

Rhode Island Renewable Energy Standard (RES)
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Q: What is the fee for filing an Application for Certification of Eligibility of Renewable Energy Resource?

A: There is no fee for filing such application.

Q: How long will it take for the Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) to make a determination on my application for certification?

A: The Commission will certify Eligible Renewable Energy Resources by issuing statements of qualification within ninety (90) days of application. The Commission Clerk will keep a list of interested parties who wish to be notified when an application for certification is filed. Any party in interest may comment on such filings to the Commission in writing within 30 days. Following the 30-day comment period, the Commission will consider an application for certification in an open meeting. The Commission may approve the application at that time, or set the matter for hearing following not less than 10-day notice.

Q: How long will it take for the Commission to make a determination on my application for Declaratory Judgment under Section 6.2 of the Rules and Regulations Governing the Implementation of a Renewable Energy Standard (“Regulations”)?

A: The Commission will provide prospective reviews for applicants seeking a preliminary determination as to whether a facility would be eligible prior to the formal certification process described in Section 6.1 of the regulations as follows:

- i) Such applicants for prospective review should file a Request for Declaratory Judgment under Rule 1.10(c) of the Commission’s Rules of Practice and Procedure.*
- ii) Once a request for Declaratory Judgment is received by the Commission under Section 6.0 of the regulations, the Commission will proceed under Section 6.1 (i) through (iii) of the regulations. The Commission will act upon a request for Declaratory Judgment filed under this section within 120 days from receipt of the materials required under Section 6.1 (i)*

Q: At what date, if approved, will the generation from my facility be considered eligible renewable energy for the purposes of the Rhode Island Renewable Energy Standard?

A: Beginning the 1st day of the month in which the Commission approves a facility at an open meeting.

Q: According to the Rhode Island Renewable Energy Standard, landfill methane or biogas is an eligible biomass fuel, provided that such gas is collected and conveyed directly to the Generation Unit without use of facilities used as common carriers of natural gas. Does this imply that landfill gas that is purified and injected in a natural gas pipeline would not be eligible under RI RES?

A: Yes, it implies that landfill gas that is purified and injected in a natural gas pipeline would not be eligible under the RI RES.

Q: Can Renewable Energy Certificates (“RECs”) that are bought for any Compliance Year be placed either in a Reserved Certificate Account or My Settled Certificates Account?

A: RECs that are to be utilized for compliance and/or for banking purposes must be placed in an entity’s My Settled Certificates account. RECs in a Reserved Account will not be eligible for current year compliance or banking.

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