

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Intra-Department Communication

DATE: October 5, 2010

AT (OFFICE): NHPUC

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

SUBJECT: Staff Recommendation Re: DE 10-191, Evolution Markets
Certification Application for Class III Eligibility of Four Hills Landfill
Methane Gas Facilities Pursuant to RSA 362-F on behalf of Fortistar
Methane Group, LLC

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 *JKR*
Suzanne Amidon, Staff Attorney

Summary

On July 26, 2010, Evolution Markets submitted an application on behalf of Fortistar Methane Group, LLC requesting that the Commission grant approval of the Four Hills landfill methane gas facilities (Four Hills facilities) as eligible to produce Class III renewable energy certificates (RECs) pursuant to RSA 362-F, New Hampshire's Electric Renewable Portfolio Standard law. Pursuant to RSA 362-F:4, Class III eligibility requires a methane gas facility to have begun operation prior to January 1, 2006.

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 Four Hills facilities application was completed on September 1, 2010.¹ The Four Hills facilities include two landfill methane gas facilities that began operation in 1996. Therefore, these facilities meet the Class III eligibility requirements under RSA 362-F:4, III. Evolution Markets 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

¹ The applicant responded to Staff's deficiency letter that was issued on August 20, 2010.

Commission approve the Four Hills facilities as eligible for Class III RECs effective September 1, 2010.

Analysis

The Four Hills facilities include a 0.82 megawatt (MW) landfill gas facility that came online on April 1, 1996 and a 2.2 MW load reducer that came online the following month. The facilities are located at 840 West Hollis Street, Nashua, New Hampshire, and their New England Power Pool Generation Information System facility codes are MSS 943 and MSS 194, respectively.

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 that Public Service Company of New Hampshire completed an interconnection study on August 28, 1995.

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 furnish proof thereof. On February 2, 2005, the facilities received certifications as Connecticut Class I New Renewable Resources.

Recommendation

Staff has reviewed the Four Hills facilities application and can affirm that it is complete pursuant to the Puc 2505.02 rules. Staff recommends that the Commission certify the Four Hills facilities as being eligible for Class III RECs effective September 1, 2010.