

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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AND SECRETARY  
Debra A. Howland



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

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

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

August 22, 2011

Scott D. Hall  
Manager, Environmental Services  
Black Bear Hydro Partners, LLC  
Davenport Street  
P.O. Box 276  
Milford, ME 04461

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Re: DE 11-140 Black Bear Hydro Partners, LLC  
Application for Class IV Eligibility of its Howland Hydroelectric Project pursuant  
to RSA 362-F.

Dear Mr. Hall:

On June 14, 2011, Black Bear Hydro Partners, LLC submitted an application requesting certification for its Howland Hydroelectric Project (Howland project) as a Class IV facility pursuant to RSA 362-F, New Hampshire's Renewable Portfolio Standard law. Staff has reviewed the application and recommends approval noting that the Howland project application was completed on July 8, 2011 in accordance with New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules Puc 2500.

RSA 362-F:4, IV requires that eligible facilities must have initiated operation prior to January 1, 2006, have a nameplate capacity of five megawatts or less, completed the installation of upstream and downstream diadromous fish passages, and to have documented applicable state water quality certification (Section 401, Clean Water Act).

Your application indicates that the Howland project is a run-of-river hydroelectric facility located on the Piscataquis River, about 500 feet above the confluence with the Penobscot River in Howland, Maine. The facility initially began operation in 1916; the original license was issued for the Howland dam on September 12, 1980. The total gross nameplate capacity of the Howland project is 1.875 megawatts.

Black Bear has submitted the final State of Maine, Department of Environmental Protection order approving a permit (under the State of Maine Waterway Development and Conservation Act) granting water quality certification under Section 401 of the Clean

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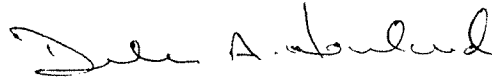
Water Act for the construction of a fish bypass channel at the existing Howland Dam. Additionally, notice of inspection of the Howland Project operation of downstream and upstream fish passages by the Maine Department of Marine Resources on June 28, 2011 was provided, thereby meeting the requirements of RSA 362-F. Your application also provided support that the water quality certification for the facility was issued by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection on July 20, 2010. The facility's NEPOOL generation information system (GIS) facility code is MSS 16524.

The Commission has reviewed the Howland project application and determined that Black Bear Hydro has provided all the necessary documentation to demonstrate that the Howland project is eligible for certification as a Class IV facility. Therefore, the Commission hereby certifies that the Medway facility is a Class IV renewable energy source effective on July 8, 2011 and is eligible to be issued New Hampshire Class IV Renewable Energy Certificates.

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Attached please find a copy of the notice of this certification provided to the GIS administrator. The New Hampshire Renewable Portfolio Standard certification code for the Howland facility is NH-IV-11-022.

Sincerely,



Debra A. Howland  
Executive Director

Encl.

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August 22, 2011

James Webb  
Registry Administrator  
APX Environmental Markets  
224 Airport Parkway, Suite 600  
San Jose, CA 95110

Re: DE 11-140 Black Bear Hydro Partners, LLC  
Certification of the Howland Hydroelectric Project as a New Hampshire RPS Class IV  
Facility pursuant to RSA 362-F  
New Hampshire Certification Code NH-IV-11-022

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Dear Mr. Webb:

Please be advised that, the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission has certified the Howland Hydroelectric Project (Howland project) as eligible for Class IV Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) effective July 8, 2011 as required by NH RSA 362-F. Accordingly, the Howland hydroelectric project is eligible to be issued New Hampshire Class IV RECs.

The Howland project is a run-of-river hydroelectric facility located on the Piscataquis River, about 500 feet above the confluence with the Penobscot River in Howland, Maine. The Howland project has a total gross nameplate capacity of 1.875 megawatts; the original facility began operation in 1916. The facility's NEPOOL generation information system (GIS) facility code is MSS 16524. The New Hampshire Renewable Portfolio Standard certification code is NH-IV-11-022.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Debra A. Howland".

Debra A. Howland  
Executive Director

cc: Scott D. Hall  
Black Bear Hydro Partners, LLC