

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Inter-Department Communication

DATE: July 18, 2012
AT (OFFICE): NHPUC



FROM: Barbara Bernstein 
Sustainable Energy Analyst

SUBJECT: **DE 12-183**, Watson Associates' Request for Eligibility to Produce Class IV New Hampshire Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) for the Watson Dam Hydroelectric Project Pursuant to RSA 362-F and Laws of 2012, Chapter 0272
Staff Recommends that Eligibility be Granted

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

Summary

Staff has reviewed Watson Associates' application requesting certification of the 269 kilowatts (kW) of electrical production from the Watson Dam Hydroelectric Project (Watson Dam) and has determined that it meets the eligibility requirements under RSA 362-F:4, as a Class IV hydro facility and complies with the New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules Puc 2505.02. Staff recommends Commission approval for the Watson Dam as a Class IV renewable energy source effective July 05, 2012.

Analysis

On July 05, 2012, the PUC received an application requesting that Watson Dam's 269 kW of electrical production be granted eligibility for Class IV RECs. Staff has determined that the application was complete at that time.

Pursuant to Puc 2502.10, and Laws of 2012, Chapter 0272 Class IV (Existing Small Hydroelectric), facilities of one megawatt or less may apply for RECs if they are in compliance with applicable Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) fish passage restoration requirements and interconnected with an electric distribution system located in New Hampshire. To qualify as a facility eligible to produce RECs, Puc 2505.02 (b) requires the source to provide the following:

- 1) *The name and address of the applicant:* The applicant is Watson Associates, PO Box 178, South Berwick, ME 03908.
- 2) *The name and location of the facility:* Watson Dam is located in a reach of the Cocheco River, off of Watson Road in Dover, NH 03820.
- 3) *The ISO-New England asset identification number (if available).* The facility does not have an ISO-New England asset identification number.
- 4) *The GIS facility code if available.* The NEPOOL GIS facility code has been verified as MSS 932.
- 5) *A description of the facility including fuel type, gross nameplate generation capacity, the initial commercial operation date, and the date it began operation, if different.* Watson Dam utilizes one vertical Flygt turbine/generator unit, using 300 cubic square feet of water with 12 feet of head. The dam's initial commercial operation date was December 1984. The nameplate generation capacity is 269 kW of electricity.
- 6) *(N/A – pertains to biomass sources).*
- 7) *All other necessary regulatory approvals, including any reviews, approvals or permits granted by the department.* The FERC application and license number (Project Number 6240-000) were provided for Watson Dam. No other regulatory approvals were submitted.
- 8) *Proof that the applicant either 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.* Pertinent pages of the Public Service Company of New Hampshire, (PSNH) Interconnection Report for Customer Generation, Watson Dam Hydro, dated October 25, 1984 were provided.
- 9) *(N/A – pertains to biomass sources).*
- 10) *A description of how the generation facility is connected to the distribution utility.* The generator produces 480 volts of electricity which pass through a pad mount three-phase transformer and on to the grid.
- 11) *A statement as to whether the facility has been certified under another non-federal jurisdiction's renewable portfolio standard and proof thereof.* Watson Dam currently qualifies as a Class II renewable energy source in the State of Connecticut.
- 12) *A statement as to whether the facility's output has been verified by ISO New England.* The facility has been verified by PSNH and the facility is listed in the GIS database.
- 13) *A description of how the facility's output is reported to the GIS if not verified by ISO-New England.* The facility is verified by ISO-New England.

14) *An affidavit by the owner attesting to the accuracy of the contents of the application.*

An affidavit signed by John Webster, Watson Associates was provided with the application.

15) *The name and telephone number of the facility's operator, if different from the owner.* The facility owner and operator are the same.

16) *Such other information as the applicant wishes to provide to assist in classification of the generating facility.* All information required to complete the application was provided.

Recommendation

Staff has reviewed the Watson Dam application for Class IV certification and can affirm it is complete pursuant to N. H. Code Admin. Rule Puc 2500. Staff recommends that the Commission certify the Watson Dam's hydroelectric facility as a Class IV renewable energy source effective July 05, 2012.