Regulatory Decisions & Impacts on Industry

Barbara Bernstein New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission

New Hampshire Biomass Programs

- Residential and C&I Wood Pellet Boiler and Furnace (Central Heating Systems) Rebate Programs
- RPS Competitive Grant Program
- REC program Thermal & Electric

What's New for NH Biomass Programs?



Residential Wood Pellet Boiler and Furnace Rebate Program Changes

October 2012 – July 9, 2016 Program	Current Program
30% of system cost up to \$6,000	40% of system cost up to \$10,000
3 tons of bulk fuel storage minimum	3 tons storage + \$100 per ton for fuel storage systems larger than the 3 ton minimum requirement, up to a maximum of \$500.
Particulate Matter = 0.32 lb/MMBtu</td <td>Particulate Matter <!--= 0.10 lb/MMBtu</td--></td>	Particulate Matter = 0.10 lb/MMBtu</td

Other Regulations

Thermal efficiency rating of 80% or greater.

See <u>Step 1</u> for complete Program Terms and Conditions.

Commercial & Industrial Wood Pellet Central Heating Systems Rebate Program Changes

December 2013 - July 9, 2016 Program	Current Program
30% of system cost up to \$50,000	40% of system cost up to \$65,000
3 tons of bulk fuel storage minimum	3 tons of bulk fuel storage minimum
Particulate Matter = 0.32 lb/MMBtu</td <td>Particulate Matter <!--= 0.10 lb/MMBtu</td--></td>	Particulate Matter = 0.10 lb/MMBtu</td
	\$5,000 towards meter for systems that become REC eligible.

Other Requirements

Efficiency of 80% or greater measured using the higher heat value of the fuel.

Participation in EPA Portfolio Manager program

See Step 1 for complete Program Terms and Conditions

Competitive Grants Awarded

Grant Awarded to Biomass Projects*			
Year	# Biomass Grants	Total \$	
2016	Not yet approved	Not yet approved	
2015	2	\$625,000	
2014	1**	\$150,000	
2013	4	\$750,000	
2012	3	\$445,000	
2011	1	\$51,850	

^{*}The table highlights only grants awarded to Biomass Projects. For a complete listing of grant awards, please see: http://www.puc.nh.gov/Sustainable%20Energy/RFPs.htm.

^{**} Grant awarded but not accepted.

Thermal REC Program

Facility Type	# Participants	MW Equivalent
Hospitals	2	5.96974
Business/Manufacturing	4	4.15680
Schools	17	6.09664
Total	23	16.22318

Thermal REC Program - Rules

Rules for Thermal Biomass Facilities Puc 2505.04(h)

Particulate Matter (PM)-

- Facilities > 3 MMBtu/hr & < 30 MMBtu/hr design gross heat input, PM ≤ 0.10 lbs/MMBtu
- Facilities ≥ 30 MMBtu/hr design gross heat input, PM ≤ 0.02 lbs/MMBtu

Nitrogen Oxides (NOx)-

- Facilities < 100 MMBtu/hr design gross heat input, Best Management Practices
- Facilities ≥ 100 MMBtu/hr design gross heat input, avg. quarterly NOx emission rate ≤ 0.075 lbs/MMBtu

How are technical requirements vetted?

- For rebate programs, industry representatives are invited to technical sessions and are able to provide written input through a docketed process.
- For the thermal REC program, the PUC 2500 rules will be open soon and we plan to work with all stakeholders to make necessary adjustments.

New Hampshire's RPS includes Biomass and Thermal Obligations

- In New Hampshire, the biomass industry is supports the North Country economy.
- Purpose of the RPS
 - Lowers dependence on fossil fuel
 - Potential to lower or stabilize future energy costs
 - Local fuel keeps energy and investment dollars in the state to benefit NH's economy

Contact info

• Barbara Bernstein: <u>barbara.bernstein@puc.nh.gov</u> 603-271-6011