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Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) Thermal Supplement Guidance Document with Q&A

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Facility Name is the name used in registering in WREGIS the electricity generation system supplying the secondary thermal energy.

The **WREGIS GU ID** is the generating unit identification number issued by WREGIS. To avoid duplicate registrations within the WREGIS system, the WREGIS GU ID will be the same for the electricity generating unit and the thermal energy consumption unit.

Section I: Applicant Information is intended to identify the owner, operator, or representative of the generating unit. The Applicant should be the principal point of contact for all issues regarding certification. Once the facility is certified, the Applicant will receive the letter of certification.

Section II: Facility Information requests general information about the facility.

Section III: Thermal Generation is intended to provide the technical details of how the renewable thermal resource is being generated. If fueled by any non-renewable fuels, the facility should be addressed as a multi-fuel facility such that the renewable and non-renewable portions of the thermal resource is clearly identifiable. The need to convert the thermal input number to KW is only to assist in assuring minimum program specifications are met.

Section IV: Thermal Usage requires more technical detail to validate the claim that a thermal resource downstream of an electric generation facility is not being discharged to atmosphere and is instead being captured for a useful secondary purpose. The useful secondary purpose would not include uses that would not normally require heat. Examples might include heating a normally unheated warehouse, or melting snow piles that are normally allowed to melt in the spring. The applicant must define the end use in business terms of systems impacted, value, cost impacts, or production impacts.

Block 6 in this section specifically aims to capture information on how the secondary use of renewable thermal resources are displacing other fuels that may have been used absent the renewable thermal resource. Facilities without natural gas at the site should not use that as an option unless the pipeline is already in the vicinity to the facility.

Section V: Thermal Energy Management Plan captures the comprehensive details associated with measurement and verification of the thermal resource being used. The plan should be clear, well organized, and properly referenced. All assumptions should be stated with any historical documentation included, and calculations should include all units and conversions clearly identified.

Section VI: Data Management Contact: is intended to document the single point of contact for data questions associated with the data acquisition, calculation, monitoring, and reporting of Thermal RECs.

Q&A

(Questions posed by applicants will be added to this section)

1. *In Section III (4) of the Facility Certification: Thermal Supplement, do we need to qualify the facility based on the input capacity for all fuels, or just the renewable fuels? This is the calculation of eligibility based on the generator being at least 10% of the total capacity of the system.*

There are several aspects to this question. To determine the amount of eligible renewable generation, ODOE uses the energy characteristics provided for all upstream fuels to establish the renewable/non-renewable ratio. The renewable/non-renewable ratio applied to the electric generation (RECs) would also be applied to the secondary thermal usage (T-RECs) for eligible facilities.

For generator eligibility (the 10% rule), the applicant should determine and describe an appropriate system boundary when selecting the input fuel rate (e.g. Btu/hour of biogas, biomass, or steam) for the electric generation system. Backup/standby boilers, station service, and thermal flows that bypass the electric generation system should not be within the system boundary, or should be subtracted out of the equation.

2. *In Section IV (5) of the Thermal Supplement, it asks us to describe the thermal uses after the energy has passed through the generator. Considering that our processes are proprietary, trade-secretive, and confidential in nature, and that ODOE will be required to disclose part or all of this information under an information request, is it okay if we reply with a generic list of processes that are employed rather than a detailed description of the processes employed?*

A list of all the generic processes needs to be included (e.g. paper drying, paint booth heat, food blanching, retort heating, building heat, etc.) The sequence, specific purpose, quantity, or other detail that constitutes a trade secret does not have to be included. Processes described in industry journals would not be considered trade secrets.