

COMMUNITY-BASED RENEWABLE ENERGY PILOT PROGRAM

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Program Overview

- Encourage development of community based renewable energy resources
- Incentive based program providing either REC multiplier or long-term contract
- Overall capacity limitation of 50 MW
- Individual utility limitations
- Expiration December 31, 2015

Community Based Project Eligibility

- Eligible Resources
- Capacity Limitations
- Community-Based
- Local Support
- Grid Interconnection
- In-Service Date

Incentive Mechanisms

- Renewable Energy Credit Multiplier
 - 150%
- Long-Term Contract (Feed-In Tariff)

Long-Term Contracts

- Large Generators-1 MW or Greater
 - MPUC Periodic Solicitations
- Small Generators-Less than 1 MW
 - MPUC Established Contract Price
- Consumer-Owned Utilities
 - Participation Optional

Long-Term Contracts

- Cost Containment
 - May not exceed 10 cents/kWh
 - May not exceed project cost and reasonable rate of return
- Contract Term
 - May not exceed 20 years
- Standard Form Contract drafted by MPUC
 - Comments on draft contract invited

Certification Process

- Certification by MPUC Required
- Petition for certification must include:
 - Description of project and fuel type
 - List of qualifying local owners
 - Resolution of support
 - Documentation of control over site
 - Documentation of financial and technical capability
 - Projected in-service date
 - Program incentive elected

Certifications Considered by MPUC

- Fox Islands Wind, LLC
 - 4.5 MW, three-turbine wind project on Vinalhaven
 - Certified April 2009 (Docket 2009-65)
 - REC Multiplier
- Exeter Agri-Energy, LLC
 - 980 kW farm based anaerobic digester in Exeter
 - Certified November 2010 (Docket 2010-141)
 - Long Term Contract
- Maine Renewable Energy Consortium, LLC
 - 8 MW biomass based CHP in South Portland
 - Declined September 2010 (Docket 2010-176)

Customer Net Energy Billing

- Qualifications

- Eligible facility using renewable fuel or technology or a micro-combined heat and power system
- Up to 660 kW
- Shared ownership qualifications

Customer Net Energy Billing

- Application Process
 - Application submitted to utility
 - Application must contain
 - Customer identities
 - Ownership interest
 - Contact person
 - Accounts
 - Description of facility

Customer Net Energy Billing

- Billing on an annualized net energy basis
- Excess generation carried forward
- Unused credits accumulate for 12 month period
- Applies only to kWh usage charges
- Shared ownership billing on ownership interest basis
- Limited to 10 accounts or meters for net energy billing

Interconnection Issues

- Applicable both to Community-Based Pilot Program and Net Billing
- MPUC Rules Chapter 324 establishes procedures for small generator interconnection
- Utility review procedures based on facility size
- Time Frames
- Costs

Additional Information

- Available on MPUC website
www.maine.gov/MPUC
- Community Based Renewable Energy Pilot Program -- Chapter 325
- Customer Net Energy Billing -- Chapter 313
- Small Generator Interconnection -- Chapter 324

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