

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Intra-Department Communication

DATE: April 13, 2010

AT (OFFICE): NHPUC

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

SUBJECT: Staff Recommendation Re: DE 10-082, DE 10-083, DE 10-084 and DE 10-085, New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc. Certification Applications for Class II Eligibility Pursuant to RSA 362-F on behalf of homeowners Kenneth Wells, Victor R. St. Pierre, Michael E. Achilles and Brian A. Race

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 March 30, 2010, New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc. (NHEC) submitted applications on behalf of homeowners Kenneth Wells, Victor R. St. Pierre, Michael E. Achilles and Brian A. Race requesting that the Commission grant approval of 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 produce electricity from solar technologies and that it began 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 receipt of a completed application. The four above-named facilities are customer-sited rooftop photovoltaic facilities that began operation in 2009 and 2010. 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 facilities as eligible for Class II RECs effective March 30, 2010.

Analysis

The facilities are customer-sited photovoltaic rooftop arrays located in New Hampshire that began operation in 2009 and 2010. The facilities' gross nameplate capacities range from 2.0 kilowatts (kW) to 4.3 kW. The details for each facility are listed in the following table.

Commission Assigned Docket #	Facility Owner	Facility Location	Equipment Vendor	Installing Electrician	Operation Date¹	Total kW listed in application (DC Arrays)
DE 10-082	Kenneth Wells	Andover, NH	GreenSource Energy Solutions, LLC	Stephen R. Scarponi	December 21, 2009	2.0
DE 10-083	Victor R. St. Pierre	Charlestown, NH	Clear Mountain Solar	Paul Judd	September 2, 2009	2.1
DE 10-084	Michael E. Achilles	Gilmanton, NH	Tim Golden DBA Band Technology	Gary Sawicki	December 16, 2009	4.3
DE 10-085	Brian A. Race	Claremont, NH	Clear Mountain Solar	Paul Judd	February 15, 2010	2.1

Pursuant to N. H. Code of Admin. Rules 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 independent monitor. Each facility's equipment vendor and installing electrician are listed in the previous table. 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.

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 each source's output to the Commission, NHEC will include the total output of these facilities when it reports the total output of all of its Class II eligible facilities, under the name NHEC Class II Aggregation, to the NEPOOL GIS.

¹ NHEC considers the operation date listed in the table above, and in Appendix E of each 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 II 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 listed in the above table.

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 NHEC, as the distribution utility, approved the installation of 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 that the Commission find these signed attestations have met Puc 2005.08 (b) (7) and (8).

Recommendation

Staff has reviewed NHEC's applications for photovoltaic facilities located on the above-named homeowners' rooftops and can affirm they are complete pursuant to Puc 2500. Staff recommends that the Commission certify the Kenneth Wells, Victor R. St. Pierre, Michael E. Achilles and Brian A. Race facilities as being eligible for Class II RECs effective March 30, 2010, 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.