

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Inter-Department Communication

DATE: November 4, 2008

AT (OFFICE): NHPUC

FROM:

SEM
Maureen L. Reno *HLR*
Utility Analyst III

SUBJECT: DE 08-128, Nautilus Energy's Application for Class II Eligibility
Pursuant to RSA 362-F
Staff Recommendation

TO:

Chairman Thomas B. Getz
Commissioner Graham J. Morrison
Commissioner Clifton C. Below
Debra A. Howland, Executive Director and Secretary

CC:

Thomas C. Frantz, Director of the Electric Division
Steven E. Mullen, Assistant Director of the Electric Division
Suzanne Amidon, Staff Attorney



Summary

On October 21, 2008, Nautilus Energy (Nautilus) submitted an application requesting the Commission grant approval of the Thule Corporation solar photovoltaic facility (Thule facility) to produce Class II Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) pursuant to RSA 362-F, New Hampshire's Electric Renewable Portfolio Standard law. Pursuant to RSA 362-F:4, IV, Class II eligibility requires that a facility provide electricity from solar technologies and that it begins operation after 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 a completed application. The Thule facility is a solar photovoltaic facility and began commercial operation in October 2008. The facility meets the Class II eligibility requirements under RSA 362-F:4, II and Nautilus has complied with the N. H. Code Admin. Rule Puc 2500 and has provided all the necessary information. Based on its review of the application, Staff recommends that the Commission approve the Thule solar photovoltaic facility as eligible for Class II RECs.

Analysis

The Thule facility is located at 42 Silvermine Road, Seymour, CT. The project's initial commercial operation date was October 2008. It has a gross nameplate capacity of

0.318 megawatts. The NEPOOL GIS facility code has not yet been obtained. Nautilus will provide that to the Commission as soon as it is obtained from the GIS administrator. The ISO-NE asset identification number is not applicable as the Thule facility is a behind-the-meter source.

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 Thule’s “Standard Fast Track and Study Process Generator Interconnection Agreement” with Connecticut Light and Power dated October 19, 2008.

Pursuant to Puc 2505.02 (b) (11), the applicant shall include a statement as to whether the facility has been certified under another non-federal jurisdiction’s renewable portfolio standards and proof thereof. The applicant stated that the facility has not been certified by another state.

Recommendation

Staff has reviewed Nautilus’ application for its solar photovoltaic facility and can affirm it is complete pursuant to N. H. Code Admin. Rule Puc 2500. Staff recommends that the Commission certify the Thule solar photovoltaic facility as being eligible for Class II RECs effective October 21, 2008, the date on which Staff was able to make a determination that the facility met the requirements for certification as a Class II renewable energy source.