

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Intra-Department Communication

DATE: June 3, 2010

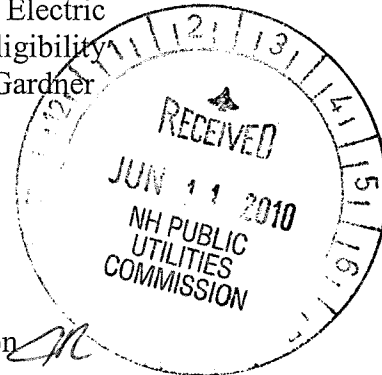
AT (OFFICE): NHPUC

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

SUBJECT: Staff Recommendation Re: DE 10-133, New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc. Certification Application for Class I Eligibility Pursuant to RSA 362-F on behalf of homeowner Jeff J. Gardner

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

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



Summary

On May 13, 2010, New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc. (NHEC) submitted an application on behalf of homeowner Jeff J. Gardner requesting that the Commission grant approval of his wind power facility located at his residence to produce Class I Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) pursuant to RSA 362-F, New Hampshire's Electric Renewable Portfolio Standard law. Pursuant to RSA 362-F:4, I, Class I eligibility requires a facility to have begun the production of electricity after January 1, 2006 and to use certain sources to produce electricity, one of which is wind energy.

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 Jeff J. Gardner facility is a customer-sited wind power facility that began operation on October 23, 2009. The facility meets the Class I eligibility requirements under RSA 362-F:4, I. Based on its review of the application, Staff recommends that the Commission approve the facility as eligible for Class I RECs effective May 13, 2010.

Analysis

The facility is a customer-sited wind power facility located in Jackson, New Hampshire and began operation on October 23, 2009.¹ The facility has a gross nameplate capacity of 2.4 kilowatts.

Pursuant to the New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules 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 application includes a list of equipment purchased from Green Alternative Energy and installed by Master Electrician, Donald Whitelaw. The New England Independent System Operator asset identification number is not applicable as the facility is a customer-sited source. Since the facility is a customer-sited source, its output is not recorded in the New England Power Pool (NEPOOL) Market Settlement System and, as a result, the facility's output must be monitored and verified by an independent monitor pursuant to Puc 2505. The application identifies NHEC as the independent monitor. The Commission granted NHEC such status on May 12, 2009 in DE 09-006.

On April 9, 2010, the Commission also granted NHEC the authority to aggregate customer-sited sources pursuant to Puc 2506. See DE 10-060. Therefore, in addition to reporting this source's output to the Commission, NHEC will include the output of this facility when it reports the total output of all of its Class I eligible facilities, under the name *NHEC Class I Aggregation*, to the NEPOOL Generation Information System.

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. NHEC provided a copy of the approved interconnection agreement with the facility and a signed attestation that it, as the distribution utility, approves the installation of the facility. The application also included a signed attestation that was originally provided to NHEC indicating that the project was installed and operating in conformance with any applicable building codes. Staff recommends that the Commission find the signed attestation has met Puc 2505.08 (b) (7) and (8).

Recommendation

Staff has reviewed NHEC's application for the Jeff J. Gardner wind power facility located at his residence and can affirm it is complete pursuant to Puc 2500. Staff recommends that the Commission certify the Jeff J. Gardner facility as being eligible for Class I RECs effective May 13, 2010, the date on which Staff was able to make a determination that the facility meets the requirements for certification as a Class I renewable energy source.

¹ NHEC considers the operation date disclosed above, and in Appendix E of the application, 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 I RECs. The date listed in each interconnection application pertains to the installation and interconnection of the facility and may be different than the operation date stated above.