STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DE 15-302

RESIDENTIAL RENEWABLE ELECTRIC GENERATION INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Order *Nisi* Modifying Application Process

O R D E R N O. 26,349

April 15, 2020

This order modifies the application process for the residential renewable electric generation facility incentive program. This order permits the electronic submission of applications during the current state of emergency related to the coronavirus pandemic. The order also permanently modifies the application process to remove the need for applicants to provide their social security numbers to the Commission. This order is issued on a *nisi* basis to ensure that interested persons receive notice of the decision and have the opportunity to submit comments or request a hearing before the order becomes effective.

In 2009, the Commission approved initiation of the residential renewable electric generation facility incentive program (Residential Program), under RSA 362-F:10, V; establishing a two-step application process and approving the forms required to be submitted in each step of the process. *See* Order No. 25,020 (October 2, 2009). Since that time, the Commission has modified the Residential Program a number of times. Most recently, program eligibility terms and conditions were modified and the incentive level for the Residential Program was decreased to $0.20 per watt, up to a maximum of $1,000 or 30 percent of the total system cost, whichever is less. *See* Order No. 26,075 (November 20, 2017).

We have determined that modifications should be made to the Residential Program application process so that applicants have the opportunity to receive incentive payments in a more timely and efficient manner. First, we will permit Residential Program Step 1 initial and

Step 2 final applications to be submitted electronically, on a temporary basis during the current state of emergency related to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Electronic submissions will be considered filed as of the time that the electronic version is received by the Commission. Persons electing to submit their applications electronically should also mail a paper copy of their application to the Commission's offices. This modification to the application process is consistent with the Commission's COVID-19 related secretarial letter issued on March 17, 2020, which permitted electronic filings in Commission proceedings during the state of emergency. It is also consistent with the temporary modification we recently approved to permit electronic submission of applications in the commercial and industrial solar program. *See Renewable Energy Incentive Program for C&I Solar Projects*, Order No. 26,346 (April 7, 2020).

Step 1 and Step 2 applications may continue to be filed solely on paper, if the applicant prefers; however, applications submitted only on paper may take longer to be processed.

Second, we will modify the Residential Program application process so that Step 2 applicants are not required to provide their social security numbers to the Commission on a separate page of the application. Instead, applicants should register as vendors with the State of New Hampshire and provide the necessary information through the state vendor registration process administered by the Department of Administrative Services (DAS).[1] Residential Program applicants are currently registered as vendors through the DAS website by Commission Staff (Staff), using the social security numbers and other personal information provided by the applicants. Modification of the Step 2 application process to require applicants to perform that action themselves will streamline the process and enable secure electronic submission by eliminating the need for the Commission to receive and maintain applicants' social security

[1] The state's vendor registration is available through the Department of Administrative Services' website at: https://das.nh.gov/purchasing/vendorregistration/(S(dsvtvv55ast1xtfm23it1l55))/welcome.aspx.

numbers. That modification is permanent and will not terminate when the current state of emergency ends.

We direct Staff to implement the Step 1 and Step 2 application submission and processing procedures consistent with this order. To facilitate administration, we also authorize Staff to make clerical and ministerial administrative modifications to Residential Program application forms and processes without further Commission approval, provided that such modifications are consistent with this order. We also expressly authorize the Commission's Executive Director to terminate the temporary modification permitting electronic application submissions following the end of the state of emergency.

The Commission has the authority, "to alter, amend, suspend, annul, set aside, or otherwise modify any order made by it." *See* RSA 365:28. We modify prior Orders establishing and altering the Residential Program to implement the application process changes addressed above by issuing this order on a *nisi* basis to ensure that all interested persons receive notice of the decision and have the opportunity to submit comments or request a hearing before the order becomes effective.

Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby

ORDERED *NISI*, that the residential renewable energy generation facility incentive program shall be modified as described in the body of this order; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that Staff is authorized to make clerical and ministerial administrative modifications to program application forms and processes without further Commission approval, provided that such modifications are consistent with this order; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that the Commission's Executive Director is authorized to terminate the temporary modification permitting electronic application submission following the end of the current state of emergency related to the novel coronavirus; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that the Executive Director shall publish this order *nisi* on the Commission's website no later than one day after the date of issue, and shall cause a copy of this order *nisi* to be sent through electronic mail to the service list for this docket; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that all persons interested in responding to this order *nisi* be notified that they may submit their comments or file a written request for a hearing that states the reason and basis for a hearing no later than April 22, 2020, for the Commission's consideration; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that all persons interested in responding to such comments or request for hearing shall do so no later than April 27, 2020; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that this order *nisi* shall be effective on April 29, 2020, unless the Commission provides otherwise in a supplemental order issued prior to the effective date.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this fifteenth day of April, 2020.

Dianne Martin
Chairwoman

Kathryn M. Bailey
Commissioner

Michael S. Giaimo
Commissioner

Attested by:

Debra A. Howland
Executive Director

Service List - Docket Related

Docket# : 15-302

Printed: 4/15/2020

Email Addresses

ExecutiveDirector@puc.nh.gov
marjorie890@gmail.com
aaron@solarendeavors.com
madams@northernforest.org
maho@ultrageothermal.com
albert@snowdragonsolar.com
suzanne.amidon@puc.nh.gov
canderson@borregosolar.com
russaney@yahoo.com
Christopher.aslin@doj.nh.gov
ayerelectricllc@metrocast.net
dbagley@catamountsolar.com
sbarnes@sjindustries.com
gbass@noblesolutions.com
mike@rev-en.com
cbell@solarsourcene.com
clifton.below@gmail.com
jack@seacoastenergy.com
gregory.blake@comcast.net
davidaborden@aol.com
nbourassa@outdoors.org
jeb.bradley@leg.state.nh.us
james.brennan@oca.nh.gov
tomburack@comcast.net
paul.button42@gmail.com
johnjcall@comcast.net
callnanb@nhec.com
cncasagrande@hughes.net
richard.chagnon@puc.nh.gov
laurenchaserowell@gmail.com
achesley@devinemillimet.com
kchvic@comcast.net
dclapp@revisionenergy.com
clayaz23@gmail.com
wcole@bluesel.com
paulhok1@myfairpoint.net
scondon@revisionenergy.com
cnesalesnh@constellation.com
brian@umginc.com
karen.cramton@puc.nh.gov
matt.currier@adrosenergy.com
jeffrey.cyr@dos.nh.gov
mdavey@eeiservices.com

dick@davishydro.com
info@dawnsolar.com
mdean@mdeanlaw.net
kevindeannow@gmail.com
debski@unitil.com
deccybaby@gmail.com
andrea.degiovanni@revolusun.com
pemihollowg@gmail.com
allen.desbiens@eversource.com
rdion@demandelec.com
donoghue@norwitech.com
shawn.donovan@harmonyenergyworks.com
ddriscoll@concordnh.gov
christopher.dundorf@2krsystems.com
Stephen.Eckberg@puc.nh.gov
bob@usasolarstore.com
eemerson@primmer.com
epler@unitil.com
kate@nhsea.org
sevans-brown@nhpr.org
firstchoiceenergy@comcast.net
michael.fitzgerald@des.nh.gov
jill.fitzpatrick@libertyutilities.com
robert.c.flanders@gmail.com
geo@usasolarstore.com
pablo@greenenergyoptions.com
matthew.fossum@eversource.com
tom.frantz@puc.nh.gov
kim@fraseelectric.com
mark.fraser@nu.com
mifriedman@greenstreetsolarpower.com
mark@frolingenergy.com
fuat.ari@blsus.com
cfuerst@durhamboat.com
martha.fullerclark@leg.state.nh.us
bfurlone@furlonellc.com
thomastgarden@gmail.com
agauntt@granitestatesolar.com
doug@cleanenergysolutions.biz
jgoodman@windguysusa.com
bgrace@seadvantage.com
gsha@essexhydro.com
zach@603solar.com
Stephen.Hall@libertyutilities.com
peter@nh.solar
jaimie@granitestatesolar.com
info@begreensolar.com
thaviland@apexsolarpower.com
b.hayden@standardpower.com
jeff@ecocfo.com
ruthmheath@comcast.net
wbh@essexhydro.com
nilshelander@gmail.com
dhenry@hotzero.biz

stevehinchman@gmail.com
george.horrocks@harmonyenergyworks.com
bhotz@forestsociety.org
irvingre@yahoo.com
pat@sunraiseinvestments.com
Thale_Jacobs@yahoo.com
rex@greenenergyoptions.com
kjoseph@napower.com
kaminski@nhec.com
Kelsey@revisionenergy.com
nkershaw@elmgrovecompanies.com
amy.klaviter@constellation.com
info@nhhtc.org
mkovacs@alum.mit.edu
donald.kreis@oca.nh.gov
kroll@gcglaw.com
skueffner@xoomenergy.com
richard.labrecque@eversource.com
mlatham@paneltheplanet.com
sam@revisionenergy.com
mleclerc@providerpower.com
lemayg@nhec.com
carmine.luongo@libertyutilities.com
mark@newenglandcleanenergy.com
matt@townlineequipment.com
bob@townlineequipment.com
micah@plymouthoffcampus.com
erica.menard@eversource.com
mike@newenglandsolarconcepts.com
mmiller@soltage.com
tmiller909@comcast.net
jmiranda@rc.com
dennis@thearchitects.net
clayaz@comcast.net
Jason.Morse@puc.nh.gov
moselectricandsolar@yahoo.com
fortunat@revisionenergy.com
mulin@revisionenergy.com
rmunnelly@davismalm.com
scottsmurphy777@gmail
stannadeau@metrocast.net
andrew@nhsolargarden.com
scott@tarmusa.com
niebling@inrsllc.com
elizabeth.nixon@puc.nh.gov
amanda.noonan@puc.nh.gov
rnoyes@solbid.com
aalawa@nuwattenergy.com
ocalitigation@oca.nh.gov
rebecca.ohler@des.nh.gov
onpointenergy@yahoo.com
stuart_ormsbee@transcanada.com
tpage@trcsolutions.com
palma@unitil.com

dpatch@orr-reno.com
dpearsall@peoplespower.com
kurtpenney@ircmaine.com
deandra.perruccio@puc.nh.gov
stevepesci@gmail.com
pilgrim@ccenergy.com
amit@londoneconomics.com
pjonessped@aol.com
sandra@plymouthenergy.org
cheryl_popiak@transcanada.com
tim@prudentliving.com
kim.quirk@gmail.com
john.ramsey55@gmail.com
ran@essexhydro.com
raney@avidsolar.com
maureenreno@truelightenergy.com
jen@revisionenergy.com
heather@revisionenergy.com
gilrichardson@wildblue.net
sharon.rivard@des.nh.gov
crystal.roberts@evelar.com
mrobinson@new-day-energy.com
prowell49@myfairpoint.net
brian@bigskysolar.com
jack@revisionenergy.com
mark.saltsman@libertyutilities.com
info@napower.com
paul@nhcom.solar
aschmid@solect.com
scott@tarmusa.com
michael.sheehan@libertyutilities.com
erik@granitestatesolar.com
steve@tree-free.com
michael.sisto@puc.nh.gov
sjescompliance@sjindustries.com
david@smartenergyne.com
dsolomon@unionleader.com
sales@haecpower.com
jonspenceralgae@gmail.com
info@spreadthesunshine.com
steveh@revisionenergy.com
wes@2bgreenprofitably.com
mtessier@goffstownnh.gov
firstchoiceenergy@comcast.net
ketraum@gmail.com
brian@umginc.com
ted@necsolarservices.com
djwade4@metrocast.net
tanya.wayland@puc.nh.gov
mweissflog@kwmanagement.com
david.wiesner@puc.nh.gov
azanna.wishart@puc.nh.gov