

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE NHPUC 1 JUL '14 PM 2:32
Inter-Department Communication

DATE: July 1, 2014
AT (OFFICE): NHPUC

FROM: Barbara Bernstein *BB*
Sustainable Energy Analyst

SUBJECT: **DE 14-131, New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Application for Certification as a REC Eligible Facility-Sandro,
LLC
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 *JRC*
David K. Wiesner, Staff Attorney

Summary

On May 19, 2014, the Commission received an application filed by New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc. (NHEC) requesting Class IV eligibility for the Sandro, LLC (Sandro) hydroelectric facility. Staff has reviewed the NHEC certification request for Sandro's 0.05 megawatt (MW) of electrical production and has determined that it meets Class IV hydro eligibility requirements.¹ Staff has determined that the application was complete as submitted and recommends Commission approval for Sandro as a Class IV renewable energy source, effective as of May 19, 2014.

Analysis

Pursuant to RSA 362-F:4, 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 New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc., with an address of 579 Tenney Mountain Highway, Plymouth, New Hampshire 03264. The owner of the hydroelectric facility is Sandro, LLC.

¹ Pursuant to RSA 362-F:4 and New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules Puc 2500.

- 2) *The name and location of the facility.* The Sandro hydroelectric facility is located on the Bear Camp River in Sandwich, New Hampshire, with a physical address of 38 Plummer Mill Pond Road, Sandwich, NH 03227.
- 3) *The ISO-New England asset identification number (if available).* An ISO New England asset identification number is not applicable to this facility.
- 4) *The GIS facility code if available.* The NEPOOL-GIS facility code has been verified as NON 38119.
- 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 Sandro hydroelectric facility includes a four foot high dam; the penstock is 24 inches. The facility includes an Ossberger SH 43G cross flow turbine and a KATO generator, with a nameplate capacity rating of 0.05 MW. The facility initially began commercial operation in 1981, but was shut down for nearly 20 years prior to 2014. The facility resumed operation on May 5, 2014, after minor repairs and a refreshed interconnection with NHEC were completed.
- 6) *(N/A – pertains to biomass sources).*
- 7) *All other necessary regulatory approvals, including any reviews, approvals or permits granted by the department.* The applicant represented that the Sandro hydroelectric facility is exempt from both FERC and New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services requirements due to its size and time of construction.²
- 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.* NHEC provided the cover page and the signature page of the Interconnection Agreement By and Between New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc. and Sandro, LLC signed April 28, 2014.
- 9) *(N/A – pertains to biomass sources).*
- 10) *A description of how the generation facility is connected to the distribution utility.* The Sandro hydroelectric facility is interconnected with the NHEC 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.* The Sandro hydroelectric facility is not currently certified under another non-federal jurisdiction's renewable portfolio standard.

² DES Staff verified that dams of four feet or less, such as the Sandro hydroelectric facility dam, are exempt from DES requirements.

- 12) *A statement as to whether the facility's output has been verified by ISO New England.*
The facility's output has not been and will not be verified by ISO New England. The facility's output will be metered and reported to the GIS administrator by NHEC. The facility is listed in the GIS database with facility code NON 38119.
- 13) *A description of how the facility's output is reported to the GIS if not verified by ISO-New England.* The facility's output will be metered and reported to the GIS administrator by NHEC under GIS facility code NON 38119.
- 14) *An affidavit by the owner attesting to the accuracy of the contents of the application.*
An affidavit signed by Heather Manypenny, NHEC, 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 application for the Sandro hydroelectric facility's 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 the Sandro facility as a Class IV renewable energy source, effective as of May 19, 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.

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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
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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.