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## THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



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September 15, 2014

Robert A. Olson, Esq. R. Olson Law Office, PLLC 770 Broad Cove Road Hopkinton, NH 03229

> Re: DE 14-209, Bridgewater Power Company, L.P., Application for Certification as a **REC Eligible Facility**

Dear Mr. Olson:

On August 1, 2014, the Commission received an application from Robert A. Olson, Esq. on behalf of the Bridgewater Power Company, L.P. (BPC), 15 megawatt (MW) biomass facility (Facility), located in Bridgewater, New Hampshire. BPC is requesting Class III (existing biomass) New Hampshire renewable energy certificate (REC) eligibility for the Facility. The Facility has been ineligible to produce Class III RECs due to its inability to achieve particulate matter (PM) emissions requirements.

Effective January 1, 2012, a biomass facility otherwise meeting Class III eligibility requirements, but unable to achieve PM emission requisites may consult with the Department of Environmental Services (DES) and submit a plan to meet an alternative requirement. BPC and DES have developed a Plan, titled Plan for Particulate Matter Compliance Pursuant To RSA 362-F:11, IV for Bridgewater Power Company, L.P. dated July 11, 2014 (the "Plan") to mitigate the PM emissions from the Facility.

Through the Plan, BPC has contracted with the American Lung Association of the Northeast (ALANE) to implement a wood stove change-out program in the City of Keene and surrounding Cheshire County to reduce PM emissions in the area. The reductions in PM attributable to wood stove change-outs under the program will be credited to the Facility for PM emission compliance. DES will monitor the Plan's progress through ALANE's obligation to submit status reports every six months and through an annual meeting with BPC and ALANE. Pursuant to the Plan, full implementation is not required until December 31, 2018. If the Plan isn't met, a Shortfall Contingency will be implemented. In addition, to maintain its Class III eligibility, the Facility must continue to comply with NOx emission requirements through DES quarterly verification that the Facility is operating in conformance with Puc 2502.16

The Facility commenced initial commercial operation in September 1987. The boiler operation uses approximately 230,000 tons per year of whole tree chips and other clean and untreated wood as its primary fuel in the electrical production process. Electricity generated by the Facility is delivered to the PSNH system. The ISO-New England asset identification number is MSS357 as verified by the GIS Administrator.

In addition to DES' recommendation for conditional approval, the Facility provided numerous regulatory approvals, and supporting documentation. Staff has reviewed the BPC application, the Plan for Particulate Matter Compliance Pursuant To RSA 362-F:11, IV for Bridgewater Power Company, L.P. dated July 11, 2014 (the "Plan") to mitigate the PM emissions from the Facility and the DES letter recommending conditional approval and determined that all necessary documentation has been provided to demonstrate that the project meets all the requirements of Puc 2502.02. Staff has reviewed the BPC Class III certification request utilizing the Plan and has determined that the project meets the eligibility requirements under RSA 362:F:1, IV. Staff recommends that the Commission approve the BPC project as a Class III renewable energy source. Therefore, the Commission hereby grants the Facility conditional approval for Class III eligibility.

The facility will be conditionally approved on a quarterly basis to produce RECs effective the date that the Commission receives DES verification that the facility is operating in conformance with Puc 2502.16 for NOx emissions. If NOx emissions rates are met, the facility will be conditionally approved to generate RECs effective January 1, 2015 conditioned on DES review and approval of progress every six months on the implementation of the wood stove change out program being implemented by ALANE. This approval will be conditioned upon DES providing the Commission with information on a quarterly basis that the facility complies with applicable emissions standards and implementation of the Plan.

The New Hampshire Renewable Portfolio Standard certification code for the Bridgewater Power Company facility is NH-III-14-085.

Sincerely,

Jule A. Soulard

Debra A. Howland **Executive Director** 

cc:

Joseph Fontaine, NHDES Robert A. Olson, Esq., R. Olson Law Office, PLLC



## SERVICE LIST - EMAIL ADDRESSES - DOCKET RELATED

Pursuant to N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.11 (a) (1): Serve an electronic copy on each person identified on the service list.

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Docket #: 14-209-1 Printed: September 16, 2014

## **FILING INSTRUCTIONS:**

a) Pursuant to N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.02 (a), with the exception of Discovery, file 7 copies, as well as an electronic copy, of all documents including cover letter with: DEBRA A HOWLAND

EXEC DIRECTOR NHPUC 21 S. FRUIT ST, SUITE 10 CONCORD NH 03301-2429

- b) Serve an electronic copy with each person identified on the Commission's service list and with the Office of Consumer Advocate.
- c) Serve a written copy on each person on the service list not able to receive electronic mail.