RHODE ISLAND GOVERNMENT REGISTER

PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

COMMERCE CORPORATION

Title of Rule: Rules and Regulations for the Renewable Energy Development Fund Programs (870-RICR-20-00-1)

Rule Identifier: 870-RICR-20-00-1

Rulemaking Action: Proposed Amendment

Important Dates:

Date of Public Notice: November 20, 2026

End of Public Comment: December 20, 2026

Rulemaking Authority:

R.I. Gen. Laws §§ 42-64-13.2; 39-2-1.2; and R.I. Gen. Laws Chapter 39-26

Summary of Rulemaking Action:

The changes proposed are largely discretionary in so much as they revise the regulations to:
• Define previously undefined terms
• Increase equity by enabling upgrades that previously blocked participants from utilizing the programs
• Included energy savings measures to be allowable
• Revised the application process to a secure online portal
• Added enabling upgrades within the building necessitated by the installation of the solar
• Increased workforce development by adding high school students to the internship program
• Allows municipal and utility personnel to be eligible for training funds
• Recognize the change of the utility

Additional Information and Public Comments:

All interested parties are invited to request additional information or submit written or oral comments concerning the proposed amendment until December 20, 2026 by contacting the appropriate party at the address listed below:

Michael Walker
Commerce Corporation
315 Iron Horse Way
Suite 101
Providence, RI 02908
Rulescoordinator@commerceri.com

In accordance with R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.8, an oral hearing will be granted if requested by twenty-five (25) persons, by a governmental agency or by an association having at least twenty-five (25) members. A request for an oral hearing must be made within ten (10) days of the publication of this notice.

Regulatory Analysis Summary and Supporting Documentation:

This provides opportunities to utilize renewable energy in everyday business operations. No other analysis was done.

For full regulatory analysis or supporting documentation contact the agency staffperson listed above.