



June 5, 2015

## **Green-e Energy Participant Market Update: Georgia**

As part of our mission to help grow the voluntary market for renewable energy in the U.S., Center for Resource Solutions (CRS) staff often work with state regulators from around the country to educate them on the importance of this market and ensure that purchasers of Green-e Energy certified renewable energy receive the full environmental value of these products. Recent policy decisions by regulators in Georgia have impacted ownership of some renewable energy generated within the state—as a result, Green-e Energy is requiring additional documentation from participants reporting certain generation and sales in Georgia.

The new state-specific process for Georgia is described here and on our website at [Green-e Energy National Standard and Governing Documents](#). Please review this document to see if these updates apply to you. While we understand the need for this documentation places additional work on our participants, our intent is to ensure the clear ownership of certified renewable energy sold to customers, and these procedures allow Green-e Energy to continue to certify sales of all RECs generated in Georgia.

CRS Staff is reaching out to the parties we are aware of who may be impacted by this policy. If you think your Green-e Energy certified products may be impacted by these new requirements, please contact Robin Quarrier (415-568-4285 or [robin.quarrier@resource-solutions.org](mailto:robin.quarrier@resource-solutions.org)) or Michael Leschke (415-568-4286 or [michael.leschke@resource-solutions.org](mailto:michael.leschke@resource-solutions.org)) as soon as possible. Feel free to contact us if you have any additional questions regarding this guidance.

### **Georgia: Generation Associated with the Georgia Power Large Scale Solar Program and Advanced Solar Initiative**

#### Summary of Georgia Policy

The Georgia Power Large Scale Solar (LSS) Program was approved by the Georgia Public Service Commission (GPSC) in August of 2011. The Georgia Power Advanced Solar Initiative (ASI) was approved by the GPSC in November of 2012. The two programs represent a voluntary goal for the development of solar capacity in Georgia, but public disclosures about the programs on the Georgia Power website, in their annual report, and in contract language with solar generators, indicated that solar power is (or was) being delivered to Georgia Power customers under the programs.

## New Marketing Declarations Affecting Green-e Energy Certification

After CRS worked extensively with Georgia Power and the GPSC, Georgia Power has voluntarily clarified their public-facing marketing materials to state that they are not receiving any solar power under the programs.<sup>1</sup>

## Green-e Energy Certification Policy for Georgia

Parties interested in buying or selling RECs from these LSS and ASI facilities should request a clarification letter from Georgia Power by emailing ([g2gpasi@southernco.com](mailto:g2gpasi@southernco.com)). A sample of this letter can be found at: <http://www.psc.state.ga.us/factsv2/Document.aspx?documentNumber=158614>. A signed copy of this letter must be included with the Green-e Energy verification materials the first time a Green-e Energy program participant includes any energy supply provided under a LSS or ASI contract, and upon request by Green-e Energy staff. This letter may be addressed to the generation facility that originally contracted with Georgia Power.

## Timing and Process

In many cases, generation under the LSS and ASI contracts started on June 1, 2015. Generation from LSS and ASI facilities that occurs under a standard Qualified Facility (QF) contract does not require a clarification letter. Facilities that began generating prior to June 1, 2015 under an LSS or ASI contract are ineligible until June 1, 2015. After June 1, 2015, generation from LSS or ASI contracts must go through the process outlined above.

In keeping with Green-e Energy double-claims policy, generation facilities featured on the Georgia Power website as delivering solar power are not able to deliver Green-e Energy eligible RECs generated while featured.

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<sup>1</sup> On May 12, 2015, the GPSC approved a “REC Clarification Memo, DOCKET NO. 34229: Georgia Power Company’s 2015 Large Scale Solar Offering” and “DOCKET NO. 36325: Georgia Power Company’s Advanced Solar Initiative: Clarification of Ownership of Renewable Energy Credits”. (Jamie Barber, Jeffrey Stair). <http://www.psc.state.ga.us/factsv2/Document.aspx?documentNumber=158532>.