such other acts and deeds as may be necessary, convenient or appropriate, in the judgment of the Chief Executive Officer or his designee, to implement LIPA's participation in the development of IEDR and to contribute to LIPA's share of NYSERDA's budget for the development of Phase 1 of IEDR.

Dated: March 29, 2021