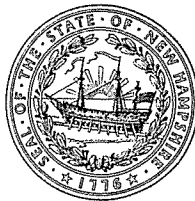


## THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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March 4, 2014

Eric A. DeBarba  
Director, New England Origination  
GDF SUEZ Energy North America, Inc.  
200 Glastonbury Boulevard, Suite 303  
Glastonbury, CT 06033

Re: DE 14-007, GDF SUEZ Energy North American, Inc.,  
Application for Certification as a REC Eligible Facility - Ryegate Associates

Dear Mr. DeBarba:

On January 8, 2014, the Commission received an application from GDF SUEZ requesting Class III New Hampshire renewable energy certificate (REC) eligibility for the 20 megawatt (MW) Ryegate Associates – Ryegate Power Station (Ryegate) biomass facility located in East Ryegate, Vermont, pursuant to RSA 362-F: 11, III provides that the Commission may conditionally certify a biomass facility pending New Hampshire of Department of Environmental Services (DES) verification of compliance for nitrogen oxide (NO<sub>x</sub>) and particulate matter (PM) emission rates and monitoring requirements.

On January 31, 2014, the Commission received a letter from DES recommending the Commission grant Ryegate conditional approval for Class III REC eligibility as DES anticipates that NO<sub>x</sub> emissions from the facility will meet the requirements of RSA 362-F:2 VIII(a) and Puc 2502.16 in the third quarter of 2014. At that time, a new system will be installed that will reduce NO<sub>x</sub> emissions from 0.15 lbs/mmBTU to no greater than 0.075 lbs/mmBtu.

Ryegate began operation in October 1992. The facility burns approximately 266,000 tons of biomass wood per year including wood chips and other low-grade clean wood fuels. The Ryegate wood procurement process, developed in cooperation with state forestry officials, promotes sound forest management principles. Electricity generated is delivered to Green Mountain Power's system. The NEPOOL GIS facility code has been verified as MSS 2433.

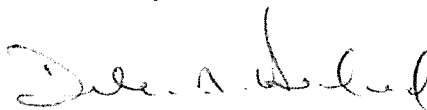
In addition to DES' recommendation for conditional approval, Ryegate provided the following regulatory approvals, and other supporting documentation:

- a. State of Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, Department of Environmental Conservation, Wastewater Management Division Discharge Permit, March 24, 2010;
- b. Ryegate Power Station Chip Management Plan;
- c. State of Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, Department of Environmental Conservation, Title V Air Pollution Control Permit to Construct and Operate, May 16, 2011; and,
- d. Ryegate Power Station Emission Compliance Test Program, July 16, 2013.

The Commission has reviewed the Ryegate application and the DES letter recommending conditional approval and determined that all necessary documentation has been provided to demonstrate that the project meets all the requirements of Puc 2502.02. Therefore, the Commission hereby grants Ryegate conditional approval for Class III eligibility. The facility will be eligible to produce RECs effective the date that the Commission receives DES verification that the facility is operating in conformance with Puc 2502.16.<sup>1</sup> This approval will be conditioned upon DES providing the Commission with information on a quarterly basis that the facility complies with applicable emissions standards.

The New Hampshire Renewable Portfolio Standard certification code for the Ryegate facility is NH-III-14-006.

Sincerely,



Debra A. Howland  
Executive Director

cc: Joseph Fontaine, NHDES

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<sup>1</sup> In DE 08-051, Pinetree Power – Tamworth, Inc., the Commission determined that the appropriate effective date for biomass facilities is the date on which the Commission receives notification from DES that the facility meets the emission requirements, thereby completing an application in accordance with NH Code Admin. Rules Puc 2505.01 (c) and 2505.02.

**SERVICE LIST - EMAIL ADDRESSES - DOCKET RELATED**

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Pursuant to N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.11 (a) (1): Serve an electronic copy on each person identified on the service list.

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**FILING INSTRUCTIONS:**

- a) Pursuant to N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.02 (a), with the exception of Discovery, file 7 copies, as well as an electronic copy, of all documents including cover letter with: DEBRA A HOWLAND  
EXEC DIRECTOR  
NHPUC  
21 S. FRUIT ST, SUITE 10  
CONCORD NH 03301-2429
- b) Serve an electronic copy with each person identified on the Commission's service list and with the Office of Consumer Advocate.
- c) Serve a written copy on each person on the service list not able to receive electronic mail.