Developing Regulations and Guidelines for the 33 Percent Renewables Portfolio Standard and Implementation of Renewables Investment Plan Legislation

Notice of Availability

Renewables Portfolio Standard Eligibility Guidebook, Seventh Edition

Overall Program Guidebook for the Renewable Energy Program, Sixth Edition

Notice of Erratum to the Renewables Portfolio Standard Eligibility Guidebook, Seventh Edition

Notice of Changes Related to Docket 02-REN-1038

The California Energy Commission adopted revisions to the Renewables Portfolio Standard Eligibility Guidebook (RPS Guidebook) and the Overall Program Guidebook for the Renewable Energy Program (Overall Program Guidebook) at its April 30, 2013, Business Meeting. The adopted revisions to the RPS Guidebook include the minor, non-substantive errata that were noticed on April 26, 2013, and the erratum presented by staff at the April 30, 2013, Business Meeting. In addition, the Energy Commission did not accept the proposed revisions to the RPS Guidebook regarding station service; consequently, the Energy Commission maintains the status quo in the RPS Eligibility Guidebook, Sixth Edition, regarding this issue. The erratum and proposed revisions that were not accepted are shown in Attachment A to this notice. The final adopted versions of the RPS Guidebook and Overall Program Guidebook are now available on the Energy Commission’s website.

The RPS Guidebook explains how the Energy Commission implements and administers its responsibilities under California’s Renewables Portfolio Standard. Under the law, the Energy Commission is charged with certifying eligible renewable energy resources that may be used
by retail sellers of electricity and local publicly owned electric utilities (POUs) to satisfy their RPS procurement requirements, and for developing an accounting system to verify a retail seller’s or POU’s compliance with the RPS. The RPS Guidebook also describes the eligibility requirements and process for certifying renewable resources as eligible for California’s RPS and describes how the Energy Commission verifies compliance with the RPS.

The Overall Program Guidebook describes how the Energy Commission’s Renewable Energy Program and program elements are administered and includes information and requirements that apply overall to the program elements. In the past, the Overall Program Guidebook also addressed aspects of the Renewable Energy Program related to the state’s RPS. The sixth edition of the Overall Program Guidebook no longer contains RPS-related information or requirements. All RPS-related information and requirements previously included in the Overall Program Guidebook have now been transferred to and adopted as part of the RPS Guidebook. Consequently, the RPS Guidebook no longer includes references to information and requirements included in the Overall Program Guidebook.

The final, adopted versions of the RPS Guidebook and Overall Program Guidebook are available free from the Energy Commission's website at:

[www.energy.ca.gov/portfolio/documents/index.html]

Printed copies of the RPS Guidebook are available for $10 and the Overall Program Guidebook for $5. Please send your request and a check or money order made out to the California Energy Commission to:

California Energy Commission
RE: Renewables Portfolio Standard Eligibility Guidebook
Publication No. CEC-300-2013-005-ED7-CMF

or

RE: Overall Program Guidebook for the Renewable Energy Program
Publication No. CEC-300-2013-008-ED6-CMF

1516 Ninth Street
Publications, MS-15
Sacramento, CA 95814-5504

As noted above, the adopted revisions to the RPS Guidebook include the minor, non-substantive erratum that was presented by Energy Commission staff at the April 30, 2013, Business Meeting. This erratum is attached and provides staff’s clarification to the language in footnote 39 of page 26 of the RPS Guidebook related to affiliate or subsidiary entities of retail sellers or local publicly owned electric utilities for purposes of existing biomethane procurement contracts.
As a result of the adopted revisions to the RPS Guidebook and Overall Program Guidebook, it is no longer necessary for parties to reference and file comments jointly in the Energy Comment’s RPS proceeding (docket no. 11-RPS-01) and Renewables Investment Plan proceeding (docket no. 02-REN-1038) when filing comments related to the RPS. These proceedings were initiated separately, but dealt with aspects of the RPS in different guidebooks; the RPS proceeding resulting in the RPS Guidebook and the Renewables Investment Plan proceeding resulting in the Overall Program Guidebook as well as guidebooks for the different Renewable Energy Program elements. Now that all the RPS-related information and requirements are included in a single guidebook, the RPS Guidebook, party comments going forward can be addressed as part of the RPS proceeding and limited to docket number 11-RPS-01.

Please direct all news media inquiries to the Media and Public Communications Office at (916) 654-4989, or by e-mail at [mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov]. For technical questions on the subject matter, please contact Kate Zocchetti, RPS Unit Supervisor, at (916) 653-4710 or by e-mail at [kate.zocchetti@energy.ca.gov].

Electronic Mail List: renewables
Date: May 16, 2013

Attached: Attachment A
ATTACHMENT A

ERRATUM TO THE STAFF FINAL RENEWABLES PORTFOLIO STANDARD ELIGIBILITY GUIDEBOOK, SEVENTH EDITION

The following erratum was incorporated as part of the final revisions to the Renewables Portfolio Standard Eligibility Guidebook adopted at the Energy Commission’s April 30, 2013, Business Meeting. The erratum is shown in strikeout and highlighted in gray relative to the proposed revisions in the Staff Final Renewables Portfolio Standard Eligibility Guidebook released on April 19, 2013.

RENEWABLES PORTFOLIO STANDARD ELIGIBILITY GUIDEBOOK

II. Energy Resource Eligibility Requirements

C. Biomethane

1. Existing Biomethane Procurement Contracts

Footnote 39, Page 26:

For purposes of this Existing Biomethane Procurement Contracts section, a biomethane procurement contract executed by a retail seller or POU includes a biomethane procurement contract executed by an affiliate or subsidiary entity, or agent of a retail seller or POU for the purpose of the retail seller or POU.

PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE STAFF FINAL RENEWABLES PORTFOLIO STANDARD ELIGIBILITY GUIDEBOOK, SEVENTH EDITION, THAT WERE NOT ACCEPTED BY THE ENERGY COMMISSION

The following proposed revisions to the Renewables Portfolio Standard Eligibility Guidebook were not adopted by the Energy Commission at its April 30, 2013, Business Meeting. The rejected text is shown in strikeout and highlighted in gray relative to the proposed revisions in the Staff Final Renewables Portfolio Standard Eligibility Guidebook released on April 19, 2013.

RENEWABLES PORTFOLIO STANDARD ELIGIBILITY GUIDEBOOK

What’s New in This Guidebook?

Facility Requirements

Bullet 2, Page v:
III. Facility Requirements

A. Generation Tracking and Accounting

Page 58:

2. Station Service

Compliance with the California RPS is based on procurement from electrical generation facilities that are certified by the Energy Commission as eligible renewable energy resources. Station service, also commonly called parasitic load, generally refers to the electricity consumed by an electrical generation facility for facility operations. Electricity used by an electrical generation facility for station service is not eligible for the RPS and should not result in the creation of renewable energy credits (RECs) that are used for RPS compliance.