

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**Intra-Department Communication**

**DATE:** January 19, 2021  
**AT (OFFICE):** NHPUC

**FROM:** Azanna Wishart, Energy Analyst

**SUBJECT:** DE 15-302, Residential Renewable Electric Generation Incentive Program Recommendations for Waitlist and Temporary Suspension  
**Staff Recommendation to Establish a Waitlist and Suspension Process for the Program**

**TO:** Dianne Martin, Chairwoman  
Kathryn M. Bailey, Commissioner  
Debra A. Howland, Executive Director

**CC:** Karen P. Cramton, Director, Sustainable Energy Division  
David K. Wiesner, Director, Legal Division

The Renewable Energy Fund (REF) is a dedicated, non-lapsing fund, the purpose of which is to support electrical and thermal renewable energy project initiatives. By secretarial letter dated December 4, 2020, the Commission approved the program budget allocations for state fiscal year 2021 (FY21), which runs from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021. Budget and program details for the Residential Renewable Electric Generation Incentive Program (Program) are available in the Commission's online virtual file room for docket DE 15-302 available <https://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2015/15-302.html>.

As of January 15, 2021, the Program has received applications for funding in excess of available FY21 allocated Program funds. In anticipation of continued demand for Program funds and project oversubscription, Staff recommends establishing a waitlist comprised of unfunded applications with a total waitlist not to exceed \$20,000.

Staff recommends creating the waitlist to establish priority for the processing of applications. The waitlist will include:

1. Applications for rebates in excess of current Program funding limits received at the Commission on a first-come, first served basis.
2. The waitlist will have a limit of \$20,000 in pending or new applications.

Additional funding will be allocated to the Program after electricity providers' alternative compliance payments are deposited into the REF on or about July 1, 2021. Given funding constraints and timing of the annual budget cycle, Staff recommends temporarily suspending acceptance of new project applications to the Program after the \$20,000 waitlist limit has been reached. Staff will continue to monitor, process, and make available funding from expired applications to cover rebates requested, on a first-come, first-served basis, in waitlisted applications while the Program is suspended from receiving new applications.

Based on the limited funding remaining in FY21, Staff recommends that the Commission establish a waitlist for the Program and direct Staff to suspend the acceptance of new project applications to the Program when the waitlist reaches \$20,000.

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