



Briefing on the Activities of the Northeast & Mid-Atlantic States Collaborative on RPS Implementation



Roger E. Clark

TRF Sustainable Development Fund

Philadelphia, PA

State/Federal RPS Collaborative

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Participants

- The agencies responsible for RPS implementation in CT, DC, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH, NJ, NY, PA and RI
- ISO-New England, PJM, NY-ISO, NESCAUM, NASEO, NCSL and the US EPA (who provided much of the funding) participated on a limited basis
- Consulting assistance was provided by Ryan Wiser (LBNL), Kevin Porter (Exeter Associates), Ed Holt (Ed Holt & Associates) and Steve Weisman (Peregrine Energy Group)

Purpose (1)

- To share information amongst administrators of state RPS programs in Northeast – a first
- To identify and address specific challenges, obstacles and potential solutions to the successful implementation of RPS standards by states in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic regions
- To pursue targeted opportunities for regional cooperation in implementing state RPS

Purpose (2)

- To wrestle with the schizophrenic perspectives of:
 - The politician who wants local economic development and local environmental benefits
- and -
 - The economist who wants large, open markets so RPS compliance comes most efficiently at the least cost

Collaborative Structure

- Organizational Documents
 - Participation Ground Rules and Process document
 - Collaborative Schedule and Work Plan
- Member List-serve - RPSwg@cleanenergystates.org
- CESA web page –
<http://www.cleanenergystates.org/JointProjects/RPS.html>
- Members-only web page -
<http://www.cleanenergystates.org/Mem-RPS/>

Collaborative Meetings and Calls

- 3 meetings:
 - October 27, 2006 - Boston
 - September 7, 2007- Albany
 - September 17 2008 - Philadelphia
- 8 conference calls:
February 21, 2007, March 21, 2007, April 18, 2007,
May 16, 2007, June 1, 2007, July 18, 2007,
November 16, 2007 and April 29, 2008

Issues Discussed

- Definitions of RPS technologies (especially biomass, hydro, CHP, fuel cells)
- RPS tracking systems
- Interplay between federal RPS and state RPS
- Interplay between regulated and voluntary markets
- Seams issues – imports/exports, deliverability
- Set-asides for specific technologies/applications
- RPS reporting and evaluation

Collaborative Work Products – Phase 1

- Resource document describing the RPS of each state in the region
- Common definitions of eligible RE technologies – an important step
- Written comments on the 2007 proposed federal RPS legislation that identified problems that would negatively impact the administration and effectiveness of state RPS programs – a major save for the states

Collaborative Work Products – Phase 2

- *Review of RPS Policies to Date*
Kevin Porter, Exeter Associates
- *Increasing Harmonization among State RPS Programs*
Ed Holt, Ed Holt & Associates
- *Considerations and Recommendations Regarding the Design of a Federal RPS*
Mark Sinclair (CEG) and Steve Wiseman (Peregrine Energy Group)

Review of RPS Policies to Date

- RPS compliance information for each state, including compliance obligations by year, new renewable generation, shortfalls, ACP, banking, etc.
- Analysis and observations about new renewable generation by resource type
- Issues affecting RPS compliance, including program design, finance, regulatory, policy and others
- Recommendations for ensuring future compliance

Increasing Harmonization among State RPS Programs

- The advantages and disadvantages of harmonization of state RPS laws and programs
- The variations in state RPS laws that affect markets
- A review of the various approaches that could be used to harmonize state RPS laws and programs

Considerations and Recommendations Regarding a Federal RPS

- Recommendations to maintain effectiveness of state RPS standards within the federal RPS
- Other suggestions about the design of the federal RPS

RPS Issues for the Future

- RPS seams - REC import/export rules, hourly certificate requirements, deliverability requirements and reciprocity provisions
- Transmission needs
- Fostering technology diversity – treatment of distributed generation, set-asides
- RPS evaluation – metrics
- Energy efficiency
- Feed-in tariffs