CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Main website: www.energy.ca.gov

In the matter of:	)	Docket No. 11-RPS-01
	)	
Developing Regulations and Guidelines for the 33 Percent Renewables Portfolio Standard	)))	REQUEST FOR COMMENTS RE: Guideline Revisions for RPS Implementation

Notice Requesting Public Comments on Staff Draft *Renewables Portfolio Standard Eligibility Guidebook, Eighth Edition*

California Energy Commission staff is seeking written public comments on the Staff Draft *Renewables Portfolio Standard Eligibility Guidebook (RPS Guidebook), Eighth Edition*. The *RPS Guidebook* 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 *RPS Guidebook* is revised periodically to reflect statutory, market, and regulatory developments and to respond to lessons learned through implementing the RPS program.

On January 28, 2014, staff held a Scoping Workshop to solicit public comments on possible revisions to the *RPS Guidebook, Seventh Edition*. Based on the public comments received, staff is proposing revisions as shown in the Staff Draft *RPS Guidebook, Eighth Edition* (Publication No. CEC-300-2015-001-ED8-SD). The proposed revisions include both substantive and nonsubstantive changes. Nonsubstantive changes include revisions to various sections in the guidebook to improve clarity and reduce duplication. Substantive changes are proposed related to the following topics:

- New eligibility requirements for RPS-certified multifuel facilities related to nonrenewable energy resource allowances
- Revised definition of biomethane dedicated pipeline to include functionally dedicated pipeline with new reporting requirements
- Revised definition of station service
- Revised definition of prime generating equipment for repowered facilities
- Modification of how a facility's eligibility date is determined
- Allowance of new method to determine the amount of incremental generation using rated facility improvements for hydroelectric facilities only
- Use of postmark date as "received" date for submissions
- Extend the record retention period to five years

In addition, the Staff Draft *RPS Guidebook* incorporates changes adopted by the Energy Commission as a result of three separate resolutions approved over the last nine months. These changes include:

- Process to request a time extension for applying for RPS certification; adopted on April 22, 2014, via Resolution No. 14-0422-11.
- Process and criteria to request creation of retroactive renewable energy credits not tracked in the Western Renewable Energy Generation Information System, and

extending the use of the Energy Commission's Interim Tracking System until December 31, 2013; adopted on October 7, 2014, via Resolution No. 14-1007-10.

- Revisions to the requirements for certifying a small hydroelectric generation unit with a nameplate capacity not exceeding 40 megawatts that is operated as part of a water supply or conveyance system pursuant to new legislation (Assembly Bill 1478, Statutes of 2014, Chapter 664, Section 8); adopted on November 17, 2014, via Resolution No. 14-1117-14.

The Staff Draft *RPS Guidebook* is available for review in clean version (showing changes in gray highlight) and underline/strikeout format at:

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

Staff will consider written public comments on the proposed changes to the *RPS Guidebook,* incorporate any needed revisions, and then present the final draft of the guidebook for consideration by the full Commission at a regularly scheduled business meeting. Public Resources Code Section 25747 authorizes the Energy Commission to approve substantive changes to the guidebook upon providing ten days public notice. Changes take effect once approved at a publicly noticed meeting.

Written Comments

Written comments must be submitted to Dockets Unit by **5:00 p.m.** on **February 17, 2015.** For additional information, see Standing Order re: Proceedings and Confidentiality Procedural Requirements for Filing, Service, and Docketing Documents with the Energy Commission, available at: www.energy.ca.gov/commission/chief_counsel/docket.html.

Additionally, written comments may be posted to the Energy Commission's website for the proceeding. Please note that your written comments, attachments, and associated contact information (e.g. your address, phone, email, etc.) become part of the viewable public record. This information may become available via Google, Yahoo, and any other search engines.

The Energy Commission encourages comments by email. Please include your name and any organization name. Comments should be in a downloadable, searchable format such as Microsoft® Word (.doc) or Adobe® Acrobat® (.pdf). Please include the docket number **11-RPS-01** and indicate **Draft RPS Guidebook** in the subject line. Send comments to docket@energy.ca.gov and copy RPS33@energy.ca.gov.

If preferred, please send or deliver written materials to:

California Energy Commission
Dockets Office, MS-4
Re: Docket No. 11-RPS-01
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

Media inquiries should be sent to the Media and Public Communications Office at mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov or (916) 654-4989. If you have questions on the subject matter of this issue, please contact Lynette Green at Lynette.Green@energy.ca.gov or (916) 653-2728.

Date: January 16, 2015
Mail List: renewable, 33by2020 listserves