

# STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

## Inter-Department Communication

**DATE:** September 8, 2009

**AT (OFFICE):** NHPUC

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

**SUBJECT:** DE 09-106, DE 09-107, DE 09-108, DE 09-109 and DE 09-110,  
Boston Community Capital Solar Energy Advantage, Inc.'s  
Certification Applications for Class II Eligibility Pursuant to  
RSA 362-F: Staff Recommendation

**TO:** Chairman Thomas B. Getz  
Commissioner Clifton C. Below  
Commissioner Amy L. Ignatius  
Debra A. Howland, Executive Director and Secretary

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



### *Summary*

On June 8, 2009, Boston Community Capital Solar Energy Advantage, Inc. (BCC) submitted five applications requesting the Commission grant approval its solar photovoltaic facilities (BCC facilities) located in Massachusetts 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, is required to issue a determination of whether a facility meets a particular classification within 45 days of a completed application. The BCC facilities are customer-sited rooftop solar photovoltaic facilities that began operation in the spring of 2009. The facilities meet the Class II eligibility requirements under RSA 362-F:4, II. Based on its review of the applications, Staff recommends that the Commission approve the BCC facilities as eligible for Class II RECs effective August 3, 2009.

## Analysis

The applicant's solar photovoltaic facilities are customer-sited rooftop arrays located in Massachusetts and began operation in the spring of 2009. The facilities' gross nameplate capacities range from 76.9 kilowatts (kW) to 391.3 kW. The details for each facility are listed in the table below.

| Facility Title  | Commission Assigned Docket # | Facility Location                 | Operation Date | Total kW listed in application (DC Arrays) |
|-----------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|--|
| Washington Elms | DE 09-106                    | 131 Washington St., Cambridge, MA | May 2, 2009    | 92.1                                       |
| Walden Square   | DE 09-107                    | 21 Walden Sq., Cambridge, MA      | May 2, 2009    | 76.9                                       |
| North Village   | DE 09-108                    | 341 West St., Pittsfield, MA      | March 24, 2009 | 156.4                                      |
| Riverview       | DE 09-109                    | 8 Village Way, Webster, MA        | April 16, 2009 | 198.7                                      |
| Mishawum        | DE 09-110                    | 338 Main St., Charlestown, MA     | April 14, 2009 | 391.3                                      |

The NEPOOL GIS facility codes have not yet been obtained. BCC will provide the NEPOOL GIS facility codes to the Commission as soon as they are obtained from the GIS administrator. The ISO-NE asset identification numbers are not applicable as the facilities are behind-the-meter sources. Since the facilities are behind-the-meter sources, their output is not recorded in the NEPOOL Market Settlement System and, as a result, their output must be monitored and verified by an independent monitor. The applications state and Staff verified that the facilities' daily electricity generation is monitored by PowerDash LLC.<sup>1</sup>

Pursuant to Puc 2505.02 (b) (8), the applicant is required to 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 a letter with each application granting approval for each facility to be interconnected to its corresponding electric utility's distribution system. The Washington Elms, Walden Square and Mishawum facilities are interconnected with NSTAR. The North Village and Riverview facilities have interconnection agreements with National Grid and Western Massachusetts Electric Company, respectively.

Pursuant to Puc 2505.02 (b) (11), the applicant is required to include a statement as to whether the facility has been certified under another non-federal jurisdiction's renewable portfolio standards law and proof thereof. The applicant stated that although

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<sup>1</sup> Stephen Lapointe of PowerDash LLC provided an e-mail communiqué from Howard B. Bernstein of the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (DOER), dated May 27, 2009, stating that DOER approves PowerDash LLC as an independent third party meter reader.

the facilities have not been certified by another state, applications have been submitted with the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources.

***Recommendation***

Staff has reviewed BCC's applications for its solar photovoltaic facilities and can affirm they are complete pursuant to N. H. Code Admin. Rule Puc 2500. Staff recommends that the Commission certify the BCC facilities as being eligible for Class II RECs effective August 3, 2009, the date on which Staff was able to make a determination that the facilities met the requirements for certification as a Class II renewable energy source.