


STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE


Inter-Department Communication

DATE: May 19, 2014
AT (OFFICE): NHPUC

FROM: Barbara Bernstein 
Sustainable Energy Analyst

SUBJECT: DE 14-096, Dubois Farm, Inc. and Dubois Energy, LLC
Application for Certification as a REC Eligible Facility
Staff Recommends that Eligibility be Granted

TO: Chairman Amy L. Ignatius
Commissioner Robert R. Scott
Commissioner Martin P. Honigberg
Debra A. Howland, Executive Director and Secretary

CC: Jack K. Ruderman, Director of the Sustainable Energy Division 
David K. Wiesner, Staff Attorney

Summary

On April 9, 2014, the Commission received an application filed by Brennan Punderson, PLLC (Brennan Punderson) on behalf of Dubois Farm, Inc. and Dubois Energy, LLC (Dubois Energy). Brennan Punderson is requesting Class I certification for Dubois Energy's 0.450 megawatt (MW) animal waste-derived, methane-fueled electrical generating anaerobic digester (AD).¹ Staff has reviewed the Dubois Energy certification request for the AD and has determined that the project meets the eligibility requirements under RSA 362-F:4, I(e), as a Class I facility and complies with the New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules Puc 2500. Staff recommends Commission approval for the Dubois Energy project as a Class I renewable energy source, effective as of April 9, 2014.

Analysis

To qualify as a facility eligible to produce RECs, Puc 2505.02 (b) requires the source to provide the following:

- 1) *The name and address of the applicant:* The applicant's name is Dubois Farm, Inc. and Dubois Energy, LLC. The address is 2038 Route 17E, Addison, VT 05491.
- 2) *The name and location of the facility:* The Dubois Energy AD project is located at the address listed in 1) above.

¹ Pursuant to RSA 362-F:4, New Hampshire's Renewable Portfolio Standard law.

- 3) *The ISO-New England asset identification number (if available).* An asset identification number was not provided.
- 4) *The GIS facility code if available.* The NEPOOL-GIS facility code for the Dubois Energy AD project has been verified as NON 33011.
- 5) *A description of the facility including fuel type, gross nameplate generation capacity, the initial commercial operation date, and the date it began operation, if different.* Dubois Energy operates a farm-methane electrical generating facility which uses methane gas derived from processed cow manure and other off-farm feedstocks to fuel a biogas generator. The manure is processed in an on-site methane digester, and the methane gas is piped directly to the generator. The gross nameplate generation capacity is 0.450 MW. The initial commercial operation date was November 17, 2010.
- 6) *(N/A – pertains to biomass sources).*
- 7) *All other necessary regulatory approvals, including any reviews, approvals or permits granted by the department.* Brennan Punderson provided a State of Vermont Public Service Board, Certificate of Public Good issued pursuant to 30 V.S.A. Section 248, Docket No. 7584 dated May 13, 2010 approving the facility. In addition, the application included a letter from the Air Pollution Control Division of the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources dated April 29, 2009, determining that an air pollution control permit is not required for the facility, provided that certain specified conditions are met. The application stated that Dubois Energy is in compliance with these conditions.
- 8) *Proof that the applicant either has an approved interconnection study on file with the commission, is a party to a currently effective interconnection agreement, or is otherwise not required to undertake an interconnection study.* A copy of the Generation Interconnection Agreement between Central Vermont Public Service Corporation (CVPS) and DuBois Energy, LLC for the 713 KVA Farm Methane (450 kW Vermont SPEED Standard Offer Program) Electric Generating Project, effective September 20, 2010, was provided.
- 9) *(N/A – pertains to biomass sources).*
- 10) *A description of how the generation facility is connected to the distribution utility.* The Dubois Energy AD generation project is interconnected at 12.47 kV with the Green Mountain Power (successor to CVPS) distribution system originating at the Weybridge, Vermont 81 distribution circuit.
- 11) *A statement as to whether the facility has been certified under another non- federal jurisdiction's renewable portfolio standard and proof thereof.* The Dubois Energy AD generation project has been approved by the State of Connecticut Public Utilities

Regulatory Authority as a Class I renewable energy source, by decision dated April 6, 2011, and is listed as such in the NEPOOL-GIS database.

- 12) *A statement as to whether the facility's output has been verified by ISO New England.* The electrical output from the Dubois Energy AD generation project is not verified by ISO New England. The output is verified by Vermont Electric Power Company (VELCO), a certified third party meter reader.
- 13) *A description of how the facility's output is reported to the GIS if not verified by ISO-New England.* The electrical output of the Dubois Energy AD generation project is verified and reported to NEPOOL-GIS by Vermont Electric Power Company (VELCO), a certified third party meter reader. The Dubois Energy AD generation facility is not a customer-sited source because its electrical output does not displace any consumption of the end-use customer.
- 14) *An affidavit by the owner attesting to the accuracy of the contents of the application.* An affidavit signed by Bernard Dubois, duly authorized agent of Dubois Energy, was provided with the application.
- 15) *The name and telephone number of the facility's operator, if different from the owner.* The facility operator is the same as the facility owner.
- 16) *Such other information as the applicant wishes to provide to assist in classification of the generating facility.* Brennan Punderson provided all information needed to complete the review of the Dubois Energy application.

Recommendation

Staff has reviewed the Dubois Energy application for Class I certification of its AD generation project, and can affirm it is complete pursuant to New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules Puc 2500. Staff recommends that the Commission certify the Dubois Energy AD generation project as a Class I renewable energy source, effective as of April 9, 2014.

SERVICE LIST - EMAIL ADDRESSES - DOCKET RELATED

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
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
NHPUC
21 S. FRUIT ST, SUITE 10
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- 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.**