

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Inter-Department Communication

DATE: July 23, 2012
AT (OFFICE): NHPUC

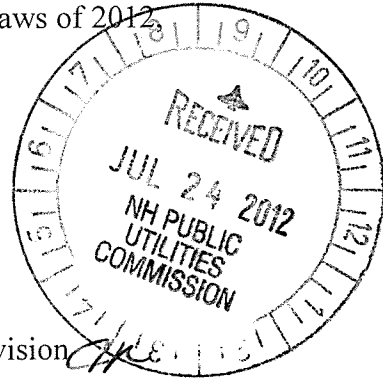
FROM: Barbara Bernstein *BB*
Sustainable Energy Analyst

SUBJECT: DE 12-196, Enel Green Power North America, Inc.'s Eligibility Request for the Sweetwater Hydroelectric, Inc., Sweetwater Hydroelectric Project to Produce Class IV New Hampshire Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) Pursuant to RSA 362-F and Laws of 2012, Chapter 0272

Staff Recommends that Eligibility be Granted

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

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



Summary

On July 09, 2012, Enel Green Power North America, Inc. (Enel Green Power) submitted an application requesting Class IV certification for the Sweetwater Hydroelectric, Inc., Sweetwater Hydroelectric Project (Sweetwater Hydro) pursuant to RSA 362-F, New Hampshire's Renewable Portfolio Standard law and Laws of 2012, Chapter 0272. Staff has reviewed the Enel Green Power certification request for Sweetwater Hydro's 900 kilowatts (kW) of electrical production and has determined that it meets the eligibility requirements under RSA 362-F:4, as a Class IV hydroelectric facility and complies with the New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules Puc 2505.02. Staff has determined that the application was complete as submitted and recommends Commission approval for Sweetwater Hydro as a Class IV renewable energy source effective July 09, 2012.

Analysis

Pursuant to Puc 2502.10, and Laws of 2012, Chapter 0272 Class IV (Existing Small Hydroelectric), facilities of one megawatt or less may apply for RECs if they are in compliance with applicable Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) fish passage restoration requirements and interconnected with an electric distribution system located in New Hampshire. 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 is Enel Green Power North America, Inc., One Tech Drive, Suite 220, Andover, Massachusetts, 01810.
- 2) *The name and location of the facility:* Sweetwater Hydro is located on the Sugar River in Claremont, NH.
- 3) *The ISO-New England asset identification number (if available).* The facility's asset identification number is 10409.
- 4) *The GIS facility code if available.* The NEPOOL GIS facility code has been verified as MSS 10409.
- 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.* The Sweetwater Hydro project includes a 143-foot long gravity dam, a reservoir with a surface area of approximately 30 acres, a penstock, and generators totaling 900 kW of electrical production. The project began commercial operation May 28, 1990.
- 6) *(N/A – pertains to biomass sources).*
- 7) *All other necessary regulatory approvals, including any reviews, approvals or permits granted by the department.* An Order Issuing License, FERC Project Number 10898-000 was provided for Sweetwater Hydro. Enel Green Power also included a letter dated August 29, 1990 from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services stating that the Sweetwater Hydro Project complies with all applicable provisions of the Clean Water Act.
- 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 Electricity Purchase Agreement Between Central Vermont Public Service Corporation (CVPS) and Sweetwater Hydroelectric, Inc. for the Sweetwater Hydroelectric Project dated June 28, 1990 was provided. Sweetwater Hydro is interconnected to distribution equipment that Public Service Company of New Hampshire acquired via the CVPS acquisition in 2004.¹
- 9) *(N/A – pertains to biomass sources).*
- 10) *A description of how the generation facility is connected to the distribution utility.* Sweetwater Hydro's 900 kW generating facility is connected to a 46 kV transmission line operated by CVPS.
- 11) *A statement as to whether the facility has been certified under another non-federal jurisdiction's renewable portfolio standard and proof thereof.* Sweetwater Hydro is

¹ Verified in an email from Richard Labrecque, Northeast Utilities dated July 19, 2012.

not currently certified as a renewable energy resource in any non-federal jurisdiction's renewable portfolio standard.

- 12) *A statement as to whether the facility's output has been verified by ISO New England.* The facility's output has been verified by ISO New England and the facility is listed in the GIS database.
- 13) *A description of how the facility's output is reported to the GIS if not verified by ISO-New England.* Not applicable.
- 14) *An affidavit by the owner attesting to the accuracy of the contents of the application.* An affidavit signed by Marc Poirier, General Manager East Region, Enel Green Power North America, Inc. 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 William Cardillo, Facility Supervisor; his telephone number is 978-273-5120.
- 16) *Such other information as the applicant wishes to provide to assist in classification of the generating facility.* All information required to complete the application was provided.

Recommendation

Staff has reviewed the Sweetwater Hydro application for Class IV certification and can affirm it is complete pursuant to New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules Puc 2500. Staff recommends that the Commission certify Sweetwater Hydro as a Class IV renewable energy source effective July 09, 2012.