

Dear Applicant:

Generators that seek to be qualified as an alternative energy system under Pennsylvania's Alternative Energy Portfolio Standard need to apply to the Commonwealth for qualification. Clean Power Markets, Inc. (CPM) has been designated as the Alternative Energy Portfolio Standard Program Administrator, and will be working as an agent of the Commonwealth in this regard. The Program Administrator will be performing the review of all applications, and will respond to all applicants' requests and questions. Decisions as to whether a generator qualifies will be made by the Program Administrator, based on: 1) Act 213 of 2004, the Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards Act; 2) subsequent amendments to the Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards Act; and 3) guidance from the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

When an application is received, the Program Administrator will perform the following steps to qualify facilities:

1. Is the application complete?
2. Does the facility satisfy the location standards for participation in Pennsylvania's AEPS Program?
3. Does the facility satisfy the applicable environmental standards? (N/A for PV and wind)
  - a. Have the necessary permits been obtained?
  - b. Has the facility had any major environmental violations?
  - c. Does the facility use one of the 'alternative energy sources' identified in the Act?

The Program Administrator will then assign the facility a certification number. After this certification number has been assigned, you can register this certification number in the GATS system. The website for GATS is [www.pjm-eis.com](http://www.pjm-eis.com). GATS is the designated credit registry for Pennsylvania and will be issuing the credits. It is also the website for the trading of certificates.

If a facility meets all of the requirements, it will be qualified for alternative energy system status. The Program Administrator will inform the applicant of its certification, which should occur about 30 business days after receipt of the application. If there are discrepancies in the information, the Program Administrator will inform the applicant, in writing, of these discrepancies during the review process.

If an application for qualification is not granted, the applicant can appeal the decision to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission. The Commission will review the appeal and render a final decision on the application.

**Note about fuels included under an account:**

- Facilities that use the following fuels will be eligible to generate alternative energy credits once they have been qualified:
  - solar photovoltaics
  - solar thermal (as in a solar collector)

- wind power
- low-impact hydropower<sup>1</sup>
- geothermal energy
- biologically derived methane gas
- large-scale hydropower
- fuel cells, and
- industrial by-product technologies

Note that all facilities utilizing the above fuels must update their applications whenever their environmental permits are reauthorized.

- A facility using the following fuels as either their primary or secondary fuel must re-submit their environmental status to the Program Administrator by May 1 of each year to continue to be qualified:
  - biomass
  - coal-mine methane
  - waste coal
  - municipal solid waste
  - by-products of the pulping process and wood manufacturing process
  - coal used in an Integrated Combined Coal Gasification power plant

The completed application should be submitted through the on-line form on the PA AEPS website: [www.paaeps.com/credit](http://www.paaeps.com/credit).

<sup>1</sup> Facilities seeking to qualify as **Low-Impact Hydropower**: Those facilities should notify the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) that they are seeking LIHI certification at the time of their application to LIHI and provide the DEP with confirmation of their LIHI certification. Those facilities should provide a narrative outlining the incremental upgrades that have been made at their hydroelectric facility, specifically outlining the capacity and efficiency upgrades that have been made. Alternative energy credits for facilities determined to meet the certification standards established by LIHI will be awarded based on the guidance found in the DEP's Section 2 Technical Guidance Document.

Program Administrator

[paaeps@cleanpowermarkets.com](mailto:paaeps@cleanpowermarkets.com)

Subject Line: AEPS Resource Qualification Application.

For questions, please contact the Program Administrator at 1-877-AEPS-773 (1-877-237-7773) or [paaeps@cleanpowermarkets.com](mailto:paaeps@cleanpowermarkets.com).

Sincerely,

Dina Deana

Clean Power Markets, Inc.

Program Administrator

Pennsylvania Alternative Energy Portfolio Standard

