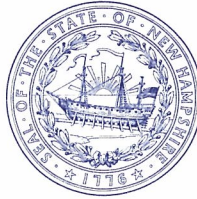


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December 30, 2009

Debra A. Howland
Executive Director
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
21 South Fruit Street Suite 10
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

Re: Docket No. DE 09-031
Granite State Electric Company d/b/a National Grid
Reliability Enhancement and Vegetation Management Plans
Recommendation to Close the Docket



Dear Ms. Howland:

On February 19, 2009, Granite State Electric Company d/b/a National Grid (National Grid) filed its reliability enhancement and vegetation management plans for Fiscal Year (FY) 2010. The plans included a proposed base operation and maintenance (O&M) budget of \$1,360,000 with an additional \$100,000 for enhanced hazard tree mitigation and a proposed budget of \$500,000 for capital investments associated with reliability enhancement.

Staff met with National Grid to review the plans and made suggestions for their improvement. The Company adopted the suggestions and filed revised budget tables on October 6, 2009 showing the new O&M and capital levels. National Grid also informed the Staff of budget overruns incurred in connection with hazard tree removal. Staff and the Company held further discussions and mutually agreed to further amend the proposed FY 2010 budget to include those costs. National Grid filed a letter on December 23, 2009 detailing the revisions to its FY 2010 budgets.

Staff has completed its investigation of National Grid's reliability enhancement and vegetation management plans for FY 2010 and recommends that the above-captioned docket be closed. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Suzanne G. Amidon".

Suzanne G. Amidon
Staff Attorney