

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Inter-Department Communication

DATE: October 26, 2009

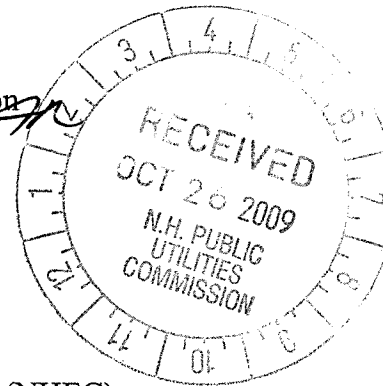
AT (OFFICE): NHPUC

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

SUBJECT: DE 09-176, DE 09-182 and DE 09-187, New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc. Certification Applications for Class II Eligibility Pursuant to RSA 362-F: Staff Recommendation

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
Suzanne Amidon, Staff Attorney



Summary

On September 21, 2009, New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc. (NHEC) submitted three applications on behalf of homeowners requesting the Commission grant approval of their solar photovoltaic facilities at their residences 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 provide electricity from solar technologies and that it begins 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 a completed application. The NHEC facilities are customer-sited rooftop solar photovoltaic facilities that began operation during the spring of 2009. The facilities meet the Class II eligibility requirements under RSA 362-F:4, II. Based on its review of the applications, Staff recommends that the Commission approve the NHEC facilities as eligible for Class II RECs effective September 21, 2009.

Analysis

The NHEC facilities are customer-sited solar photovoltaic rooftop arrays located in New Hampshire and began operation during the spring of 2009. The facilities' gross nameplate capacities range from 2.0 kilowatts (kW) to 4.4 kW. The details for each facility are listed in the following table.

Commission Assigned Docket #	Facility Owner	Facility Location	Equipment Vendor	Operation Date¹	Total kW listed in application (DC Arrays)
DE 09-176	Jeffrey Bussgang	8 Shorewood Dr., Moultonborough, NH	Alteris Renewables, Inc.	May 19, 2009	4.41
DE 09-182	Paul Yelle	133 Hogback Rd., Campton, NH	Plymouth Area Renewable Energy Initiative	May 28, 2009	2.00
DE 09-187	Richard Stuart	677 Squam Lake Rd., Sandwich, NH	Mauchly Electric, LLC	June 5, 2009	2.40

Pursuant to Puc 2505.08, the applicant is required to submit a complete list of the equipment used at the facilities and certain information regarding the installer, seller and the independent monitor. Each facility's equipment vendor is listed in the previous table. John Larry Mauchly of Mauchly Electric, LLC installed all three facilities. The ISO-NE asset identification numbers are not applicable as the facilities are customer-sited sources. Since the facilities are customer-sited sources, their output is not recorded in the NEPOOL Market Settlement System and, as a result, their output must be monitored and verified by an independent monitor pursuant to Puc 2505. The applications identify 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. NHEC provided a copy of the approved interconnection agreements with each facility and signed attestations that it, as the distribution utility, approves the installation of each facility. For each facility, each application included a signed attestation that was originally provided to NHEC indicating that each project was installed and operating in conformance with any applicable building codes. Staff recommends the Commission find these signed attestations have met Puc 2005.08 (b) (7) and (8).

¹ NHEC considers the operation date to be the date in which NHEC inspected the facility and installed a revenue quality meter to record the electricity that will be eligible for Class II RECs. This date is the installed date listed in Exhibit E of the applications and may be different than the installation and interconnection dates listed in the interconnection applications. The dates listed in the interconnection applications pertain to the installation and interconnection of the facility, not the revenue quality meter.

Recommendation

Staff has reviewed NHEC's applications for three solar photovoltaic facilities located on homeowners' rooftops and can affirm they are complete pursuant to N. H. Code Admin. Rule Puc 2500. Staff recommends that the Commission certify the NHEC facilities as being eligible for Class II RECs effective September 21, 2009, the date on which Staff was able to make a determination that the facilities met the requirements for certification as Class II renewable energy sources.

