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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**  
21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10  
Concord, N.H. 03301-2429

TDD Access: Relay NH  
1-800-735-2964

Tel. (603) 271-2431

FAX No. 271-3878

Website:  
[www.puc.nh.gov](http://www.puc.nh.gov)

April 9, 2015

Re: DE 10-212, Commercial and Industrial Renewable Energy Rebate Program

To Whom It May Concern:

On October 1, 2010, the Commission approved a commercial and industrial renewable energy rebate program (Program) supported by the Renewable Energy Fund created by RSA 362-F:10. *See* Order No. 25,151, dated October 1, 2010. On February 20, 2015, the Commission issued Order No. 25,764, approving an expansion of and modifications to the Program.

By memorandum dated April 7, 2015, Commission Staff recommended that the Commission consider certain clarifications of the terms and conditions applicable to the expanded and modified Program. Staff's recommendations addressed the following matters:

- Maximum Capacity and Incentive Calculation
- Program Facility Eligibility Date
- Energy Audit Requirements
- Program Category Budgets
- Applicant Caps Based on Program Category Budgets
- Queue Position for Initial Program Applications
- Maintenance of Queue Positions for Complete Applications

The Commission has considered Staff's recommendations and has approved the following clarifications of the relevant Program terms and conditions:

Maximum Capacity and Incentive Calculation

The incentive payment for a facility in either category of the Program will be determined based on the lesser of (1) the rated AC maximum output power capacity of the inverter installed, and (2) the DC capacity of the solar panels installed at the solar electric facility. If the rated AC maximum output power capacity of the facility inverter exceeds the DC capacity of the solar panels installed (as determined under standard test conditions (STC)), then the incentive payment amount will be based on the DC capacity of the panels rather than the AC maximum output power rating of the inverter.

The AC inverter capacity will be based on the same capacity rating approved by the distribution utility through the interconnection process, which is the rated maximum inverter power output

capacity, as demonstrated by the specification sheets for the inverter. Applicants must submit specification sheets for the inverters and panels to be installed at the time of submission of the Step 1 application. If equipment changes are made prior to or during facility installation, then new specification sheets for the inverters and/or panels must be provided at the time of Step 2 application submission.

#### Program Eligibility Date

For facilities with a capacity less than or equal to 100 kW (DC), the Program eligibility date will be March 7, 2015, which was the day after the final date for submission of applications under the original Program. For facilities with a capacity greater than 100 kW (DC), the Program eligibility date will be April 17, 2015, which is the commencement date for the expanded and modified Program.

#### Energy Audit Requirements

The energy audit report required to be submitted with the Step 2 application must be prepared by and based on an audit performed by a qualified energy auditor who is either BPI-certified or RESNET-certified. For incentive applications for eligible facilities that plan to group net meter and include residences, a Home Performance with Energy Star (Core program) energy audit or equivalent must be performed and form the basis for the report submitted with the Step 2 application for the residential units only.

In order to obtain a waiver of the energy audit requirement, an applicant must provide evidence of significant energy efficiency measures installed within 5 years prior to the Step 2 submission date, along with supporting benchmarking data that illustrates energy savings. For applications for eligible facilities that plan to group net meter and include residences, waivers may be requested based on Home Performance with Energy Star audit recommended measures installed within 5 years prior to the Step 2 submission date for the residential units only. Waivers for all new construction will be granted, provided that the construction is completed to current Energy Code standards.

#### Program Category Budgets

The remaining balance of budgeted funds available for reservation under the Program at this time is \$4,565,102. Of this total budgeted funds balance, \$2,282,551 will be allocated to Category 1 of the Program, and \$2,282,551 will be allocated to Category 2 of the Program. The budgeted funds for the Program and the respective allocation of these budgeted funds between the two Program categories are subject to subsequent review and revision by the Commission, as circumstances warrant. Budgeted funds and the allocation of such funds between categories will be evaluated on a quarterly basis or as necessary.

#### Applicant Caps Based on Program Category Budgets

The applicant cap based on the Category 1 budget is \$684,765, and the applicant cap based on the Category 2 budget is \$684,765.

Queue Position for Initial Program Applications

The initial queue position for applications received by the close of business (4:30 p.m.) on April 17, 2015 will be determined during a public lottery drawing to be held at the Commission on Tuesday, April 21, 2015, at 1:30 p.m.

Maintenance of Queue Positions for Complete Applications

An applicant with a submitted application deemed not to be complete will be sent a written or e-mail request for additional information necessary to complete the application, and will have a period of five business days from the date of the request within which to submit the requested additional information, failing which the applicant will lose its initial queue position and be held out of the queue unless and until the requested additional information is provided and will then be assigned a position at the end of the applicable queue.

An applicant with an application that is deemed complete that is issued a written or e-mail request to provide further clarification or explanation necessary to complete processing of the application, will have a period of ten business days from the date of the request within which to submit the requested clarification and explanation, failing which the applicant will lose its current queue position and be held out of the queue unless and until the requested clarification and explanation are provided and will then be assigned a position at the end of the applicable queue.

Applications that are duplicative or redundant of other applications in the queue will not be maintained in the queue, and queue positions may not be sold or otherwise transferred except in connection with a sale or transfer of the project described in a complete application holding that queue position.

The foregoing clarifications will apply to all applications submitted under the expanded and modified Program on or after April 17, 2015.

Sincerely,



Debra A. Howland  
Executive Director

cc: Docket File  
Service List (Electronically)

**SERVICE LIST - EMAIL ADDRESSES - DOCKET RELATED**

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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	
allen.desbiens@nu.com	palma@unitil.com
amanda.noonan@puc.nh.gov	richard.labrecque@eversource.com
barbara.bernstein@puc.nh.gov	Stephen.Eckberg@puc.nh.gov
Christina.Martin@oca.nh.gov	Stephen.Hall@libertyutilities.com
christopher.goulding@nu.com	susan.chamberlin@oca.nh.gov
david.wiesner@puc.nh.gov	tom.frantz@puc.nh.gov
debski@unitil.com	
denise.mckeen@puc.nh.gov	
elizabeth.nixon@puc.nh.gov	
epler@unitil.com	
grant.siwinski@puc.nh.gov	
james.brennan@oca.nh.gov	
jill.fitzpatrick@libertyutilities.com	
jon.osgood@puc.nh.gov	
kaminski@nhec.com	
karen.cramton@puc.nh.gov	
lemayg@nhec.com	
manypennyh@nhec.com	
matthew.fossum@eversource.com	
mdean@mdeanlaw.net	
michael.sheehan@puc.nh.gov	
michael.sisto@puc.nh.gov	
ocalitigation@oca.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  
EXEC 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.

**INTERESTED PARTIES**

**RECEIVE ORDERS, NOTICES OF HEARINGS ONLY**

AARON

GREGORY BLAKE

ALBERT

DAVID A BORDEN  
PO BOX 167  
NEW CASTLE NH 03854

RUSSELL ANEY  
21 BLOSSOM SQ  
HOLDEN MA 01520-1493

JEB BRADLEY  
107 NORTH MAIN ST RM 302  
CONCORD NH 03301-4951

AYER ELECTRIC

JOHN J CALL

DOC BAGLEY

LAUREN CHASE-ROWELL

C BELL

K CHVIC

D CLAPP

DECCYBABY

CLAY

R DION

W COLE

DONOGHUE

CONSTELLATION NEWENERGY  
116 HUNTINGTON AVE STE 700  
BOSTON MA 02116

CHRISTOPHER DUNDORF  
217 MCDANIELS SHORE DR  
BARRINGTON NH 03825

M DAVEY

ELJAH D EMERSON  
421 SUMMER ST  
PO BOX 159  
ST JOHNSBURY VT 05819-0159

DICK DAVIS

KATE EPSEN  
54 PORTSMOUTH ST  
CONCORD NH 03301

DAWN SOLAR

SAM EVANS-BROWN  
2 PILLSBURY ST 6TH FLR  
CONCORD NH 03301

FIRST CHOICE ENERGY  
204 OPENING HILL RD  
BRADFORD CT 06405

BOB FURLONE

MICHAEL FITZGERALD

THOMAS T GARDEN

KIM FRASE  
789 WHITTIER HWY  
SOUTH TAMWORTH NH 03883

ALAN GAUNTT

SUPPORT FREEDOM RENEWABLE

RACHEL GOLDWASSER  
45 S MAIN ST  
PO BOX 3550  
CONCORD NH 03302

ARI FUAT

B GRACE

COLEEN M FUERST  
220 NEWMARKET RD  
DURHAM NH 03824

GREENTECH

MARTHA FULLER CLARK  
152 MIDDLE ST  
PORTSMOUTH NH 03801-4306

GSHA

MEREDITH A HATFIELD  
107 PLEASANT ST  
JOHNSON HALL  
CONCORD NH 03301-3834

THALE JACOBS  
28 GILSON RD  
WEST LEBANON NH 03784

BOB HAYDEN

LOIS B JONES  
780 NORTH COMMERCIAL ST  
MANCHESTER NH 03101

STEVE HINCHMAN

MOLLY KELLY

GEORGE HORROCKS

N KERSHAW

VLADIMIR HROMIS

WILL KESSLER

IRVING

FRED KOCHER  
23 ELM ST  
PETERBOROUGH NH 03458

PATRICK JACKSON

HEIDI KROLL  
PO BOX 1415  
CONCORD NH 03302-1415

G LANDAU

MARC MILLER

CARMINE LUONGO

DENNIS MIRES  
697 UNION ST  
MANCHESTER NH 03104

LUTZ

SAM MORGAN  
25 CORPORATE DR STE 310  
BURLINGTON MA 01803-4259

KEVIN MAJOR  
49 SNOW LANE  
SANDOWN NH 03873

MOS ELECTRIC AND SOLAR

MARK

NEWTON

E MCCONNELL

ANDREW NH SOLAR GARDEN

MIKE

NOBLE AMERICAS ENERGY  
401 WEST A ST STE 500  
SAN DIEGO CA 92101

NUWATT ENERGY

CHERYL POPIAK  
110 TURNPIKE RD STE 203  
WESTBOROUGH MA 01581

REBECCA OHLER  
29 HAZEN DR  
CONCORD NH 03301

TIM PRUDENT LIVING

ON POINT ENERGY

JOHN RAMSEY

KURT PENNEY

RAN

PILGRIM

RANEY

PJONESPED

MAUREEN RENO

SANDRA PLYMOUTH ENERGY

REVISION ENERGY

HEATHER REVISION ENERGY

SMART ENERGY

LAURA RICHARDSON  
49 N MAIN ST  
CONCORD NH 03301-4934

SOLAR LUMIX

PETER ROWELL

SOUTH JERSEY ENERGY  
816 ELM ST STE 364  
MANCHESTER NH 03101

JACK RUDERMAN

JON SPENCER

SEA SOLAR STORE

SPREAD THE SUNSHINE

SHANE

STEVEH

ERIK SHIFFLETT

WES TATOR  
12 LANDING WAY  
DOVER NH 03820

KEN E TRAUM  
03301-2429

UMG INC  
PO BOX 310  
HAMPTON NH 03843

TED VANSANT

MARK WEISSFLOG  
7 TREMONT ST  
WILTON NH 03086

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