

701—52.27 (422,476C) Renewable energy tax credit. Effective for tax years beginning on or after July 1, 2006, a purchaser or producer of renewable energy whose facility has been approved by the Iowa utilities board may claim a renewable energy tax credit for qualified renewable energy against a taxpayer's Iowa corporation income tax liability. The administrative rules for the certification of eligibility for the renewable energy tax credit for the Iowa utilities board may be found in rule 199—15.19(476C).

52.27(1) Application and review process for the renewable energy tax credit. A producer or purchaser of a renewable energy facility must be approved by the Iowa utilities board in order to qualify for the renewable energy credit. The eligible renewable energy facility can be a wind energy conversion facility, biogas recovery facility, biomass conversion facility, methane gas recovery facility, solar energy conversion facility or refuse conversion facility. The facility must be located in Iowa and placed in service on or after July 1, 2005, and before January 1, 2012.

The maximum amount of nameplate generating capacity of all wind energy conversion facilities cannot exceed 330 megawatts of nameplate generating capacity. The maximum amount of energy production capacity for biogas recovery facilities, biomass conversion facilities, methane gas recovery facilities, solar energy conversion facilities and refuse conversion facilities cannot exceed a combined output of 20 megawatts of nameplate generating capacity and 167 billion British thermal units of heat for a commercial purpose. A facility that is not operational within 30 months after issuance of approval from the utilities board will no longer be considered a qualified facility. However, if the facility is a wind energy conversion property and is not operational within 18 months due to the unavailability of necessary equipment, the facility may apply for a 12-month extension of the 30-month limit. A producer of renewable energy, which is the person who owns the renewable energy facility, cannot own more than two eligible renewable energy facilities. A person that has an equity interest equal to or greater than 51 percent in an eligible renewable energy facility cannot have an equity interest greater than 10 percent in any other renewable energy facility.

A producer or purchaser of a renewable energy facility must apply to the utilities board for the renewable energy tax credit. The application for the tax credit must be filed no later than 30 days after the close of the tax year for which the credit is applied. The information to be included in the application is set forth in 199—subrule 15.21(1).

52.27(2) Computation of the credit. The renewable energy tax credit equals 1½ cents per kilowatt-hour of electricity, or 44 cents per 1000 standard cubic feet of hydrogen fuel, or \$4.50 per 1 million British thermal units of methane gas or other biogas used to generate electricity, or \$4.50 per 1 million British thermal units of heat for a commercial purpose generated by and purchased from an eligible renewable energy facility during the tax year. For the first tax year in which the credit is applied, the kilowatt-hours, standard cubic feet or British thermal units generated by and purchased from the facility may exceed 12 months.

EXAMPLE: A qualified wind energy production facility was placed in service on April 1, 2006, and the taxpayer files on a calendar-year basis. The first year for which the credit can be claimed is the year ending December 31, 2007, since that is the first tax year that began on or after July 1, 2006. The credit for the 2007 tax year can include electricity generated and purchased between April 1, 2006, and December 31, 2007.

The credit is not allowed for any kilowatt-hours, standard cubic feet or British thermal units that are purchased from an eligible facility by a related person. Persons shall be treated as related to each other if either person owns an 80 percent or more equity interest in the other person.

The utilities board will notify the department of the number of kilowatt-hours, standard cubic feet or British thermal units that are generated and purchased from an eligible facility during the tax year. The department will calculate the credit and issue a tax credit certificate to the purchaser or producer. The tax credit certificate will include the taxpayer's name, address and federal identification number, the tax type for which the credit will be claimed, the amount of the credit and the tax year for which the credit may be claimed. In addition, the tax credit certificate will include a place for the name and tax identification number of a transferee and the amount of the tax credit certificate, as provided in subrule

52.27(3). If the department refuses to issue the tax credit certificate, the taxpayer shall be notified in writing and the taxpayer will have 60 days from the date of denial to file a protest in accordance with rule 701—7.41(17A). The department will not issue a tax credit certificate if the facility is not operational within 30 months after approval was given by the utilities board, unless a 12-month extension is granted by the utilities board as provided in subrule 52.27(1). In addition, the department will not issue a tax credit certificate to any person who received a wind energy production tax credit in accordance with Iowa Code chapter 476B.

If the taxpayer is a partnership, limited liability company, S corporation, or estate or trust requesting a credit for individual or corporation income tax, the tax credit certificate will be issued to the partners, members, shareholders or beneficiaries based on the partner's, member's, shareholder's or beneficiary's pro-rata share of earnings of the partnership, limited liability company, S corporation, or estate or trust, except when the taxpayer is eligible to receive renewable electricity production tax credits authorized under Section 45 of the Internal Revenue Code. In cases where the taxpayer is eligible to receive renewable electricity production tax credits under Section 45 of the Internal Revenue Code, the partnership, limited liability company or S corporation may designate the amount of the tax credit to be allocated to each partner, member or shareholder. In addition, if a taxpayer is a partnership, limited liability company, S corporation, or estate or trust that is eligible to receive renewable electricity production tax credits under Section 45 of the Internal Revenue Code, the taxpayer may distribute the tax credit to an equity holder or beneficiary as a liquidating distribution or portion thereof, of an equity holder's interest in the partnership, limited liability company or S corporation, or the beneficiary's interest in the estate or trust.

The credit can be allowed for a ten-year period beginning on the date the qualified facility was originally placed in service. For example, if a renewable energy facility was placed in service on April 1, 2006, the credit can be claimed for kilowatt-hours, standard cubic feet or British thermal units generated and purchased between April 1, 2006, and March 31, 2016. Tax credit certificates cannot be issued for renewable energy purchased after December 31, 2021.

To claim the tax credit, the taxpayer must attach the tax credit certificate to the tax return for the tax period set forth on the certificate. Any tax credit in excess of the tax liability may be carried forward for seven years or until it is used, whichever is the earlier.

52.27(3) *Transfer of the renewable energy tax credit certificate.* The renewable energy tax credit certificate may be transferred once to any person or entity. A decision between a producer and purchaser of renewable energy regarding who may claim the tax credit is not considered a transfer.

Within 30 days of transfer of the tax credit certificate, the transferee must submit the transferred tax credit certificate to the department, along with a statement which contains the transferee's name, address and tax identification number and the amount of the tax credit being transferred. Within 30 days of receiving the transferred tax credit certificate and the statement from the transferee, the department will issue a replacement tax credit certificate to the transferee. If the transferee is a partnership, limited liability company, S corporation, or estate or trust claiming the credit for individual or corporation income tax, the transferee shall provide a list of the partners, members, shareholders or beneficiaries and information on how the renewable energy tax credit should be divided among the partners, members, shareholders or beneficiaries. The transferee shall also provide the tax identification numbers and addresses of the partners, members, shareholders or beneficiaries. The replacement tax credit certificate must contain the same information as that on the original tax credit certificate and must have the same effective taxable year and the same expiration date as the original tax credit certificate. The replacement tax credit certificate may reflect a different tax type than the original tax credit certificate.

The transferee may use the amount of the tax credit for any tax year for which the original transferor could have claimed the tax credit. Any consideration received for the transfer of the tax credit certificate shall not be included in Iowa taxable income for individual income, corporation income or franchise tax purposes. Any consideration paid for the transfer of the tax credit certificate shall not be deducted from Iowa taxable income for individual income, corporation income or franchise tax purposes.

52.27(4) *Small wind innovation zones.* Effective for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2009, an owner of a small wind energy system operating within a small wind innovation zone which has been

approved by the Iowa utilities board is eligible for the renewable energy tax credit. The administrative rules of the Iowa utilities board for the certification of eligibility for owners of small wind energy systems operating within a small wind innovation zone may be found in rule 199—15.22(476).

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 422.33 and chapter 476C as amended by 2009 Iowa Acts, Senate File 456 and House File 810.

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