

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Intra-Department Communication


DATE: November 08, 2013

AT (OFFICE): NHPUC

FROM: Barbara Bernstein 
Sustainable Energy Analyst

SUBJECT: Re: DE 09-104, Springfield Power, LLC Re-Certification for Class I
and Class III Eligibility Pursuant to RSA 362-F
Staff Recommends Eligibility be Reinstated

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 
Suzanne Amidon, Staff Attorney

Analysis

On April 7, 2010, the Commission certified the Springfield Power, LLC (Springfield Power) biomass facility, located at 54 Fisher Corner Road, Springfield, New Hampshire, as eligible to produce both Class I and Class III renewable energy certificates (RECs). Based on notification from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (DES) that the Springfield facility had failed to test for particulate emissions and did not provide requisite quarterly reporting to DES and the Commission, the Commission suspended Springfield Power's certification on November 23, 2010.¹

On August 9, 2013, the Commission received a letter from DES stating that Springfield Power is once again maintaining an average particulate emission rate of less than or equal to 0.02 lbs/MMBtu as measured and verified by stack testing on May 16, 2013, and therefore was again in compliance with the particulate emissions requirements of RSA 362-F and Puc 2502.16.

On October 31, 2013 DES issued the Third Quarter Emissions Verification Summary for Certified Renewable Energy Sources (Dockets DE 08-024, DE 08-044, DE 08-051, DE 09-008, DE 09-104, and DE 12-091) and included Springfield Power as an eligible REC source because it is among the facilities that meet average emission rates of 0.02 lb/MMBtu and 0.075 lb/MMBtu, for particulate (TSP) and nitrogen oxides (NOx), respectively.

¹ Order 25,173 Nisi Suspending Certification.

Springfield Power began commercial operation in July 1988 as a 16 megawatt facility and added 2.0 megawatts in gross nameplate capacity on October 25, 2009. The facility's NEPOOL generation information system facility code number is MSS 436.

Recommendation

Staff has reviewed the August 9, 2013, and October 31, 2013 letters from DES verifying compliance with the emissions standards required by RSA 362-F and finds that the Springfield Power facility has demonstrated compliance with the RPS emissions standards pursuant to Puc 2505.04 (h) and (i). Staff recommends that the Commission recertify Springfield Power as eligible to produce Class I and Class III renewable energy certificates, effective July 1, 2013, the beginning of the third quarter of 2013.