

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Inter-Department Communication


DATE: September 5, 2012

AT (OFFICE): NHPUC

FROM: Barbara Bernstein 
Sustainable Energy Analyst

SUBJECT: DE 12-226, Peer Electric LLC's Eligibility Request for the Eastman Brook Hydroelectric Facility to Produce Class IV New Hampshire Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) Pursuant to RSA 362-F and Laws of 2012, Chapter 272
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 26, 2012, Peer Electric LLC (Peer Electric) submitted an application requesting Class IV certification for the Eastman Brook Hydroelectric (Eastman Brook Hydro) facility pursuant to RSA 362-F, New Hampshire's Renewable Portfolio Standard law and Laws of 2012, Chapter 272. Staff reviewed the certification request for Eastman Brook Hydro's .100 megawatts (MW) of electrical production and requested additional information on August 07, 2012. The information required to complete the application was received on August 17, 2012. Staff has determined that Eastman Brook Hydro meets the eligibility requirements under RSA 362-F:4, as a Class IV hydro facility and complies with the New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules Puc 2500. Staff recommends Commission approval for Eastman Brook Hydro as a Class IV renewable energy source effective August 17, 2012.

Analysis

Pursuant to Laws of 2012, Chapter 272, Class IV existing small hydroelectric facilities of one megawatt or less may apply for REC eligibility 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.¹ 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 application was filed by Thale Jacobs, Peer Electric, 28 Gilson Road, West Lebanon, NH 03784.
- 2) *The name and location of the facility:* Eastman Brook Hydro is located on the Eastman Brook in Piermont, NH.
- 3) *The ISO-New England asset identification number (if available).* The facility's asset identification number is 10403.
- 4) *The GIS facility code if available.* The NEPOOL GIS facility code has been verified as MSS 10403.
- 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.* Eastman Brook Hydro includes a vintage cross-turbine rated to discharge 39 c3fs at a head of 44 feet and other appurtenances. The gross nameplate capacity is .100 MW of electricity. The project began commercial operation on September 07, 1982.
- 6) *(N/A – pertains to biomass sources).*
- 7) *All other necessary regulatory approvals, including any reviews, approvals or permits granted by the department.* An Issued Exemptions list from FERC (FERC Project Number 6474-000) was provided for Eastman Brook Hydro.
- 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 Power Purchase Agreement between Public Service Company of New Hampshire (PSNH) and Evans, Evans & Evans, Inc. dated January 1, 2008 was provided.
- 9) *(N/A – pertains to biomass sources).*
- 10) *A description of how the generation facility is connected to the distribution utility.* Eastman Brook Hydro is interconnected with the PSNH electric distribution system.
- 11) *A statement as to whether the facility has been certified under another non-federal jurisdiction's renewable portfolio standard and proof thereof.* Eastman Brook Hydro is not currently certified as a renewable energy resource in any non-federal jurisdiction's renewable portfolio standard.

¹ On July 19, 2012, the Commission issued Order No. 25,394 which waives the requirements of Puc 2502.10 insofar as the requirements conflict with the certification of the new category of hydroelectric facilities created by the enactment of Chapter 272.

- 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 Thale Jacobs, Peer Electric was provided with the application.
- 15) *The name and telephone number of the facility's operator, if different from the owner.* The facility owner and operator are one and the same.
- 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 Eastman Brook 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 Eastman Brook Hydro as a Class IV renewable energy source effective August 17, 2012.