

# STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

## Inter-Department Communication

**DATE:** July 26, 2012

**AT (OFFICE):** NHPUC

**FROM:** Barbara Bernstein   
Sustainable Energy Analyst

**SUBJECT:** **DE 12-201**, Hydro Management Group, LLC's Eligibility Request for the Franklin Falls Hydroelectric Corporation, Salmon Brook Station Hydroelectric Project to Produce Class IV New Hampshire Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) 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*

On July 10, 2012, Hydro Management Group, LLC (Hydro Management) submitted an application requesting Class IV certification for the Franklin Falls Hydroelectric Corporation, Salmon Brook Station Hydroelectric (Salmon Brook Station Hydro) project pursuant to RSA 362-F, New Hampshire's Renewable Portfolio Standard law and Laws of 2012, Chapter 0272. Staff has reviewed the Hydro Management certification request for Salmon Brook Station Hydro's 250 kilowatts (kW) of electrical production 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 2500. Staff has determined that the application was complete as submitted and recommends Commission approval for Salmon Brook Station Hydro as a Class IV renewable energy source effective July 10, 2012.

### *Analysis*

Pursuant to 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.<sup>1</sup> 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 Hydro Management Group LLC, (Hydro Management) c/o Essex Hydro Associates LLC, 55 Union Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Boston, MA 02108.
- 2) *The name and location of the facility:* Salmon Brook Station Hydro is located on the Salmon Brook approximately 1,000 feet above the confluence of the Salmon Brook and the Pemigewasset River, in the City of Franklin, NH.
- 3) *The ISO-New England asset identification number (if available).* The facility's asset identification number is 928.
- 4) *The GIS facility code if available.* The NEPOOL GIS facility code has been verified as MSS 928.
- 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.* Salmon Brook Station Hydro is a run-of-river facility that includes a 245-foot earth embankment dam with a 70-foot wide stone masonry spillway, an 8.4 acre reservoir, a concrete powerhouse containing two 125 Essex turbines with an installed capacity of 250 kW, as well as other appurtenances. The project began commercial operation December 01, 1985.
- 6) *(N/A – pertains to biomass sources).*
- 7) *All other necessary regulatory approvals, including any reviews, approvals or permits granted by the department.* A Notice of Exemption From Licensing (FERC Project Number 7248-000) was provided for Salmon Brook Station Hydro.
- 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.* A copy of the Operating Agreement for Purposes of Wheeling and Power Sales between Public Service Company of New Hampshire (PSNH) and Franklin Falls Hydroelectric Corporation dated January 31, 2006 was provided.
- 9) *(N/A – pertains to biomass sources).*
- 10) *A description of how the generation facility is connected to the distribution utility.* Salmon Brook Station Hydro is interconnected with the PSNH electric distribution system.

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<sup>1</sup> On July 19, 2012, the Commission issued Order No. 25,394 which waives the requirements of Puc 2502.10 insofar as the requirements conflict with the certification of the new category of hydroelectric facilities created by the enactment of Chapter 272.

- 11) *A statement as to whether the facility has been certified under another non-federal jurisdiction's renewable portfolio standard and proof thereof.* Salmon Brook Station Hydro currently qualifies as a Maine Class II RPS resource.
- 12) *A statement as to whether the facility's output has been verified by ISO New England.* The facility's output has been verified by ISO New England 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.* Not applicable.
- 14) *An affidavit by the owner attesting to the accuracy of the contents of the application.* An affidavit signed by Andrew Locke, Vice President, Hydro Management was provided with the application.
- 15) *The name and telephone number of the facility's operator, if different from the owner.* The facility operator is Alan Larter, Treasurer, Franklin Falls Hydroelectric Corporation; his telephone number is 603-934-3660.
- 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 Salmon Brook Station Hydro application for Class IV certification and can affirm it is complete pursuant to New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules Puc 2500. Staff recommends that the Commission certify Salmon Brook Station Hydro as a Class IV renewable energy source effective July 10, 2012.