

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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November 5, 2020

Steven B. French, President
SFR Hydro Corporation
16 Church Street
P.O. Box 689
Kingston, NH 03848

Re: DE 20-146, SFR Hydro Corporation
Request for Waiver of Puc 902.15 Net Metering Rule
Grant of Rule Waiver

Dear Mr. French:

On September 14, 2020, SFR Hydro Corporation (SFR Hydro) filed a verified petition requesting a waiver of N.H. Admin. R., Puc 902.15, which defines “generating capacity” for non-inverter-based interconnections as “the nameplate capacity kilowatt rating of the generating facility.” SFR Hydro requested the waiver in order to register its hydroelectric generation facility as a group net metering project and to receive net metering compensation under RSA 362-A:9 and the Commission’s Puc 900 rules.

In its petition, SFR Hydro described a number of facts regarding its facility, provided an overview of the net metering statute and rules applicable to the waiver request, as well as the Commission’s rule waiver standards, and concluded with reasons for granting the waiver request. In particular, SFR Hydro described a number of measures to be taken to reduce the facility’s total peak generating capacity to less than 1,000 kW, the maximum capacity size eligible to net meter under the statute and rules. Those measures include the use of system control settings at 990 kW maximum output, the permanent disablement of Unit 2, and the potential manual disablement of the Unit 4 head pond control. In addition, the facility’s production information will be reviewed on a quarterly basis by the interconnecting utility, Eversource Energy, which will report to SFR Hydro and/or the Commission regarding facility compliance with the 1,000 kW peak generating limit.

Commission Staff (Staff) filed a memorandum on October 13, 2020, recommending that the Commission grant SFR Hydro a waiver of Puc 902.15, contingent upon confirmation that the proposed facility modifications have been implemented at the time a group net metering application is submitted. According to Staff, in view of the age and unique

circumstances of the equipment at the SFR Hydro facility and the proposed unit disablements, system controls, and production monitoring, the requested rule waiver would allow the peak generating capacity of the facility to more accurately reflect the actual capacity limitations resulting from the proposed modifications.

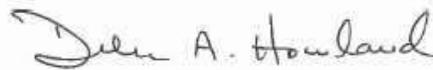
The Commission has reviewed SFR Hydro's request and, based on Staff's recommendation, determined that the standards for a rule waiver contained in Puc 201.05 have been satisfied. In particular, the Commission found that the waiver would serve the public interest and would not disrupt the orderly and efficient resolution of matters before the Commission, in view of the unique circumstances of the SFR Hydro facility and the alternative methods proposed for limiting and monitoring its total peak generating output.

Accordingly, SFR Hydro's request to waive the requirements of Puc 902.15 is granted subject to the following conditions:

- (1) confirmation that the proposed facility modifications have been implemented at the time a group net metering application is submitted;
- (2) after SFR Hydro's approved participation in the net metering program as a group host, Eversource Energy will review the facility's production information quarterly and report to SFR Hydro and/or the Commission regarding its compliance with the 1,000 kW peak generating limit; and
- (3) the actual total peak generating output of the facility cannot exceed 1,000 kW.

SFR Hydro is advised that, under Puc 909.11, the Commission is authorized to suspend a group host's registration for a period of up to two years, after notice and an opportunity to be heard, for any of the following: (1) a material misrepresentation of information required by Puc 909.09, which, if accurately reported, would have resulted in the denial of the application; (2) a material violation of Puc 909 or RSA 362-A:9, XIV; or (3) a material violation of any Commission order.

Sincerely,



Debra A. Howland
Executive Director

cc: Service List (Electronically)
Docket File

Service List - Docket Related

Docket#: 20-146

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