

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Inter-Department Communication

DATE: June 15, 2012
AT (OFFICE): NHPUC



FROM: Barbara Bernstein *BB*
Sustainable Energy Analyst

SUBJECT: **DE 12-043**, Record Hill Wind LLC's Application for Class I Certification for New Hampshire Renewable Energy Certificates Pursuant to RSA 362-F.
Staff Recommends that Eligibility be Granted.

TO: Amy L. Ignatius, Chairman
Commissioner Robert R. Scott
Commissioner Michael Harrington
Debra A. Howland, Executive Director and Secretary

CC: Jack K. Ruderman, Director of the Sustainable Energy Division *JKR*
Suzanne Amidon, Staff Attorney

Summary

Staff has reviewed the application for Record Hill Wind LLC's Project (Record Hill Wind) and has determined that it meets the eligibility requirements under RSA 362-F:4, as a Class I facility with a nameplate capacity of 50.6 MW of electricity and complies with the New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules Puc 2505.02. Staff recommends Commission approval for the Record Hill Wind Project as eligible for Class I Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) effective May 22, 2012.

Analysis

On February 16, 2012, the PUC received an application requesting that Record Hill Wind's production be granted eligibility as a Class I facility pursuant to RSA 362-F, New Hampshire's Renewable Portfolio Standard law. On March 02, 2012, Staff requested additional information. Information required to complete the application was received on May 22, 2012.

To qualify Record Hill Wind's electrical production as eligible to acquire renewable energy certificates (RECs), Puc 2505.02 (b) requires the source to demonstrate its eligibility by completing the following:

- 1.) *The name and address of the applicant:* The applicant is Record Hill Wind LLC, PO Box 160, 150 Orford Road, Lyme, NH 03768.

- 2.) *The name and location of the facility:* Record Hill Wind, 229 Roxbury Notch Road, Roxbury, ME 04275-3203.
- 3.) *The ISO-New England asset identification number (if available).* The ISO-New England asset identification number is ISO-NE# 14665.
- 4.) *The GIS facility code if available.* The NEPOOL GIS facility code has been verified as MSS 14665.
- 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.* Record Hill Wind, located in Roxbury, Maine, is a wind farm consisting of 22 Siemens SWT-2.3-93 wind turbines rated at 2.3 MW each for a total generation of 50.6 MW. Record Hill Wind commenced operations on November 28, 2011.
- 6.) *(N/A – pertains to biomass sources).*
- 7.) *All other necessary regulatory approvals, including any reviews, approvals or permits granted by the department.* Record Hill Wind has received approvals from the following:
 - a. The State of Maine Department of Environmental Protection approved the Site Location and Development Act, Natural Resources Protection Act and Water Quality Certification application for Record Hill Wind on August 20, 2009 with an amendment dated March 11, 2010;
 - b. Maine Department of Environmental Protection Natural Resources Protection Act Permit By Rule issued January 5, 2009;
 - c. Maine Department of Transportation Driveway/Entrance Permits granted August 17, 2009 and February 26, 2009;
 - d. US Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 Federal Clean Water Act: Maine Programmatic General Permit issued November 9, 2009;
 - e. Federal Aviation Administration Notice of Proposed Construction or Alteration or Alteration-Off Airport – Determination of No Hazard for Turbine Lighting Plan Issued January 29, 2009, and March 18, 2009; and,
 - f. The Town of Roxbury issued Building Permits (Numbers 11-1, 11-2, 11-3) April 8, 2011.
- 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.* The applicant provided key pages of the Standard Large Generator Interconnection Agreement by and Among ISO New England, Inc., and Record Hill Wind LLC, and Central Maine Power Company effective June 25, 2010.¹
- 9.) *(N/A – pertains to biomass sources).*

¹ This document contains critical energy infrastructure information; only pages pertinent to verifying the interconnection agreement were provided.

- 10.) *A description of how the generation facility is connected to the distribution utility.* Record Hill Wind's electric generation is transmitted to the Central Maine Power Company's Roxbury Substation and on to the grid.
- 11.) *A statement as to whether the facility has been certified under another non-federal jurisdiction's renewable portfolio standard and proof thereof.* Record Hill Wind has received Class I certification as a new renewable resource in the State of Maine as well as certification as a Class I facility from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
- 12.) *A statement as to whether the facility's output has been verified by ISO New England.* The applicant provided key pages of the Standard Large Generator Interconnection Agreement by and Among ISO New England, Inc., and Record Hill Wind LLC, and Central Maine Power Company effective June 25, 2010.
- 13.) *A description of how the facility's output is reported to the GIS if not verified by ISO New England.* The GIS has verified the facility's output.
- 14.) *An affidavit by the owner attesting to the accuracy of the contents of the application.* An affidavit signed by Michael Novello, Vice President – Record Hill Wind, was provided with the application.
- 15.) *The name and telephone number of the facility's operator, if different from the owner.* The owner and the operator are the same.
- 16.) *Such other information as the applicant wishes to provide to assist in classification of the generating facility.* Other information was not needed to complete the application.

Recommendation

Staff has reviewed the Record Hill Wind facility's application for certification of its production of 50.6 MW of electricity and can affirm it is complete pursuant to N. H. Code Admin. Rule Puc 2500. Staff recommends that the Commission certify the Record Hill Wind facility as being eligible for Class I RECs effective May 22, 2012 the date on which Staff was able to make a determination that the facility met the requirements for certification as a Class I renewable energy source.