

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Inter-Department Communication

DATE: April 8, 2008

AT (OFFICE): NHPUC

FROM: Maureen L. Reno,
Utility Analyst

HLR
TF

SUBJECT: DE 08-025, Certification Application for Brockton Brightfield Solar Photovoltaic Facility Under RSA 362-F: Staff recommendation to approve application.

TO: The Commissioners and
Debra A. Howland, Executive Director and Secretary

CC: Tom Frantz, Director of the Electric Division;
Mary Coleman, Assistant Director of the Electric Division; and
Suzanne Amidon, Staff Attorney.

Summary

On January 29, 2008 Michael Thoreson, Commissioner of the Department of Public Works for the City of Brockton Massachusetts, submitted an application requesting the Commission to certify its Brockton Brightfield Solar Photovoltaic Facility (Brockton Brightfield Facility) as qualified to produce Class II Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) pursuant to RSA 362-F, New Hampshire's Renewable Portfolio Standard Law. Pursuant to RSA 362-F:4, II, Class II eligibility includes production of electricity from solar technologies that began operation after January 1, 2006.

Pursuant to RSA 362-F, the Commission, in a non-adjudicative process, shall issue a determination of whether a facility meets a particular classification within 45 days of a completed application. The Brockton Brightfield application was completed on March 6, 2008. The Brockton Brightfield Facility meets the Class II eligibility requirements under RSA 362-F:4, II and complies with the Puc 2500 rules. The City of Brockton has provided all the necessary documents. I recommend that the Commission approve Brockton Brightfield Facility as a Class II Facility.

Analysis

The Brockton Brightfield Facility was originally installed as a 425 kilowatt (kW) facility in September 2006 and has been commercially operational since September 27, 2006. The facility was expanded by 35 kW to 460 kW in July 2007. The facility's

NEPOOL GIS facility number is MSS11925. The facility is a grid-connected facility which sells 100 percent of its output into the New England Power Pool through a 20-year contract with Constellation Energy.¹ The data is verified by National Grid (the distribution company) who also reads the meter.

Pursuant to Puc 2505.02 (h), the applicant is also required to provide proof an approved interconnection study. The Brockton Brightfield Facility has been interconnected to and delivering power to Massachusetts Electric Company, a subsidiary of National Grid, since August 9, 2006. The applicant submitted a copy of that interconnection agreement with its application.

Recommendation

The Brockton Brightfield Facility's application is complete pursuant to Puc 2505.02. Staff recommends that the Commission grant the Brockton Brightfield Facility Class II eligibility pursuant to RSA 362-F because it meets the requirements for a Class II facility pursuant to RSA 362-F:4, II and its application has provided all the necessary information and documentation demonstrating that the Brockton Brightfield Facility meets Class II eligibility. Therefore, Staff recommends that the Commission grant the Brockton Brightfield Facility Class II eligibility status effective March 6, 2008.

¹ Since the Brockton Brightfeild facility came online on September 26, 2006, 100 percent of the Massachusetts eligible renewable energy certificates produced have been sold to Constellation New Energy and equal 500 to 600 megawatt-hours per year. See response to Staff Supplementary Information Request, filed March 6, 2008.