

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Intra-Department Communication

DATE: June 14, 2010

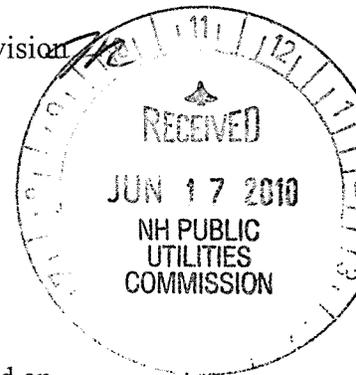
AT (OFFICE): NHPUC

FROM: Maureen L. Reno *MLR*
Utility Analyst III

SUBJECT: Staff Recommendation Re: DE 09-210, Conservation Services Group on behalf of Seaman Energy LLC; Certification Application for Class I Eligibility of the Gardner Landfill Methane Gas Facility Pursuant to RSA 362-F

TO: Chairman Thomas B. Getz
Commissioner Clifton C. Below
Commissioner Amy L. Ignatius
Debra A. Howland, Executive Director

CC: Jack K. Ruderman, Director of the Sustainable Energy Division
Suzanne Amidon, Staff Attorney



Summary

On November 2, 2009, Conservation Services Group (CSG) submitted an application on behalf of Seaman Energy LLC requesting that the Commission grant approval of the Gardner landfill methane gas facility (Gardner facility) to produce Class I renewable energy certificates (RECs) pursuant to RSA 362-F, New Hampshire's Electric Renewable Portfolio Standard law. Pursuant to RSA 362-F:4, I, Class I eligibility requires a facility to begin operation after January 1, 2006 and to use certain sources to produce electricity, one of which is methane gas.

Pursuant to RSA 362-F, the Commission, in a non-adjudicative process, must issue a determination of whether a facility meets a particular classification within 45 days of receipt of a completed application. The Gardner facility application was completed on May 18, 2010 and meets the Class I eligibility requirements under RSA 362-F:4, I. CSG has complied with the N. H. Code of Administrative Rules Puc 2505.02 and has provided all the necessary information. Based on its review of the application, Staff recommends that the Commission approve the Gardner facility as eligible for Class I RECs effective May 18, 2010.

Analysis

The Gardner facility is a landfill methane gas facility, has a gross nameplate capacity of one megawatt and began commercial operation on March 31, 2010. The facility is located at 808 West Street, Gardner, Massachusetts. The facility's New England Power Pool Generation Information System facility code is MSS 17259

Pursuant to Puc 2505.02 (b) (8), the applicant must submit proof that it 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." The applicant submitted and Staff verified an interconnection agreement with Massachusetts Electric Company (Mass Electric), a subsidiary of National Grid, dated December 15, 2009. The applicant also provided a letter from the Templeton Municipal Light & Water Plant verifying that all witness and meter tests have been completed by Mass Electric.

Pursuant to Puc 2505.02 (b) (11), the applicant must indicate whether the facility has been certified under another non-federal jurisdiction's renewable portfolio standard and proof thereof. On October 22, 2009, the facility received certification as a Maine Class I New Renewable Resource.

Recommendation

Staff has reviewed the Gardner facility application and can affirm that it is complete pursuant to Puc 2505.02. Staff recommends that the Commission certify the Gardner facility as being eligible for Class I RECs effective May 18, 2010.