

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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May 18, 2021

Matt L'Heureux, Campus Energy Manager
University of New Hampshire
6 Leavitt Lane
Durham, NH 03824

Re: REC 21-083, University of New Hampshire
N.H. Class I Certification DE 08-133, NEPOOL GIS Code NON32754
Granting Waiver of Puc 2503.03(d)

Dear Mr. L'Heureux:

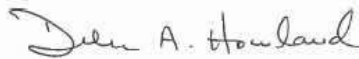
On April 27, 2021, you filed a letter on behalf of the University of New Hampshire (UNH), with attachments, requesting a waiver of New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules, Puc 2503.03(d), which would permit UNH to count 879 megawatt-hours (MWh) of previously mislabeled renewable energy generation from its combined heat and power (CHP) plant in Durham, New Hampshire toward the 2020 New Hampshire Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) Class I compliance obligation. Commission Staff (Staff) filed a recommendation on May 11, 2021.

In your letter, you explained that Evolution Markets Inc., which handles UNH's renewable energy certificate (REC) sales and manages its New England Power Pool Generation Information System (GIS) account, mistakenly entered generation data from UNH's CHP plant for January 2020 in the GIS "Natural Gas" section instead of the GIS "Landfill Gas" section, as shown in the attachments accompanying the letter. As a result of that data entry error, UNH was unable to create 879 Class I RECs based on the 879 MWh generated in January 2020, because natural gas is a non-renewable energy source. Attached to your letter is an email from the GIS Registry Administrator dated April 26, 2021, which confirmed that certificates for UNH for the first quarter of 2020 (Q1 2020) were issued under the natural gas fuel type and therefore were "unsettled," as they could not be sold or transferred through the GIS system for compliance or other use. On behalf of UNH, you have requested that the Commission waive Puc 2503.03(d), so that the 879 MWh generated in Q1 2020 may be counted toward the RPS Class I obligation for the 2020 compliance year without requiring the submission of a "My Settled Certificates Disposition" report by the purchasing electricity provider.

Staff recommended that the Commission grant UNH's waiver request, stating that, but for the clerical error, the 879 MWh generated meets all qualifications for the production of Class I RECs. Staff noted that allowing UNH to sell the 879 MWh of renewable generation attributes could reduce potential alternative compliance payments, the cost of which likely would be passed on to electricity customers. According to Staff, a waiver of Puc 2503.03(d) would enable UNH to satisfy the purpose of the rule through an alternative method by counting the 879 MWh of UNH's generation attributes, which would otherwise go unused, toward the 2020 RPS Class I compliance obligation. Further, Staff recommended that, at the time of its RPS compliance submission, the buyer of those generation attributes verify that they were purchased from UNH and used solely to meet RPS obligations in New Hampshire by certifying, and providing documentation showing, that the attributes were not used to comply with the RPS obligations of any other jurisdiction.

The Commission has reviewed your filing and, based on Staff's recommendation, determined that the standards for waiver contained in Puc 201.05 have been satisfied. Accordingly, it has granted the UNH CHP facility in Durham a waiver of the requirements of Puc 2503.03(d), so that UNH may sell the attributes associated with 879 MWh generated in Q1 2020 to an obligated provider of electricity for use toward its 2020 compliance year RPS Class I obligation, prior to the July 1, 2021 deadline. *See N.H. Admin. R., Puc 2503.03(a).* The purchaser of those generation attributes shall certify and provide documentation showing that they were used to meet New Hampshire RPS obligations only and not those of any other jurisdiction.

Sincerely,



Debra A. Howland
Executive Director

cc: Service List (Electronically)
Docket File

Service List - Docket Related

Docket#: 21-083

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