

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Inter-Department Communication

DATE: August 14, 2012

AT (OFFICE): NHPUC



FROM: Barbara Bernstein *BB*
Sustainable Energy Analyst

SUBJECT: DE 12-211, Hydro Management Group, LLC's Eligibility Request for the Alden Hydro, LLC – Chamberlain Falls Hydroelectric Facility to Produce Class IV New Hampshire Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) Pursuant to RSA 362-F and Laws of 2012, Chapter 272
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 *JKR*
Suzanne Amidon, Staff Attorney

Summary

On July 13, 2012, Hydro Management Group, LLC (Hydro Management) submitted an application requesting Class IV certification for the Alden Hydro, LLC – Chamberlain Falls Hydroelectric (Chamberlain Falls Hydro) facility pursuant to RSA 362-F, New Hampshire's Renewable Portfolio Standard law and Laws of 2012, Chapter 272. Staff has reviewed the Hydro Management certification request for Chamberlain Falls Hydro's .150 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 Chamberlain Falls Hydro as a Class IV renewable energy source effective July 13, 2012.

Analysis

Pursuant to Laws of 2012, Chapter 272, 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 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 Hydro Management Group LLC, (Hydro Management), 55 Union Street, 4th Floor, Boston, MA 02108 on behalf of Alden Hydro, LLC.
- 2) *The name and location of the facility:* Chamberlain Falls Hydro is located on the Souhegan River, in the Town of Greenville, NH.
- 3) *The ISO-New England asset identification number (if available).* The facility's asset identification number is 914.
- 4) *The GIS facility code if available.* The NEPOOL GIS facility code has been verified as MSS 914.
- 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.* Chamberlain Falls Hydro is operated as a run-of-river facility that includes an 80-foot long and 27-foot high dam, an 80-foot spillway, a penstock and a powerhouse containing two generators and other appurtenances. The gross nameplate capacity generation is .150 MW of electricity. The project began commercial operation March 01, 1983.
- 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 7922-000) was provided for Chamberlain Falls Hydro.
- 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 Operating Agreement for Purposes of Wheeling and Power Sales between Public Service Company of New Hampshire (PSNH) and Alden T. Greenwood dated June 20, 1985 was provided.
- 9) *(N/A – pertains to biomass sources).*
- 10) *A description of how the generation facility is connected to the distribution utility.* Chamberlain Falls Hydro is interconnected with the PSNH electric distribution system.

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.

- 11) *A statement as to whether the facility has been certified under another non-federal jurisdiction's renewable portfolio standard and proof thereof.* Chamberlain Falls Hydro is not currently certified as a renewable energy resource in any non-federal jurisdiction's renewable portfolio standard.
- 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 Andrew Locke, Vice President, Hydro Management was provided with the application.
- 15) *The name and telephone number of the facility's operator, if different from the owner.* The facility operator is Robert Greenwood, President, Alden Hydro, LLC; his telephone number is 603-924-5777.
- 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 Chamberlain Falls Hydro application for Class IV certification and can affirm it is complete pursuant to New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules Puc 2500. Staff recommends that the Commission certify Chamberlain Falls Hydro as a Class IV renewable energy source effective July 13, 2012.