

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY RESOURCES

ALTERNATIVE ENERGY PORTFOLIO STANDARD

GUIDELINE

**ON METERING AND CALCULATING THE USEFUL THERMAL OUTPUT OF ELIGIBLE
RENEWABLE THERMAL GENERATION UNITS – PART 1**

[Effective Date]

Pursuant to the Alternative Energy Portfolio Standard Regulations at 225 CMR 16.00

This Guideline provides the methods by which the projected useful thermal output of Small and Intermediate Renewable Thermal Generation Units (RTGUs) shall be calculated and verified. This document is Part 1 of the Guideline on Metering and Calculating the Useful Thermal Output of Eligible Renewable Thermal Generation Units, Part 2 of the Guideline can be found at the link below.¹

The purpose of this Guideline is to ensure uniform, accurate, reliable, and verifiable measurements of RTGU performance for determination of Alternative Energy Portfolio Standard (APS) benefits, as appropriate to RTGU size and expense.

This Guideline is effective immediately upon issuance. However, the Department of Energy Resources (Department) may consider exceptions from the Guideline in the case of RTGUs that went into commercial operation prior to the issuance date, but not earlier than January 1, 2015.

1. Provisions in the Statute and Regulations

The APS statute at M.G.L. Chapter 25A, Section 11F½(a)², as amended by Chapter 251 of the Acts of 2014, mandates the following as an eligible Alternative Energy Generating Source (emphasis added as italics):

(iv) any facility that generates useful thermal energy using sunlight, biomass, biogas, liquid biofuel or naturally occurring temperature differences in ground, air or water, whereby 1 megawatt-hour of alternative energy credit shall be earned for every 3,412,000 British thermal units of net useful thermal energy produced and *verified through an on-site utility grade meter or other means satisfactory to the department;*

Pursuant to the verification provision in that language, the APS regulations state the following at 225 CMR 16.05(4):

(b) Metering Requirements. The net Useful Thermal Energy output from an APS Renewable Thermal Generation Unit shall be metered according to the specifications laid out in the Department's *Guideline on Metering and Calculating the Useful Thermal Output of Eligible Renewable Thermal Generation Units* and verified by an independent Third Party Meter Reader as defined in Rule 2.5(j) of the NEPOOL GIS Operating Rules and approved by the Department. The APS Alternative Generation Attributes reported to the NEPOOL GIS by an independent Third Party Meter Reader shall be the amount as

¹ Part 2 of the Guideline on Metering and Calculation the Useful Thermal Output of Eligible Renewable Thermal Generation Units can be found at <http://www.mass.gov/eea/energy-utilities-clean-tech/renewable-energy/renewable-thermal/renewable-heating-and-cooling-alternative-portfolio-std.html>

² The APS statute is available at <https://malegislature.gov/Laws/GeneralLaws/PartI/TitleII/Chapter25A/Section11F1-2>. These were amended by sections 1, 2, 3, and 9 of [Chapter 251 of the Acts of 2014](#).

specified in 225 CMR 16.05(1)(a)6.b. This amount will be inclusive of any netting of energy use by the APS Renewable Thermal Generation Units prescribed in 225 CMR 16.05(1)(a)6.b.iii., and the application of any multiplier identified in the Department’s *Guideline on Multipliers for Renewable Thermal Generation Units*.

(i) An APS Renewable Thermal Generation Unit that uses more than one eligible technology in 225 CMR 16.05(1)(a)6.a. is required to use the same independent Third Party Meter Reader for all technologies.

(ii) Each APS Renewable Thermal Generation Unit is required to have its own individual NEPOOL GIS asset. An APS Renewable Thermal Generation Unit that uses more than one eligible technology in 225 CMR 16.05(1)(a)6.a. is required to have a NEPOOL GIS asset for each technology. APS Renewable Thermal Generation Units that utilize the same technology and are located in the same state may qualify as an Aggregation and share a NEPOOL GIS asset.

(iii) An APS Renewable Thermal Generation Unit that meets the criteria of a small Generation Unit or an intermediate Generation Unit as prescribed in 225 CMR 16.05(1)(b)(ii) shall be exempt from the metering requirements in 225 CMR 16.05(4)(b) and, instead, be subject to the Small and Intermediate Generation Unit Annual Net Useful Thermal Energy Determination in 225 CMR 16.05(4)(c).

(b) Small and Intermediate Generation Unit Annual Net Useful Thermal Energy Determination. An APS Renewable Thermal Generation Unit that meets the criteria of a small or intermediate Generation Unit as prescribed in the Department’s 225 CMR 16.05(4)(a) may have its annual net Useful Thermal Energy generation output determined by a formula or methodology as prescribed in the Department’s *Guideline on Metering and Calculating the Useful Thermal Output of Eligible Renewable Thermal Generation Units*. This approximation shall be a reasonable determination by the Department to estimate the net Useful Thermal Energy delivered by the APS Renewable Thermal Generation Unit, specifically considering the APS Renewable Thermal Generation Unit’s capacity, performance characteristics, and load application being served. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Clean Energy Center (MassCEC) will act as the independent verifier for all small Generation Units and intermediate Generation Units using Eligible Biomass Woody Fuel, and will deploy appropriate and reasonable measures to verify ongoing operation of the small Generation Units in line with their estimated net Useful Thermal Energy generation.

2. **Applicability**

This Guideline includes the methodologies for calculating the output of small RTGUs and intermediate biomass, biogas, and biofuel RTGUs with an output capacity of less than 0.134 MMBtu/hr, as well as provisions to allow for the verification that non-metered qualified RTGUs continue to be in operation.

225 CMR 16.05(4)(a) and Table 1 below summarize how RTGUs will be classified based on their capacity and defines the cut-off points for distinguishing between small, intermediate, and large Generation Units. If an RTGU consists of several individual separate units, their capacities will be summed and the total capacity will be considered against the size threshold. In the case of a

combination of solar thermal and other RTGUs, the thresholds will be applied separately to the solar and non-solar RTGUs. If a Generation Unit is classified as small, but wishes to be classified as intermediate, they may do so with the approval of the Department.

It should be noted that not all technologies have a small, intermediate, or large definition, and may be classified only as either intermediate and large or only large.

Table 1: APS Renewable Thermal Generation Unit (RTGU) Classification

Classification	Small	Intermediate		Large
		Calculated net renewable thermal based on <u>indirect</u> metering	Calculated net renewable thermal output based on <u>direct</u> metering of fuel input	
AEC calculation basis	Calculated net renewable thermal output	Calculated net renewable thermal based on <u>indirect</u> metering	Calculated net renewable thermal output based on <u>direct</u> metering of fuel input	Metered net renewable thermal output
Solar thermal: evacuated tube and flat plate solar hot water	Collector surface area less than or equal to 660 sq ft	Collector surface area between 660 and 4000 sq ft	-	Collector surface area greater than or equal to 4000 sq ft
Solar thermal: solar hot air	-	Collector surface area less than or equal to 10,000 sq ft	-	Collector surface area greater than 10,000 sq ft
Solar sludge dryer	-	-	-	All
Eligible Biomass Fuel	-	-	Capacity less than or equal to 1 MMBtu per hour	Capacity greater than 1 MMBtu per hour
Compost heat exchange system	-	-	-	All
Air source heat pump: electric motor or engine driven	Output capacity less than or equal to 0.134 MMBtu per hour	-	Output capacity between 0.134 and 1.00 MMBtu per hour	Output capacity greater than or equal to 1.0 MMBtu per hour
Ground source heat pump	Output capacity less than or equal to 0.134 MMBtu per hour	-	Output capacity between 0.134 and 1.00 MMBtu per hour	Output capacity greater than or equal to 1.0 MMBtu per hour
Deep geothermal	-	-	-	All

¹ Submetering of non-renewable fuel (e.g. gas or grid electricity) consumption will be used in conjunction with original equipment manufacturer performance data to calculate net thermal output for Intermediate size Air Source Heat Pumps, Ground Source Heat Pumps, and Solar Thermal RTGUs.

² The thermal output and non-renewable fuel consumption are metered directly.

³ All Biogas/Biofuel RTGUs must apply via an aggregator as described in section 4(H) below.

⁴ Output heating capacity at entering source air temperature of 5°F

⁵ If Air Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute (AHRI) Certificate exists, output heating capacity as indicated on the AHRI Certificate at Full Load. If AHRI Certificate does not exist, use manufacturer's rated output heating capacity as indicated below:

- (a) For closed loop, water to water heat pumps: capacity at source entering water temperature of 32°F and load entering water temperature of 104°F. If multiple ratings are shown under these conditions, use the source water and load water flow rate that results in the largest heating capacity.
- (b) For open loop water to water heat pumps: capacity at source entering water temperature of 50°F and load entering water temperature of 104°F. If multiple ratings are shown under these conditions, use the source water and load water flow rate that results in the largest heating capacity.
- (c) For closed loop, water to air heat pumps: capacity at source entering water temperature of 32°F and load entering air temperature of 70°F. If multiple ratings are shown under these conditions, use the source water and load air flow rate that results in the largest heating capacity.
- (d) For open loop, water to air heat pumps, capacity at source entering water temperature of 50°F and load entering air temperature of 70°F. If multiple ratings are shown under these conditions, use the source water and load air flow rate that results in the largest heating capacity.

For the purpose of this Guideline, the definition of closed loop and open loop are as follows:

Close loop: Any water to air or water to water ground source heat pump system having no direct contact between the groundwater and the system fluid used for heat exchange.

Open loop: Any water to air or water to water ground source heat pump system which uses groundwater as the fluid for heat exchange.

3. General Information for Small and Intermediate Renewable Thermal Generation Units

A) Size Thresholds

Size thresholds for small, intermediate, and large RTGUs can be found in 225 CMR 16.05(4)(a) and in Table 1 of this Guideline. The size thresholds apply to the total combined capacity of the

RTGU(s) serving the thermal load, with the exception of solar thermal being utilized in combination with non-solar units.

B) Small RTGU Monitoring and Verification

All small RTGUs will be eligible to receive Attributes upfront via calculated projected output per the formulas in 3(C) through 3(I).

The MassCEC will act as the independent verifier of all generation data for small RTGUs intermediate RTGUs using biomass, biogas, or biofuel. The Department, in conjunction with MassCEC, reserves the right to audit all qualified Generation Units at any time during their 10 year qualification period, to ensure they are continuing to meet the eligibility criteria identified in 225 CMR 16.00 and the Department’s *Guideline on Metering and Calculating the Useful Thermal Output of Eligible Renewable Thermal Generation Unit*.

C) Small Solar Thermal RTGUs

(1) Standard Equation for Calculating Useful Thermal Energy for Small Solar Thermal RTGUs

The Useful Thermal Energy from small solar thermal RTGUs is calculated by using the annual energy estimate provided by the Solar Rating and Certification Corporation (SRCC) OG-100 Solar Collector Rating (or equivalent entity). The equation used to calculate Useful Thermal Energy output is as follows:

$$E_{\text{net, out}} = \frac{R}{1,000} * C * \text{SOF} * S * t$$

Where:

$E_{\text{net, out}}$ = Net thermal energy output equivalent (MWH/year)

R = OG-100 Solar Collector Rating for Category D, Mildly Cloudy, Medium Radiation (kWh/panel/day)

C = Number of solar thermal collectors

SOF = Surface Orientation Factor, calculated based on the azimuth and tilt of the solar thermal collectors, see section below

S = Annual, average solar access, as determined by a Solar Pathfinder or comparable device

t = Time, 365 days

(2) Substituting OG-300 for OG-100

In special cases where the solar thermal RTGU installed has a SRCC OG-300 Solar Water Heating System Rating, this rating may be exchanged for the OG-100 Solar Collector Rating.

The adjusted formula used to calculate the Useful Thermal Energy output using an OG-300 rating is as follows:

$$E_{\text{net, out}} = \frac{R}{1,000} * \text{SOF} * S * t$$

Where:

$E_{\text{net, out}}$ = Net thermal energy output equivalent (MWH/year)

R = SRCC OG-300 Solar Water Heating System Rating for Boston, MA with Electric Tank as the Backup Source (kWh/year)

SOF = Surface Orientation Factor, calculated based on the azimuth and tilt of the solar thermal collectors, see section below

S = Annual, average solar access, as determined by a Solar Pathfinder or comparable device

t = Time, 1 year

(3) Surface Orientation Factor

The Surface Orientation Factor (SOF) of a system is used to adjust the predicted thermal yield (collector rating) due to a decrease in production efficiency based on the tilt and orientation of the system's solar thermal collectors. The SOF used to calculate Useful Thermal Energy output for Small, solar thermal systems is based on Massachusetts geographic location. See figure below:

Figure 1. Surface Orientation Factor

		Tilt								
		0-9	10-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80-90
True Azimuth	90-99	0.87	0.86	0.84	0.82	0.78	0.73	0.68	0.62	0.56
	100-109	0.87	0.88	0.87	0.85	0.82	0.78	0.73	0.66	0.60
	110-119	0.88	0.90	0.90	0.89	0.86	0.82	0.77	0.70	0.63
	120-129	0.88	0.91	0.92	0.92	0.89	0.86	0.80	0.74	0.66
	130-139	0.89	0.93	0.94	0.94	0.92	0.89	0.83	0.76	0.68
	140-149	0.89	0.94	0.96	0.97	0.95	0.91	0.85	0.78	0.70
	150-159	0.90	0.95	0.97	0.98	0.97	0.93	0.87	0.80	0.71
	160-169	0.90	0.95	0.98	0.99	0.98	0.94	0.88	0.81	0.72
	170-179	0.90	0.96	0.99	1.00	0.99	0.95	0.89	0.82	0.73
	180-189	0.90	0.96	0.99	1.00	0.99	0.95	0.89	0.82	0.73
	190-199	0.90	0.95	0.98	0.99	0.98	0.94	0.88	0.81	0.72
	200-209	0.90	0.94	0.97	0.98	0.96	0.93	0.87	0.80	0.72
	210-219	0.89	0.93	0.96	0.96	0.94	0.91	0.85	0.78	0.71
	220-229	0.89	0.92	0.93	0.93	0.91	0.88	0.83	0.76	0.69
	230-239	0.88	0.90	0.90	0.90	0.88	0.84	0.79	0.74	0.68
	240-249	0.87	0.87	0.87	0.85	0.83	0.80	0.75	0.71	0.66
	250-259	0.86	0.84	0.83	0.80	0.78	0.74	0.71	0.67	0.64
260-270	0.85	0.81	0.78	0.74	0.71	0.68	0.65	0.63	0.62	

(4) Pool Heating

Systems with a useful thermal load that is dedicated to heating a pool are eligible so long as they do not use unglazed flat plate collectors. If the pool is located indoors the same methodology as a typical domestic hot water load should be used. If the pool is located outdoors the same methodology should be used, but with the OG-100 Category B rating.

D) Small Air Source Heat Pump (ASHP) RTGUs

(1) Eligibility Criteria

All small air source heat pumps (ASHP) must meet the eligibility criteria in 225 CMR 16.05(4)(e) and listed below.

(a) Applicable Technologies

- (i) Air-to-air, split system heat pumps
- (ii) Air-to-water heat pumps
- (iii) Single-head, multi-head, and central systems
- (iv) Ducted and ductless systems

The RTGUs that are to be used for cooling only and single-stage heat pumps are not eligible to qualify under the APS.

(b) Equipment Eligibility

Only high-efficiency, cold climate, ASHP RTGU are eligible to qualify under the APS. This is defined as an ASHP RTGU that:

- (i) Meets the requirements of the current Cold Climate Air Source Heat Pump Specification published by Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships and is listed on NEEP's website
- (ii) Meets performance requirements listed in 3(E)(1)(c) of this Guideline

The Department shall maintain and publish a list of eligible ASHP RTGUs that can qualify as Small ASHP RTGUs under the APS.

(c) Performance Requirements

In order to qualify, an ASHP RTGU must meet all of the following requirements:

- (i) RTGU must be listed as ENERGY STAR certified
- (ii) Compressor must be variable capacity
- (iii) Indoor and outdoor units must be part of an Air-Conditioning, Heating, & Refrigeration Institute (AHRI) matched system
- (iv) RTGU must have a coefficient of performance greater than or equal to 1.9 at 5 degree Fahrenheit and a coefficient of performance greater than or equal to 2.5 at 17 degree Fahrenheit.

(d) Heating Requirements

- (i) In new construction, all ASHP RTGUs must supply 100% of a building's total annual heat load; non-renewable supplemental heat sources are prohibited. In existing buildings where an ASHP RTGU supplies 100% of the building's total annual heat load, the non-renewable heat source must be removed.
- (ii) ~~ASHP RTGU that In retrofit construction or existing buildings, all ASHP RTGUs which do not~~ supply less than 100% of an existing building's total annual heat load and where the non-renewable supplemental heat source has not been removed must:
 - 1. Be used as a primary heat source, providing at least 90% of the total annual heating load.

2. Be integrated to the building's heating distribution system such that the useful thermal output of the RTGU is able to be distributed to all space-conditioned areas of the building.
3. Have a capacity at 5F that is at least 50% of the name-plate capacity of the existing heating source equipment.

(2) Formula for Small ASHP RTGUs

If conditioned building area is less than or equal to 1,500 sf:

$$E_{\text{net,out}} = 3.0$$

If conditioned building area is greater than 1,500 sf:

$$E_{\text{net,out}} = \left(3.0 + \left(2.0 * \left(\frac{A - 1,500}{1,000} \right) \right) \right)$$

Where:

$E_{\text{net,out}}$ = Net thermal energy output equivalent (MWH/year)

A = Conditioned space in square feet (sf)

For information only: the above formula is derived from:

$$E_{\text{net,out}} = \left[(A * \text{Useful Heat}) - \left(\frac{A * \text{Useful Heat}}{\text{COPh}} * \text{SSCF} \right) \right] * \frac{1 \text{ kWh}}{3.412 \text{ Mbtu}} * \frac{1 \text{ MWh}}{1000 \text{ kWh}}$$

Where:

A = Conditioned space in square feet (sf)

Useful Heat = 18 MBtu/sf-yr energy required for interior space heating

SSCF= 1.98 to convert from site energy to source energy

COPh = 3.2

E) Small Ground Source Heat Pump RTGUs

(1) Eligibility Criteria

All small ground source heat pumps (GSHP) must meet the eligibility criteria in 225 CMR 16.05(4)(f) and listed below.

(a) Equipment Eligibility

- (i) The GSHP RTGU must be AHRI rated and meet one of the following testing and rating Standards:
 1. ANSI/AHRI/ASHRAE/ISO Standard 13256-1 for water-to-air models; or
 2. ANSI/AHRI/ASHRAE/ISO Standard 13256-2 water-to-water models.
- (ii) The GSHP RTGU must have AHRI-rated Operating Coefficient of Performance (COP) and Operating Energy Efficiency Ratio (EER) equal to or greater than the following:

Table 2. Small GSHP EER and COP Thresholds

Type	Cooling EER ¹	Heating COP ²
Closed Loop Water to Air	17.1	3.6
Open Loop Water to Air	21.1	4.1
Closed Loop Water to Water	16.1	3.1
Open Loop Water to Water	20.1	3.5

¹ EER shall be calculated as $EER = (full\ load\ EER + part\ load\ EER)/2$

² COP shall be calculated as $COP = (full\ load\ COP + part\ load\ COP)/2$

* EER and COP shall be based on AHRI-rated ground loop heat pump figures for closed loop systems and the AHRI-rated ground water heat pump figures for open loop systems.

- (iii) All GSHP RTGUs must be installed by licensed contractors and/or plumbers in accordance with the National Electric Code and manufacturer’s specifications and must conform to all applicable municipal, state, and federal codes, standards, regulations, and certifications, as well as program requirements.
- (iv) Blower motors must be multi-speed or variable-speed, high-efficiency motors. Motors qualify as “energy-efficient” if they meet or exceed the efficiency levels listed in the National Electric Manufacturers Association’s (NEMA’s) MG1-1993 publication.
- (v) All compressors must use two-stage, multi-speed, or variable-speed drives, unless they are water-to-water units. Single-stage water-to-water systems are eligible, provided they include accumulator tanks with the greater of ten gallons of capacity per heating ton or industry/manufacturer recommended best practice.
- (vi) Direct exchange heat pumps, which circulate a refrigerant through a closed-loop copper-pipe system, are prohibited.

(b) Well Requirements

In order to qualify, wells drilled as part of a GSHP RTGU must meet the following requirements:

- (i) Vertically bored closed-loop GSHP RTGUs must have a minimum depth of 150 feet per 12,000 BTU/hr of heating load served by the system (i.e., the lesser of capacity and peak load).
- (ii) Closed-loop bore grouting must have a grout conductivity equal to or greater than anticipated earth conductivity of the drill site up to 1 BTU/hr-ft-°F.
- (iii) There must be at least fifteen (15) feet of separation between closed-loop bore holes.
- (iv) All GSHP RTGUs must comply with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Bureau of Resource Protection Drinking Water Program, Guidelines For Ground Source Heat Pump Wells, and Underground Injection Control Program (December 2013)
<http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dep/water/laws/a-thru-h/gshpguid.pdf>.
- (v) All open-loop GSHP RTGU wells shall be installed in conformance with
 - 1. DEP's Private Well Guidelines – <http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dep/water/laws/i-thru-z/prwellgd.pdf> (as amended); or
 - 2. DEP's Guidelines and Policies for Public Water Systems – <http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dep/water/laws/a-thru-h/glintro.pdf> (as amended), whichever is applicable.
- (vi) All GSHP RTGU wells shall be installed in conformance with 313 CMR 3.00: Registration of Well Drillers and Filing of Well Completion Reports – <http://www.lawlib.state.ma.us/source/mass/cmr/cmrtxt/313CMR3.pdf>.
- (vii) Standing column wells must include bleed circuits and drywells to maximize thermal efficiency based on available water production
- (viii) All closed loop systems must be installed and tested in accordance with subsections 4 and 5 in section 1 of the “Closed-Loop/Geothermal Heat Pump Systems, Design and Installation Standards”, published by the International Ground Source Heat Pump Association, dated 2017. In lieu of the pressure testing described in subsection five in section one of the above-referenced standard, closed loop systems shall be hydrostatically pressure tested in accordance with ASTM Standard F2164 using the test pressure specified by the design engineer for the system.

(c) Heating Requirement

All GSHP RTGUs must supply 100% of a building's total annual heat load; non-renewable supplemental heat sources are prohibited.

(2) Formula for Small GSHP RTGUs

If conditioned building area is less than or equal to 1,500 sf:

$$E_{\text{net,out}} = 4.6$$

If conditioned building area is greater than 1,500 sf:

$$E_{\text{net,out}} = \left(4.6 + \left(3.1 * \left(\frac{A - 1,500}{1,000} \right) \right) \right)$$

Where:

$E_{\text{net,out}}$ = Net thermal energy output equivalent (MWH/year)

A = Conditioned space in square feet (sf)

For information only: the above formula is derived from:

$$E_{\text{net,out}} = \left[(A * \text{Useful Heat}) - \left(\frac{A * \text{Useful Heat}}{\text{COPh}} * \text{SSCF} \right) \right] * \frac{1 \text{ kWh}}{3.412 \text{ Mbtu}} * \frac{1 \text{ MWh}}{1000 \text{ kWh}}$$

Where:

A = Conditioned space in square feet (sf)

Useful Heat = 18 MBtu/sf-yr energy required for interior space heating

SSCF= 1.98 to convert from site energy to source energy

COPh = 4.75

F) Intermediate Biomass RTGUs

(1) Eligibility Criteria

Intermediate, biomass RTGUs must meet all of the eligibility criteria and requirements found in 225 CMR 16.00 and the Department's *Guideline on Biomass, Biogas, and Biofuels for Eligible Renewable Thermal Generation Units*. The formula in section 3(F)(2) of this guideline applies only to intermediate biomass systems with an output capacity less than 0.134 MMBtu/hr. Intermediate biomass systems with an output capacity between 0.134 MMBtu/hr and 1MMBtu/hr should follow the metering procedure in the Department's *Guideline on Metering and Calculating the Useful Thermal Output of Eligible Renewable Thermal Generation Units – Part 2*.

(2) Formula for Intermediate, Biomass RTGUs

$$E_{\text{net, out}} = (\text{HHV} * \text{Eff} * \text{Fuel}) / 3,412,000$$

Where:

$E_{\text{net, out}}$ = Net thermal energy output equivalent (MWH/quarter)

HHV = Higher Heating Value of the fuel delivered to the RTGU, see table below

Eff = The efficiency of the RTGU, established as 85% for boilers and 80% for furnaces

Fuel= The amount of the fuel delivered to the RTGU that qualifies as an Eligible Biomass Fuel

Table 3. Higher Heating Values for Eligible Woody Biomass Fuel

Fuel	Higher Heating Value
Wood pellets	8,000 Btu/lb
Green wood chips (moisture content higher than 35%)	4,250 Btu/lb
Dry wood chips (moisture content less than or equal to 35%)	See equation below

Higher heating value for dry wood chips

$$\text{HHV} = -85.25 * \text{MC} + 8,525$$

Where:

HHV = Higher Heating Value of the fuel delivered to the RTGU

MC = The whole number percentage of the moisture content of the fuel (e.g. for 5% moisture content, use “5” not “0.05”)

G) Intermediate Biogas and Biofuel RTGUs

(1) Eligibility Criteria

All biogas and biofuel RTGUs must meet the eligibility criteria prescribed in 225 CMR 16.00, particularly those in 225 CMR 16.02.

In the case of biogas, the RTGU must also meet the requirements of 225 CMR 16.05(1)6.a.vi.

In the case of biofuel, the RTGU must also meet the requirements of 225 CMR 16.05(1)6.a.vii.

(2) Qualification Process

Per 225 CMR 16.05(4)(h), all biogas and biofuel RTGUs must qualify via an aggregator. The aggregator will be responsible for providing a form to the Department following the close of each quarter that will contain the following information:

- (a) A list of all RTGUs in the Aggregation
- (b) Details on the make and model of each RTGU
- (c) The quantity of fuel delivered to each RTGU in the quarter
- (d) The percentage of the fuel delivered to the RTGU that meets the definitions of Eligible Biogas Fuel or Eligible Liquid Biofuel in 225 CMR 16.02

The Department shall publish the form to be used by aggregators on its website in conjunction with the effective date of this Guideline.

(3) Formula for Intermediate, Biogas and Biofuel RTGUs

$$E_{\text{net, out}} = (\text{Fuel} * \text{Volume} * \text{EFC} * \text{Eff}) / 3,412,000$$

Where:

$E_{\text{net, out}}$ = Net thermal energy output equivalent (MWH/quarter)

Fuel = Btu content of the fuel delivered to the RTGU, established as 127,000 Btu/gal for biofuel³ and determined on a case by case basis for biogas

Volume = The total volume of fuel delivered

EFC = Eligible fuel content (the percentage of the fuel delivered to the RTGU that qualifies as either an Eligible Biogas Fuel or Eligible Liquid Biofuel)

Eff = The efficiency of the RTGU, established as 85% for boilers and 80% for furnaces

H) Small Hybrid RTGUs

The process for calculating Useful Thermal Output for RTGUs utilizing multiple APS eligible fuels in conjunction with each other will be determined on a case by case basis by the Department.

³ Based on value reported in R.L. McCormick. Biodiesel Handling and Use Guidelines—Fourth Edition, National Renewable Energy Laboratory, 2009.

4. Miscellaneous

The Department may permit an exception from any provision of this Guideline for good cause, so long as the exception is consistent with the requirements set out in G.L. c. 25A, § 11F ½ and regulations promulgated thereunder.