


STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Inter-Department Communication


DATE: March 25, 2014

AT (OFFICE): NHPUC

FROM: Barbara Bernstein 
Sustainable Energy Analyst

SUBJECT: DE 14-049, Peter Gebbie – Gebbies' Maplehurst Farm of Greensboro, VT, Application for Certification as a REC Eligible Facility
Staff Recommends that Eligibility be Granted

TO: Chairman Amy L. Ignatius
Commissioner Robert R. Scott
Commissioner Martin P. Honigberg
Debra A. Howland, Executive Director and Secretary

CC: Jack K. Ruderman, Director of the Sustainable Energy Division 
David K. Wiesner, Staff Attorney

Summary

On February 13, 2014, the Commission received an application filed by Brennan Punderson, PLLC on behalf of Peter Gebbie – Gebbies' Maplehurst Farm (Gebbies' Maplehurst Farm) requesting Class I certification for their 0.15 megawatt (MW) animal waste-derived, methane-fueled electrical generating anaerobic digester (AD) pursuant to RSA 362-F:4, New Hampshire's Renewable Portfolio Standard law. Staff has reviewed the Gebbies' Maplehurst Farm certification request for the AD and has determined that the project meets the eligibility requirements under RSA 362-F:4, I(e), as a Class I facility and complies with the New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules Puc 2500. Staff recommends Commission approval for the Gebbies' Maplehurst Farm AD project as a Class I renewable energy source effective as of February 13, 2014.

Analysis

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's name and address is Peter Gebbie, 2183 Gebbie Road, Greensboro, VT 05841.
- 2) *The name and location of the facility:* The Gebbies' Maplehurst Farm AD is located at the address listed in 1) above.
- 3) *The ISO-New England asset identification number (if available).* An asset identification number was not provided.

- 4) *The GIS facility code if available.* The NEPOOL-GIS facility code for the Gebbies' Maplehurst Farm AD has been verified as NON 37209.
- 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.* Gebbies' Maplehurst Farm operates a farm-methane electrical generating facility which uses methane gas derived from processed cow manure and other off-farm feedstocks to fuel a biogas generator. The manure is processed in an on-site methane digester, and the methane gas is piped directly to the generator. The gross nameplate generation capacity is 0.150 MW. The initial commercial operation date is July 12, 2012.
- 6) *(N/A – pertains to biomass sources).*
- 7) *All other necessary regulatory approvals, including any reviews, approvals or permits granted by the department.* The following regulatory approvals, permits and study results were provided with the application:
- a. State of Vermont Public Service Board, Certificate of Public Good Issued Pursuant to 30 V.S.A. Sections 248, 219a and 8007(a) and Vermont Public Service Board Rule 5.100, Docket No. 7797, October 27, 2011;
 - b. State of Vermont Public Service Board, Amended Certificate of Public Good Pursuant to 30 V.S.A. Sections 248 and 8007(a), Docket No. 7797, December 19, 2012.
 - c. A letter from Richard Valentinetti, Director, Air Pollution Control Division, Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, stating that the Gebbies' Maplehurst Farm AD project does not require an Air Pollution Control Permit, provided that specified construction, operation, maintenance and monitoring conditions are satisfied;
 - d. An email notification from Jay Hollingsworth, Environmental Engineer, Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation, dated December 6, 2013, stating that Gebbies' Maplehurst Farm did not need to register emissions from the AD until further notice; and,
 - e. A letter from Mark Moser, President, RCM International (RCM), stating that RCM had designed and provided a turnkey installation of a 150 kW AD located at Gebbies' Maplehurst Farm. Additionally, the letter states that the local electrical inspector had approved the project and the local utility, Hardwick Electric Department (HED), had installed the net-meter, inspected the system, and accepted the interconnection with its network.
- 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 Revised Generation Interconnection Agreement between HED and Maplehurst Farm for the Maplehurst Farm Renewable Electric Generating Project effective July 11, 2012 was provided. In addition, a letter dated August 21, 2012 from Eric C. Werner, General Manager of HED to Peter and Sandra Gebbie stating that the HED had commissioned

the Maplehurst Farm's generator and associated interconnection equipment was provided.

9) *(N/A – pertains to biomass sources).*

10) *A description of how the generation facility is connected to the distribution utility.* The Gebbies' Maplehurst Farm AD project facility is interconnected to HED distribution facilities.

11) *A statement as to whether the facility has been certified under another non-federal jurisdiction's renewable portfolio standard and proof thereof.* The GIS database provided verification that the Gebbies' Maplehurst Farm AD generation project is certified as a Class I Renewable Energy Source as defined in Connecticut General Statutes §16-1(a)(26).

12) *A statement as to whether the facility's output has been verified by ISO New England.* The output from the Gebbies' Maplehurst Farm AD project is not verified by ISO-New England. The output is verified by Vermont Electric Power Company (VELCO), a certified third party meter reader.

13) *A description of how the facility's output is reported to the GIS if not verified by ISO-New England.* The electrical output from the Gebbies' Maplehurst Farm AD generation project is reported to the GIS by VELCO, a certified third party meter reader. The generation facility is not a customer-sited source because its electrical output does not displace any consumption of the end-use customer.

14) *An affidavit by the owner attesting to the accuracy of the contents of the application.* An affidavit signed by Peter Gebbie 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.* Brennan Punderson, PLLC provided all the information needed to complete the review of the Gebbies' Maplehurst Farm application.

Recommendation

Staff has reviewed the Gebbies' Maplehurst Farm application for Class I certification of its AD generation project and can affirm it is complete pursuant to New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules Puc 2500. Staff recommends that the Commission certify the Gebbies' Maplehurst Farm AD generation project as a Class I renewable energy source, effective as of February 13, 2014.

SERVICE LIST - EMAIL ADDRESSES - DOCKET RELATED

Pursuant to N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.11 (a) (1): Serve an electronic copy on each person identified on the service list.

Executive.Director@puc.nh.gov
amanda.noonan@puc.nh.gov
barbara.bernstein@puc.nh.gov
Christina.Martin@oca.nh.gov
david.shulock@puc.nh.gov
Jack.ruderman@puc.nh.gov
ocalitigation@oca.nh.gov
psgebbie@yahoo.com
steve.mullen@puc.nh.gov
susan.chamberlin@oca.nh.gov
tom.frantz@puc.nh.gov

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FILING INSTRUCTIONS:

- a) Pursuant to N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.02 (a), with the exception of Discovery, file 7 copies, as well as an electronic copy, of all documents including cover letter with:
- DEBRA A HOWLAND
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
NHPUC
21 S. FRUIT ST, SUITE 10
CONCORD NH 03301-2429
- b) Serve an electronic copy with each person identified on the Commission's service list and with the Office of Consumer Advocate.
- c) Serve a written copy on each person on the service list not able to receive electronic mail.