

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Intra-Department Communication

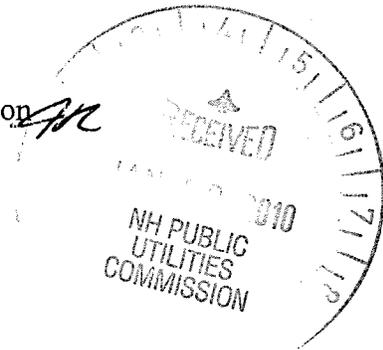
DATE: January 22, 2010
AT (OFFICE): NHPUC

FROM: Maureen L. Reno *MLR*
Utility Analyst III

SUBJECT: Staff Recommendation: DE 09-269 New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc.'s Certification Application on behalf of the Town of Plymouth for Class II Eligibility Pursuant to RSA 362-F

TO: Chairman Thomas B. Getz
Commissioner Clifton C. Below
Commissioner Amy L. Ignatius
Debra A. Howland, Executive Director and Secretary

CC: Jack K. Ruderman, Director, Sustainable Energy Division *JKR*
Suzanne Amidon, Staff Attorney



Summary

On December 21, 2009, the New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc. (NHEC) submitted an application on behalf of the Town of Plymouth requesting that the Commission grant approval of its 0.016 kilowatt (kW) photovoltaic facility (Plymouth facility) to produce Class II Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) pursuant to RSA 362-F, New Hampshire's Electric Renewable Portfolio Standard law. Pursuant to RSA 362-F:4, II, Class II eligibility requires that a facility produce electricity from solar technologies and that it began operation after January 1, 2006.

Pursuant to RSA 362-F, the Commission, in a non-adjudicative process, is required to issue a determination of whether a facility meets a particular classification within 45 days of receipt of a completed application. The Plymouth facility is a customer-sited photovoltaic facility that began operation on September 22, 2009. The facility meets the Class II eligibility requirements under RSA 362-F:4, II. Based on its review of the application, Staff recommends that the Commission approve the Plymouth facility as eligible for Class II RECs effective December 21, 2009.

Analysis

The photovoltaic facility began operation on September 22, 2009, when NHEC installed the facility's revenue quality meter to record electricity produced by the facility.¹ The facility has a gross nameplate capacity of 0.016 kW and it is located at the Town of Plymouth Pavilion, Riverside Park, Green Street, Plymouth, New Hampshire.

Pursuant to Puc 2505.08, the applicant is required to submit a complete list of the equipment used at the facility and certain information regarding the installer, seller and the independent monitor. The applicant provided a list of equipment purchased from Plymouth Area Renewable Energy Initiative and installed by Larry Mauchly. The N. H. Code of Admin. Rules Puc 2505 requires a customer-sited source's output be verified by an independent monitor. The application identifies NHEC as the independent monitor. The Commission granted NHEC such status on May 12, 2009 in DE 09-006.

The applicant is also required to provide a copy of the interconnection agreement, proof that the applicant's distribution utility approved the installation and a signed attestation that the facility meets applicable building codes. The NHEC provided a copy of the interconnection application with the Town of Plymouth and the signed attestation that NHEC, as the distribution utility, approved the installation of the facility indicating that the project was installed and operating in conformance with any applicable building codes. Staff recommends that the Commission find this signed attestation meets Puc 2005.08 (b) (7) and (8).

Recommendation

Staff has reviewed NHEC's application for the Plymouth customer-sited photovoltaic facility and can affirm it is complete pursuant to Puc 2500. Staff recommends that the Commission certify the Plymouth facility as eligible for Class II RECs effective December 21, 2009, the date on which Staff was able to make a determination that the facility met the requirements for certification as a Class II renewable energy source.

¹NHEC considers the operation date stated above, and in Appendix E, to be the date on which NHEC inspected the facility and installed a revenue quality meter to record the electricity that will be eligible for Class II RECs. The date listed in the interconnection application pertains to the installation and interconnection of the facility and may be different than the operation date stated above.