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Released 2/25/2011
Questions and Answers

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
5.	I have two questions regarding your definition of "small hydroelectric facilities." First, the definition states that operation must have begun prior to January 1, 2006 – but the RFP clearly states that "projects completed prior to May 3, 2011 are not eligible." This is a clear contradiction. Second, many small hydroelectric projects are exempt from FERC licensing requirements under a program "intended for small projects that would result in minor environmental effects (e.g., projects that involve little change to water flow and use and are unlikely to affect threatened and endangered species)" (http://www.ferc.gov/industries/hydropower/gen-info/licensing/small-low-impact.asp). If a project qualifies for FERC exemption, must it still require the fish passages to which your definition refers?	The definition that includes an operation date prior to January 1, 2006 is taken from the RPS law RSA 362-F:4, IV for Class IV sources, *Existing Small Hydroelectric*. Given that the RPS law does not support, as a REC-producing resource, new hydroelectric projects, this grant solicitation does not either. The exception to this would be for projects that involve refurbishing existing small hydroelectric facilities to become REC producing facilities, such as through the installation of the required upstream and downstream fish passages or adding new incremental capacity to an existing facility. Even if a hydroelectric project qualifies for a FERC exemption, it still must include the upstream and downstream fish passages (among the other criteria listed in RSA 362-F:4, IV) to be eligible to produce RECs under the RPS law and eligible to receive funding under this grant solicitation. See: www.gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/XXXIV/362-F/362-F-4.htm.
6.	Free Flow Energy, Inc., a New Hampshire company, is working toward repowering Macallen Dam in Newmarket. The dam is rated at approximately 500 kW and would provide the Town with approximately 2M kW-Hrs of carbon free electricity each year. Will you kindly clarify if our project qualifies for the NH PUC renewable energy opportunity attached.	Your project does not qualify for this RFP. Please see the Answer to Question #5.

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7.	My company, Nordic Windpower, is an American-owned technology developer and manufacturer of a 1 MW wind turbine designed, engineered, and ideally suited for commercial/industrial on-site generation, small wind farm, and community wind applications. I just became aware of your current renewable energy RFP which represents a potential project scope and scale that we consider our "sweet spot." The substantial weight reduction realized with our two-blade design allows for material savings on installation expenses and lower upfront capital costs. Those factors, combined with significant long-term operations and maintenance savings, create a lower overall cost of energy for our customers. Our design is also approximately 20% more quiet than an equivalent three-blade turbine. I would appreciate an opportunity to offer our solutions and support to developers participating in your RFP. Would it be possible to provide a bidder's list that we may discretely contact? You may learn more about our company and our N1000 turbine at our corporate website – www.nordicwindpower.com.	We do not have a bidder's list for this solicitation. The RFP was publicly posted in NH newspapers and sent out to an email network list of over 1,000 subscribers, comprised of interested citizens, past program participants, developers, etc.

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8.	- There is no minimum size on the project. It does not have to be greater than 100 kW. Correct? - Does this RFP support a joint university-industry (in NH) doing a pilot study project that would assess the economic feasibility of introducing renewable energy in the facility? The result of this study would be an estimate of the NH RECs, CO2 reduction, crude oil replaced, etc, when the full project is implemented? - This RFP covers a proposal submitted by a joint team of university and a municipality, without necessarily having an industrial partner. Correct?	Correct. Projects do not have to be greater than 100 kW. Although if it is 100 kW or less and eligible for the existing C&I solar rebate program it would not be eligible under this RFP pursuant to RSA 362-F:10, XI. This RFP supports renewable energy projects that include real REC production (or thermal output) CO2 reductions, etc. This grant solicitation does not include modeling studies or research projects in absence of a real, operational, renewable energy system. Correct. This RFP includes eligible projects from any non-residential entity.
9.	Kroka Expeditions is a 501-C3 non-profit educational organization located in Marlow, NH I received an e-mail grant proposal notification from you. I would like to know if Kroka, as a school is eligible to apply for an alternative energy grant at our campus in Marlow.	Yes, non-profit entities are eligible to apply for a grant under this RFP.
10.	Do geothermal projects, for instance, on an existing manufacturing facility qualify or does the project have to be larger and on its own site?	Geothermal projects installed at an existing manufacturing facility qualify, to the extent that they produce electricity or generate useful thermal energy from geothermal sources, net of any energy consumed to produce such energy. This however does not include ground source heat pump applications, which do not utilize geothermal energy derived from the earth's core and tectonic plate movement, but rather from a relatively stable temperature difference that exists below the ground surface frost line. There is no size minimum or maximum for qualified geothermal energy projects.
11.	Would a non-profit community learning center be able to apply for such funding?	Yes.

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