

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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August 12, 2015

Re: DE 09-054, DE 10-194, DE 10-212, and DE 13-298  
Approval of Fiscal Year 2016 Preliminary Budget for Renewable Energy Fund  
and Reopening of Certain Renewable Energy Rebate Programs

To Interested Persons:

On April 21, 2010, the Commission issued Order No. 25,092 approving, among other things, a budget for the Renewable Energy Fund (REF) that allocated funds for a residential solar water heating rebate program, a commercial and industrial (C&I) incentive program, the mandatory residential renewable energy generation program established pursuant to RSA 362-F:10(V), and costs associated with administration of the REF. On October 22, 2013, the Commission approved new program budgets for state fiscal year 2014, and, on January 15, 2015, the Commission established new program budgets for state fiscal year 2015. On July 20, 2015, all REF incentive programs were put on hold to enable Commission Staff to reconcile alternative compliance payments (ACPs) received and to determine preliminary program budget allocations for state fiscal year 2016.

On August 7, 2015, Staff filed a memorandum recommending preliminary REF program budget allocations for state fiscal year 2016 (July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016). The proposed preliminary budget, in compliance with HB 1270 enacted in 2010, reasonably balances REF budget allocations between the residential and non-residential sectors over the two year period beginning July 1, 2014, in proportion to each sector's share of total retail electricity sales. The specific preliminary REF program budget allocations for state fiscal year 2016 as recommended by Staff are as follows:

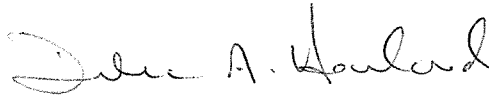
Residential Solar Rebates	\$2,401,080
Solar Hot Water Rebates	\$ 50,000
Residential Biomass Rebates	\$ <u>325,000</u>
<i>Residential Sub-Total</i>	<i>\$2,776,080 (40%)</i>
C&I Solar Rebates-Category 1	\$1,864,119
C&I Solar Rebates-Category 2	\$ 750,000
C&I Biomass Rebates	\$ 800,000
C&I Grants	\$ <u>750,000</u>
<i>C&amp;I Sub-Total</i>	<i>\$4,164,119 (60%)</i>

Staff further recommended the immediate resumption of all REF incentive programs, with the exception of the C&I Solar Rebate Program for Category 2 projects. These resumed programs would be administered pursuant to their current terms and conditions, unless and until the Commission determines otherwise.

Staff recommended that the C&I Solar Rebate Program for Category 2 projects (installations greater than 100 kW AC and less than or equal to 500 kW AC) should be closed and no longer accept applications, with all waitlisted applications no longer considered on a waitlist and all waitlisted applicants required to re-apply when Category 2 is re-opened.

Please be advised that the Commission has approved the preliminary REF program budget allocations as proposed by Staff in its August 7, 2015 recommendation. The Commission also has approved the immediate resumption of all REF incentive programs, with the exception of the C&I Solar Rebate Program for Category 2 projects, which shall be closed. Accordingly, these resumed REF incentive programs shall be re-opened effective as of the date of this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Debra A. Howland", written in a cursive style.

Debra A. Howland  
Executive Director

cc: Docket File  
Service List (Electronically)

## **SERVICE LIST - EMAIL ADDRESSES - DOCKET RELATED**

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