



GDS Associates, Inc.
Engineers and Consultants

RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCES ELIGIBILITY
GDS TEAM RECOMMENDATION
For Consideration By The
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
(Version 6 – August 20th, 2013)

Date: July 17, 2015

Docket #: 4536-C

Generation Unit and Contact Information:

Unit Name: National Grid RE Growth Small Scale Solar Aggregation

Unit Owner: National Grid, on behalf of individual aggregated projects

Unit Size (max. MW): 12 MW maximum cap - Should the Distributed Generation Board increase the capacity for small scale solar, the Company would seek an increase in the aggregation size accordingly *Location (city, state):* Multiple customer sites all within the State of Rhode Island

Commercial Operation Date: On or after 6/15/2015

Contact Name, Numbers and Address: Kris Honberger, Senior Trader, 100 Old Country Road, 2nd Floor, Hicksville, NY 11801, phone (516) 545-4563, email kris.hornberger@nationalgrid.com; Backup: James Ruebenacker, Manager, 100 Old Country Road, 2nd Floor, Hicksville, NY 11801, phone (516) 545-3227, email james/ruebenacker@nationalgrid.com

Authorized Representative Name, Numbers and Address: John Vaughn, Vice President, Energy Procurement, 100 Old Country Road, 2nd Floor, Hicksville, NY 11801

Application Received: Date: 6/26/2015

Comments: Sent to GDS for review on 7/17/2015

Type of Certification Requested:

Standard Certification Prospective Certification (Declaratory Judgment)

Generation Type and Technology Information: *(check all that apply)*

Repowered Project Incremental Generation Incremental Intermittent

Customer-Sited or Off-Grid System (or associated aggregations)

Generation Unit Located in Control Area Adjacent to NEPOOL:

Solar Wind Ocean Thermal Geothermal Small Hydro

Eligible Biomass Unlisted Biomass Biomass (fossil co-fired/multi-fuel)

Fuel Cell (using an eligible renewable resource)

Recommendation:

Approve (GIS Certification #: 51802) Reject Public Hearing Needed

- Existing Renewable Energy Resource New Renewable Energy Resource
 Capable of Producing as Both Existing & New Renewable Energy Resource

Comments: This application is a precursor (sample) for upcoming quarterly submittals under this GIS # and 12 MW aggregation cap.

RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCES ELIGIBILITY
DETAILED GDS TEAM APPLICATION REVIEW RESULTS

(Template V5 – 11/15/11)

Date of Final Review: 7/17/15

Note: Depending on the type of application (project vintage, type, location, fuel source, etc.) not all of these data items will be applicable.

A. Renewable Energy Resource – Vintage (*see appropriate Sections of RES Regulations, Application Sections 3.1-3.9 and Appendix C*):
A.1 Generation Unit meets the definition of an Existing Renewable Energy Resource noted in RES Regulations Section 3.10 (first entering commercial operation before 12/31/1997). Yes No
Comments: Requesting "New"

A.2 Generation from the Unit meets one of the definitions of New Renewable Energy Resource in RES Regulations Section 3.23. Yes No N/A
Comments:

A.2.1 If Generation Unit is at a new site, adequate documentation is provided to ensure that it first entered commercial operation after December 31, 1997. Yes No N/A
Comments: All projects in aggregation to be operational on or after 6/15/15. No projects under the aggregation have reached commercial operation to date. The Company will provide quarterly updates of the projects added in the aggregation as the program continues. This update will also include Commercial Operation Dates

A.2.2 If Generation Unit is at the site of an Existing Renewable Energy Resource, adequate documentation is provided to ensure that it first entered commercial operation after December 31, 1997 and that the Existing Renewable Energy Resource has been retired and replaced with such new Generation Unit. Yes No N/A
Comments:

A.2.3 If a Repowered Generation Unit (as defined in Section 3.29 of the RES Regulations – complete replacement of Prime Mover, material increase in efficiency or material decrease in air emissions, and demonstration that at least 80% of resulting tax basis of the entire Generation Unit's plant and equipment is derived from capital expenditures made after December 31, 1997), adequate documentation is provided to ensure that the entire output of said unit first entered commercial operation after December 31, 1997 at the site of existing Generation Unit. Yes No N/A
Comments:

A.2.4 If a multi-fuel facility, adequate documentation is provided to ensure that the renewable energy fraction of output from a Generation Unit in which an Eligible Biomass Fuel is first co-fired with fossil fuels after December 31, 1997. Yes No N/A
Comments:

A.2.5 If Incremental Output from a non-Intermittent Existing Renewable Energy Resource, adequate documentation is provided to ensure that such output is attributable to capital investments for efficiency improvements or additions of capacity that were demonstrably completed after December 31, 1997 and that are sufficient to, were intended to, and can be demonstrated to increase annual electricity output in excess of ten percent (10%) over a Historical Generation Baseline as determined per Section 3.23.v of the RES Regulations. Yes No N/A
Comments:

A.2.6 If Incremental Output from an Intermittent Existing Renewable Energy Resource, adequate documentation is provided to ensure that such output is attributable to capital investments for efficiency improvements or additions of capacity that were demonstrably completed after December 31, 1997 and that are sufficient to, were intended to, and can be demonstrated to increase annual electricity output in excess of ten percent (10%) over a Historical Generation Baseline as determined per Section 3.23.vi of the RES Regulations. Yes No N/A
Comments:

B. Eligible Customer-Sited/Off-Grid Generation Facility: Yes No
(see appropriate Sections of RES Regulations, Application Section 5 and Appendix D)

B.1 Adequate documentation provided to ensure that NEPOOL GIS Certificates are created by way of an aggregation of Generation Units, physically located in the State of Rhode Island, using the same generation technology (see RES Regulations Section 6.8.i). Yes No
Comments: All projects will be part of Rhode Island's RE Growth Program

B.2 Proposed Aggregation Agreement (as specified in Section 6.8.iii of the RES Regulations) is reasonable and complete. Yes No
Comments:

B.2.1 Aggregation Agreement includes name and contact information of the aggregator owner. Yes No
Comments:

B.2.2 Aggregation Agreement includes name and contact information and adequate evidence of qualifications of the Verifier to ensure that the Verifier will accurately and efficiently carry out its duties. Yes No

Comments:

B.2.2.1 Additional evidence of Verifier qualifications requested and provided. Yes No N/A

Comments:

B.2.3 Aggregation Agreement includes a declaration of any and all business or financial relations between aggregator and Verifier sufficient to ensure the independence of the Verifier in accordance with Section 6.8.iii.c of the RES Regulations (10% or more ownership in voting stock, or family officer/etc). Yes No

Comments: Although National Grid will be both the Aggregation Owner & Verifier, and thus, by definition cannot be "independent", as a regulated utility they have submitted sufficient evidence to ensure appropriate experience and accurate compilation/reporting of data to meet the intent of this requirement:

"The Company, in accord with the RE Growth Program, will serve as both Aggregator Owner and Verifier. Neither the Company nor any of its affiliates will possess, directly or indirectly, any equity ownership or voting interest in any of the aggregated projects, and no officer, director, employee or representative of the Company or its affiliates will simultaneously be an officer, director, partner, employee or representative of any of the aggregated projects. To the extent the Company and / or any of its affiliates obtained any such interest in a Generation Unit, it would not be considered sufficiently independent and such Generation Unit would not be allowed to participate in the aggregation."

"Pursuant to the Narragansett Electric Company Renewable Energy Growth Program for Residential Customers Tariff (the Tariff), the Company possesses the rights and title to the RECs and any other environmental attributes or market products associated with the generation output of the aggregated projects. In compliance with the RI RE Growth Statute, the Company will sell the RECs obtained from these projects and credit the proceeds to distribution customers in rates."

"Section 3.33 of the Rhode Island Rules and Regulations Governing the Implementation of a Renewable Energy Standard (RI RES Rules) provides that "[a] Verifier may be the local electric distribution company."

"In compliance with RI RES sections 6.8(ii) and 6.8(iii)(b),(c),(e) and (g); and pursuant to the New England Power Pool Generation Information System (NEPOOL GIS) Operating Rules, Rule 2.5(j), the Company is seeking herein certification as a Verifier from the Commission. It is acknowledged that as part of

its role as Verifier, the Company will coordinate with and use the services of its affiliates for purposes of meter reading and NEPOOL GIS reporting."

B.2.3.1 Aggregation Agreement includes statement indicating under what circumstances the Verifier would not be considered sufficiently independent of the individual Generation Unit, and that Generation Units not meeting this independence test would not be allowed to participate in the aggregation. Yes No

Comments: Although National Grid will be both the Aggregation Owner & Verifier, and thus, by definition cannot be "independent", as a regulated utility they have submitted sufficient evidence to ensure appropriate experience and accurate compilation/reporting of data to meet the intent of this requirement

B.2.4 Aggregation Agreement identifies the type of technology that will be included in the aggregation and provides a statement that the aggregation will include only individual Generation Units that meet all the requirements of the RES Regulations (physical location, vintage, etc.). Yes No

Comments:

B.2.5 Aggregation Agreement provides an adequate description of proposed operating procedures for the aggregation, by which the Verifier shall ensure that individual Generation Units in the aggregation comply with all eligibility requirements and that the NEPOOL GIS Certificates created accurately represent generation (see Section 6.8.iii.e of the RES Regulations). Yes No

Comments:

B.2.5.1 At a minimum the proposed operating procedures include reasonable and sufficient details for:

- Determining that the Generation Unit exists and is in compliance with RES Regulations and Commission-approved Aggregation Agreement. Yes No
- Meter reading procedure that allows the Verifier to verify these readings (manual or remote, via the aggregators own system or an independent system) in a manner fully compliant with NEPOOL GIS Operating Rules regarding metering. Yes No
- Specifying how generation data will be entered into NEPOOL GIS to create Certificates. Yes No
- Documenting a procedure to verify independently that the GIS Certificates created for the aggregation are consistent with the meter readings. Yes No

- Correcting discrepancies in NEPOOL GIS Certificate generation identified by the Verifier. Yes No

Comments: Although National Grid will be both the Aggregation Owner & Verifier, and thus, by definition cannot be "independent", as a regulated utility they have submitted sufficient evidence to ensure appropriate experience and accurate compilation/reporting of data to meet the intent of this requirement

B.2.6 Aggregation Agreement provides an adequate description of how the Verifier will be compensated for its services by the aggregator (in no instance is the Verifier is compensated in a manner linked to the number of NEPOOL GIS Certificates created by the aggregation). Yes No

Comments: No compensation

C. Generation Unit Location (see appropriate Sections of RES Regulations, Application Section 5 and Appendix E):

C.1 Generation Unit is located in NEPOOL Control Area. Yes No
Comments: Rhode Island

C.1.1 Generation Unit is located in Rhode Island. Yes No
Comments:

C.2 Generation Unit is located in a control area adjacent to NEPOOL and, in accordance with Section 5.1.ii of the RES Regulations, will apply the associated Generation Attributes to the RES only to the extent that the energy produced by the Generation Unit is actually delivered into NEPOOL for consumption by New England customers. Yes No
Comments:

C.2.1 Applicant acknowledges that satisfactory documentation (i.e., a report from neighboring Generation Attribute accounting system or an affidavit) must be provided to verify that Generation Attributes from a Generation Unit located in a control area adjacent to NEPOOL have not otherwise been, nor will be, sold, retired, claimed or represented as part of electrical energy output or sales, or used to satisfy obligations in jurisdictions other than Rhode Island (such assurances may consist of a report from a neighboring Generation Attribute accounting system or an affidavit from the Generation Unit) Yes No
Comments: N/A

C.2.2 Applicant acknowledges that energy delivered from such Generation Unit into NEPOOL will be verified by the following:

- A unit-specific bilateral contract for the sale and delivery of such energy into NEPOOL
- Confirmation from ISO that the energy was actually settled in the ISO Market Settlement System, and
- Confirmation through the North American Reliability Council tagging system that the import of the energy into NEPOOL actually occurred, or such other requirements as the Commission deems appropriate

Yes No

Comments: N/A

D. Eligible Fuel Source – Solar, Wind, Ocean Thermal, Geothermal, or Fuel Cell (using an eligible renewable resource) *(see appropriate Sections of RES Regulations and Application Section 2.4)*: Yes No N/A
 Comments: Solar

E. Eligible Fuel Source – Small Hydro Facilities *(see appropriate Sections of RES Regulations and Application Sections 2.5-2.6)*: Yes No N/A

E.1 Aggregate capacity does not exceed 30 MW. Yes No
 Comments: N/A

E.2 If “New Renewable Energy Resource”, applicant acknowledges that facility does not involve any new impoundment or diversion of water with an average salinity of 20 parts per thousand or less. Yes No
 Comments: N/A

F. Eligible Fuel Source – Biomass Facilities *(see appropriate Sections of RES Regulations, Application Sections 2.7 and Appendix F)*: Yes No N/A

F.1 Generation Unit uses a biomass fuel source listed in RES Regulations Section 3.7. Yes No
 Comments: N/A

F.2 If source is other than RES Regulations Section 3.7-listed, said source has been designated as “clean wood”. Yes No
 Comments: N/A

F.3 Fuel Source Plan can reasonably be expected to ensure that only Eligible Biomass Fuels will be used, and in the case of co-firing ensure that only that proportion of generation attributable to an Eligible Biomass Fuel be eligible. Yes No
 Comments: N/A

F.3.1 Fuel Source Plan specifies the type of Eligible Biomass Fuel to be used. Yes No

Comments: N/A

F.3.2 If proposed fuel is “clean wood”, Fuel Source Plan provides adequate substantiation as to why the fuel source should be considered a clean wood. Yes No N/A

Comments:

F.3.3 In the case of co-firing with a fossil fuel, Fuel Source Plan includes an adequate description of how such co-firing will occur and how the relative amounts of Eligible Biomass Fuel and fossil fuel will be measured, and how the eligible portion of generation output will be calculated (with such calculations based on the energy content of the proposed fuels used). Yes No N/A

Comments:

F.3.4 Fuel Source Plan includes an adequate description of what measures will be taken to ensure that only the Eligible Biomass Fuel is used (e.g., standard operating protocols or procedures that will be implemented at the Generating Unit, contracts with fuel suppliers, testing or sampling regimes). Yes No

Comments: N/A

F.3.5 Fuel Source Plan includes adequate assurance that the fuels stored at or brought to the Generation Unit will only be Eligible Biomass Fuels or fossil fuels used for co-firing. Yes No

Comments: N/A

F.3.6 If proposed fuel includes recycled wood waste, Fuel Source Plan provides adequate documentation to ensure that such fuel meets the definition of Eligible Biomass Fuel and also meets material separation, storage, or handling standards acceptable to the Commission and furthermore consistent with the RES Regulations. Yes No N/A

Comments:

F.3.7 Applicant certifies that it will file all reports and other information necessary to enable the Commission to verify the ongoing eligibility of the renewable energy generators pursuant to Section 6.3 of the RES Regulations.

Yes No N/A

Comments:

F.3.8 A copy of the Generation Unit’s Valid Air Permit or equivalent authorization has been attached and the effective date and issuing state or jurisdiction has been identified.

Yes No N/A

Comments:

G. Other Comments/Observations: National Grid's application provides a request for approval as a Verifier and includes sample tables and key data fields that they propose to submit quarterly to provide the Commission with all information necessary to review, verify and approve this initial aggregation and subsequent additions thereto.