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January 16, 2015

Re: Changes in Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) Eligibility
Application Docketing and Determinations

To all interested persons:

Commission Staff has recommended that a number of changes be implemented to the process through which the Commission reviews and approves renewable energy certificate (REC) eligibility determination requests, and REC aggregator and independent monitor registration requests, as summarized below.

REC eligibility determinations for all classes of renewable energy sources, and REC aggregator and independent monitor registrations, would be treated as non-docketed certifications and tracked as such. Non-docketed REC eligibility determinations and aggregator and independent monitor registrations would carry a prefix of "REC" and a sequential number that would increment for each new docketed and non-docketed matter. For example, a docketed petition received on January 2, 2015, might be DW-15-001, followed by non-docketed REC-15-002 and REC-15-003, followed by docketed DT-15-004.

Staff would review and evaluate each respective "REC" application. The Executive Director would be delegated authority to sign a *Certification of REC Eligibility* form, or a *Certification of Registration* form for aggregators and independent monitors, which form would provide notice of approval to the applicant. This completed form would also be forwarded to the New England Power Pool Generation Information System (GIS) administrator as notice of the Commission's certification of REC eligibility, REC aggregator registration, or independent monitor registration. This process would eliminate the need for Commissioner sign-off on routine determinations where approval is recommended.

If there is any issue or divergence from the rules regarding REC eligibility, including rule waiver requests, application denials, and requests for re-hearing, these non-routine requests would be docketed. Matters that began as non-docketed "REC" filings but subsequently become docketed matters would be renamed as "DREC-15-*nnn*," where *nnn* is the original sequential number assigned to the "REC" matter. These applications would merit a staff memorandum, Commissioner review, secretarial letter, and a letter to the GIS, as is the current practice for all REC matters.

The Commission has reviewed the above-described changes proposed by Staff to the process through which REC eligibility determination requests, and REC aggregator and independent monitor registration requests, are reviewed and approved, and the Commission has approved these proposed changes, including the delegation of certification authority to the Executive Director. Staff is hereby directed to implement these approved process changes, effective as of January 2, 2015.

If you have any questions regarding these process changes, please do not hesitate to contact Commission staff.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Debra A. Howland". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Debra A. Howland
Executive Director