


STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Inter-Department Communication


DATE: November 30, 2012

AT (OFFICE): NHPUC

FROM: Barbara Bernstein 
Sustainable Energy Analyst

SUBJECT: **DE 12-309**, Fiske Hydro, Inc.'s Eligibility Request for the Fiske Hydro Project to Produce Class IV New Hampshire Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) Pursuant to RSA 362-F and Chapter 272, Laws of 2012
Staff Recommends that Eligibility be Granted

TO: Chairman Amy L. Ignatius
Commissioner Robert R. Scott
Commissioner Michael Harrington
Debra A. Howland, Executive Director and Secretary

CC: Jack K. Ruderman, Director of the Sustainable Energy Division 
Suzanne Amidon, Staff Attorney

Summary

On October 19, 2012, Fiske Hydro, Inc. submitted an application requesting Class IV certification for the Fiske Hydro Project pursuant to RSA 362-F, New Hampshire's Renewable Portfolio Standard law and Chapter 272, Laws of 2012. Staff has reviewed the Fiske Hydro, Inc. certification request for Fiske Hydro's .810 megawatts (MW) of electrical production and has determined that it meets the eligibility requirements under RSA 362-F:4, as a Class IV hydro facility and complies with the New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules Puc 2500. Staff has determined that the application was complete as submitted and recommends Commission approval for the Fiske Hydro Project as a Class IV renewable energy source effective October 19, 2012.

Analysis

Pursuant to Chapter 272, Laws of 2012 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.¹

¹ On July 19, 2012, the Commission issued Order No. 25,394 which waives the requirements of Puc 2502.10 insofar as the requirements conflict with the certification of the new category of hydroelectric facilities created by the enactment of Chapter 272.

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 application was filed by Fiske Hydro, Inc., 47 Warwick Road, Orange, MA 01364.
- 2) *The name and location of the facility.* The Fiske Hydro Project is located on the Ashuelot River in Hinsdale, NH.
- 3) *The ISO-New England asset identification number (if available).* The facility's asset identification number is 15201.
- 4) *The GIS facility code if available.* The NEPOOL GIS facility code has been verified as MSS 15201.
- 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 Fiske Hydro Project is operated as a run-of-river facility that includes a 19-foot high concrete dam with a spillway crest elevation of 226.8-feet mean sea level, 2-foot high flashboards creating an impoundment with a surface area of four acres, an intake structure at the north abutment, an 80-foot long steel plate arch canal and other appurtenances. The gross nameplate generation capacity is .810 MW of electricity. The project began commercial operation March 01, 1987.
- 6) *(N/A – pertains to biomass sources).*
- 7) *All other necessary regulatory approvals, including any reviews, approvals or permits granted by the department.* An Order Granting Exemption From Licensing (FERC Project Number 0615-000), dated December 04, 1985, was provided for the Fiske Hydro Project.
- 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 Interconnection Agreement between Public Service Company of New Hampshire (PSNH) and Fiske Hydro dated November 01, 2005 was provided.
- 9) *(N/A – pertains to biomass sources).*
- 10) *A description of how the generation facility is connected to the distribution utility.*
The Fiske Hydro Project is interconnected with the PSNH 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 Fiske Hydro Project is currently certified as a State of Connecticut Class I renewable resource.

- 12) *A statement as to whether the facility's output has been verified by ISO New England.*
The facility's output has been verified by ISO New England and the facility is listed in the GIS database.
- 13) *A description of how the facility's output is reported to the GIS if not verified by ISO-New England.* Not applicable.
- 14) *An affidavit by the owner attesting to the accuracy of the contents of the application.*
An affidavit signed by Cameron MacLeod III, President/Owner, Fiske Hydro, Inc. 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 Fiske Hydro, Inc. – Fiske Hydro Project application for Class IV certification and can affirm it is complete pursuant to New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules Puc 2500 and Chapter 272, Laws of 2012. Staff recommends that the Commission certify the Fiske Hydro Project as a Class IV renewable energy source effective October 19, 2012.