

# STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

## Inter-Department Communication

**DATE:** March 5, 2021  
**AT (OFFICE):** NHPUC

**FROM:** Azanna Wishart, Analyst, Sustainable Energy Division

**SUBJECT:** Docket No. DE 15-302, Residential Renewable Electric Generation Incentive Program  
**Staff Recommendation to Approve Temporary Program Closure and Waitlist**

**TO:** Commissioners  
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 special, non-lapsing fund whose purpose is to support electrical and thermal renewable energy initiatives. By secretarial letter dated December 4, 2020, the Commission approved the REF program budget for state fiscal year 2021 (FY21) (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 docket book for Docket No. DE 15-302, available at: <https://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2015/15-302.html>

As of January 15, 2021, the Program had received applications for funding in excess of available FY21 allocated Program funds. On January 19, 2021, Staff recommended that the Commission establish a waitlist for the Program and suspend the acceptance of new project applications to the Program when the waitlist reached \$20,000. By secretarial letter dated February 3, 2021, the Commission approved Staff's recommendation and a waitlist was established.

As of March 4, 2021, Program applications received exceed the \$20,000 waitlist. Because additional funding will not be allocated to the Program until after electricity providers' alternative compliance payments are deposited into the Renewable Energy Fund on or about July 1, 2021, Staff recommends that the Commission temporarily close the Program to new applications. Applications that were received after the \$20,000 waitlist limit was reached will be returned to the installer and/or applicant who submitted them. Staff will continue to monitor, process, and make available funding from expired applications to waitlisted applications while the Program is temporarily closed.

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