

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Inter-Department Communication

DATE: March 10, 2009

AT (OFFICE): NHPUC

FROM: Maureen L. Reno *MR*
Utility Analyst III

SUBJECT: DE 08-150, Essex Meadows' Application for Class II Eligibility
Pursuant to RSA 362-F
Staff Recommendation

TO: Chairman Thomas B. Getz
Commissioner Graham J. Morrison
Commissioner Clifton C. Below
Debra A. Howland, Executive Director and Secretary

CC: Jack K. Ruderman, Director, Sustainable Energy Division *JKR*
Suzanne Amidon, Staff Attorney

Summary

On November 25, 2008, Essex Meadows Properties, Inc. (Essex Meadows) submitted an application requesting the Commission grant approval of the Essex Meadows solar photovoltaic facility (Essex Meadows facility) to produce Class II Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) pursuant to RSA 362-F, New Hampshire's Electric Renewable Portfolio Standard law. Pursuant to RSA 362-F:4, II, Class II eligibility requires that a facility provide electricity from solar technologies and that it begins operation after January 1, 2006.

Pursuant to RSA 362-F, the Commission, in a non-adjudicative process, must issue a determination of whether a facility meets a particular classification within 45 days of a completed application. The Essex Meadows facility is a solar photovoltaic facility and began commercial operation on October 3, 2008. The facility meets the Class II eligibility requirements under RSA 362-F:4, II and the applicant has complied with the N. H. Code Admin. Rule Puc 2500 and has provided all the necessary information. Based on its review of the application, Staff recommends that the Commission approve the Essex Meadows solar photovoltaic facility as eligible for Class II RECs.

Analysis

The Essex Meadows facility is located at 30 Bokum Road, Essex, Connecticut. The project's initial commercial operation date was October 3, 2008. It has a gross

nameplate capacity of 0.095 megawatts. The NEPOOL GIS facility code has not yet been obtained. Essex Meadows will provide the NEPOOL GIS facility code to the Commission as soon as it is obtained from the GIS administrator. The ISO-NE asset identification number is not applicable as the Essex Meadows facility is a behind-the-meter source.¹

Pursuant to Puc 2505.02 (b) (8), the applicant must submit proof that it 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.” The applicant submitted Essex Meadows’ “Standard Fast Track and Study Process Generator Interconnection Agreement” with Connecticut Light and Power dated November 14, 2008.

Pursuant to Puc 2505.02 (b) (11), the applicant shall include a statement as to whether the facility has been certified under another non-federal jurisdiction’s renewable portfolio standards and proof thereof. The applicant stated that the facility has not been certified by another state.

Recommendation

Staff has reviewed Essex Meadows’ application for its solar photovoltaic facility and can affirm it is complete pursuant to N. H. Code Admin. Rule Puc 2500. Staff recommends that the Commission certify the Essex Meadows solar photovoltaic facility as being eligible for Class II RECs effective January 30, 2009, the date on which Staff was able to make a determination that the facility met the requirements for certification as a Class II renewable energy source.

¹ Since the facility is a behind-the-meter source, its output is not recorded in the NEPOOL Market Settlement System. In response to Staff data requests received January 30, 2009, the applicant stated and Staff verified that the facility’s output will be verified by an onsite meter, as well as an online metering system developed by Spire Corporation.