

### STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

EnergyNorth Natural Gas, Inc. d/b/a National Grid NH

**DOCKET DG 10-017** 

Direct Testimony of Paul M. Normand

Cash Working Capital Lead-Lag Study

Prepared by:



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#### 1 I. **POSITION AND QUALIFICATIONS** 2 PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME, POSITION AND BUSINESS ADDRESS. Q. 3 A. My name is Paul M. Normand. I am a principal with the firm of Management Applications Consulting, Inc. ("MAC"). MAC's headquarters is 1103 Rocky 4 5 Drive, Suite 201, Reading, Pennsylvania 19609. PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE. 6 Q. 7 A. A detailed list of my qualifications and experience is provided in Attachment 8 PMN-LL-1. 9 О. **ON WHOSE BEHALF ARE YOU TESTIFYING IN THIS PROCEEDING?** 10 I have been retained by and am testifying on behalf of EnergyNorth Natural Gas, A. 11 Inc. d/b/a National Grid NH ("National Grid NH" or "the Company").

12

### 13 II. PURPOSE OF TESTIMONY

### 14 Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY?

15 The purpose of my testimony is to present and sponsor the cash working capital A. 16 ("CWC") requirements of National Grid NH for its base revenue requirements 17 and purchased gas expense. The Company has identified its revenue requirements 18 on a pro forma basis, and we have computed the CWC for that adjusted test year. 19 The CWC requirements were computed using the methodology recommended in the October 31, 2008 direct testimony of George R. McCluskey in National Grid 20 21 NH's Docket No. DG 08-009. Mr. McCluskey took the position that non-cash 22 items should be removed from the calculation of the CWC. Therefore, in

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calculating CWC in this case, I have removed the uncollectible accounts expense,
 depreciation and amortization expense, provision for deferred income taxes, and
 income for return.

On a pro forma basis, the CWC requirements for National Grid NH are 4 \$1,507,192 for its base revenue requirements and \$4,385,813 for its purchased gas 5 expense. These CWC requirements represent the funds that are needed due to the 6 7 lag between the time when payments are made by the Company and when the recovery of those funds is obtained from customers. This base revenue CWC 8 9 requirement is included in the Company's overall revenue requirement calculation 10 by means of the cash working capital allowance included in rate base. At an 11 appropriate point in this proceeding, the Company will need to adjust the revenue requirement as originally filed in this case to reflect the difference between the 12 13 level of CWC included in rate base in the original filing and the level of CWC 14 calculated in the study I am presenting here.

### 15 Q. HOW IS YOUR TESTIMONY ORGANIZED?

A. My testimony consists of four sections. Section I introduces my background
information. Section II describes the purpose and organization of my testimony.
Section III presents the lead-lag study I prepared on behalf of National Grid NH
to determine the pro forma CWC. A summary schedule detailing the lead and lag
days by revenue and cost component for the test year on a pro forma basis is
provided as Attachment PMN-LL-2. Finally, Section IV of my direct testimony
summarizes my conclusions and recommendations for CWC on a pro forma basis.

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### 1 III. CASH WORKING CAPITAL

2 1. <u>Definition of CWC</u>

### **3 Q. PLEASE DEFINE CASH WORKING CAPITAL.**

A. CWC is the amount of investor-supplied capital required to fund the day-to-day
operations of a company after accounting for the timing differences between
booked and actual revenues and expenses. CWC represents amounts funded by
investors to provide service prior to payment for such service by customers. As
such, base rates requirements CWC is typically an addition to a company's rate
base.

### 10 Q. DID YOU PERFORM A STUDY TO ESTIMATE THE CWC OF 11 NATIONAL GRID NH FOR THE ADJUSTED TEST YEAR?

A. Yes. Attachment PMN-LL-2 presents the results of the lead-lag study conducted
for National Grid NH using the pro forma revenue requirements for the test year
ending June 30, 2009. As shown on this attachment, the CWC related to
purchased gas expense is \$4,385,813, and the Company's rate base addition for
CWC related to delivery service is \$1,507,192.

### 17 Q. WHAT IS A LEAD-LAG STUDY?

18 A. A lead-lag study is an analysis designed to determine the funding required to 19 operate a company on a day-to-day basis. A lead-lag study compares (1) the 20 timing difference between the receipt of service by customers and their 21 subsequent payment for these services and (2) the timing difference between the 22 incurrence of costs by National Grid NH and its subsequent payment of these

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1 costs. Therefore, a lead-lag study must compute both a revenue lag (or lead) and 2 an expense lead (or lag). Attachment PMN-LL-2, page 1 of 3, summarizes the 3 lead-lag study results for National Grid NH. The CWC was developed using systematic reviews of all cash flows for National Grid NH's revenues and 4 5 operations expenses. The lead-lag study measured the base revenue requirement needed for National Grid NH's day-to-day natural gas operations for the 12-6 7 month pro forma period ending June 30, 2009. The lead-lag study also measured separately the CWC for purchased gas. 8

### 9 Q. PLEASE DEFINE THE TERMS "LAG DAYS" AND "LEAD DAYS" AS 10 USED IN YOUR TESTIMONY.

11 A. Revenue lag days are the number of days between delivery of service to National 12 Grid NH's customers and the subsequent receipt by the Company of payment for 13 the service (revenue lag). Expense lag days are the number of days between the 14 receipt of goods or services provided to National Grid NH by vendors and the 15 payment by the Company for those goods and services.

Because National Grid NH's customers receive service prior to paying for it, the Company experiences a revenue lag in its daily operations. This revenue lag is computed based upon a study of the time lag between the date when customers receive service and the date when the customers pay for such service. The longer the revenue lag, the greater the length of time that investor capital is employed to fund the Company's day-to-day operations. The revenue lag of

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National Grid NH is 53.17 days, as developed on Attachment PMN-LL-2, page 2
 of 3.

3 Generally, expenses are paid by National Grid NH after vendors have 4 provided their goods or services, which results in an expense lag. On occasion, 5 National Grid NH pays for services before they are provided. In these instances, the expenses lead their service period. The expense lag is calculated as the 6 7 number of days between the date when National Grid NH receives goods or services from a vendor and the date when the Company pays for such goods or 8 9 services. If the expenses are paid before the services are provided, then the 10 expense lag is expressed as a negative amount. Consequently, any increase in the 11 number of expense lag days results in a reduction of the amount of working 12 capital required for ongoing National Grid NH operations.

The arithmetic difference between the computed revenue lag and the computed expense lag is the number of days the Company must provide funding for the utility's daily operations. As shown on Attachment PMN-LL-2, page 1 of 3, line 363, the Company's revenues lag the recovery of purchased gas costs by 14.27 days, and, as shown on line 44, the Company's revenues lag the recovery of expenses recovered in base rates by 14.08 days.

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### 1 **2.** Lead-Lag Study General Approach

### Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE APPROACH YOU USED IN PREPARING YOUR LEAD-LAG STUDY.

I began the lead-lag study with the selection of the per-books revenues and 4 5 expenses for the12-month period ended June 30, 2009 to form the basis for my analysis. I determined the lag days in the recovery of revenue by type of revenue 6 7 (i.e., sales and other revenues). For operation and maintenance ("O&M") 8 expenses, I developed lag days for each of several types of expenses (i.e., 9 purchased gas, labor, employee pensions and benefits, and other O&M expenses). 10 In addition, I developed lag days for taxes, including property taxes, other taxes 11 excluding property taxes, federal income tax, state income tax, and interest 12 expense. Once the lag days for the test year are established on a per-books basis, 13 they are applied to the test year pro forma revenue requirements. The net of the 14 revenue lag day and each expense item lag are then multiplied by the test year pro 15 forma expense amounts to determine the Day Weighted Amount of CWC. The total of the Day Weighted Amounts for all cash expenses was then divided by 365 16 17 days to obtain the average daily CWC.

- 18
- 19

### 3. <u>Methods of Computation</u>

### 20 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR CALCULATION OF REVENUE LAGS.

# A. The calculation of revenue lags is summarized on Attachment PMN-LL-2, page 2. As previously described, "revenue lag" is the length of time that occurs between

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the Company's provision of service to its customers and the subsequent receipt of
 payment for those services. The existence of a revenue lag makes it necessary for
 investors to provide the funding for the Company to pay its operating costs during
 the lag period.

5 The measurement of revenue lag days typically consists of four 6 components: (1) service lag, (2) billing lag, (3) collection lag and (4) revenue 7 float. Since the time periods for these four components are mutually exclusive, 8 revenue lag is computed by adding together the total number of days associated 9 with each of the four revenue lag components. This total number of lag days 10 represents the amount of time between the recorded delivery of service to 11 customers and the receipt of the related revenues from customers.

### 12 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE HOW YOU CALCULATE SERVICE LAG.

13 A. The service lag is the average time span between the mid-point of the customer's consumption interval, also known as the usage period, and the time that such 14 15 usage is recorded by the Company for billing purposes. This service period determines the average length of time over which the billed services are provided 16 17 and establishes a common point in time from which to measure (1) the time of reimbursement for the billed services, and (2) the time at which the accrued costs 18 19 for the service period are actually paid. For virtually all utilities, the service lag is 20 one-half of an average month or 15.22 days.

### 1 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR CALCULATION OF BILLING LAG.

The billing lag is the time required to process and send out customer bills. The 2 A. billing lag begins at the end of the service period when customer consumption is 3 metered, and it ends when the bills are rendered and billings are posted to 4 accounts receivable. The billing lag may be influenced by factors such as whether 5 automated or manual meter reading systems are employed, the generation of 6 7 invoices from metering data and other processes affecting the time to post billings to accounts receivable. National Grid NH utilizes an automated meter reading 8 system and posts its meter reading daily for billing later the same night. As a 9 result, weekends and holidays do not influence the Company's billing lag. 10 National Grid NH's billing lag was approximately one day. 11

12

### Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR CALCULATION OF COLLECTION LAG.

A. The collection lag identifies the time delay between the issuance of customer bills and the receipt of the billed revenues. Collection lag begins with the posting of bills and ends with the receipt of payment. Collection lag may be influenced by payment arrangements, contract terms, postal delivery delays, customer inquiries, delinquent accounts, service termination practices, and other factors. As I will discuss later in my testimony, I have employed the accounts receivable turnover ratio method to determine the collection lag of 37.03 days.

# 20 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE FINAL COMPONENT OF REVENUE LAG, 21 REVENUE FLOAT.

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Revenue float is the time difference between when funds are received from 1 Α. 2 customers until customer payments clear the banks and are available to the Company. To clarify, there are two periods of float. The first is associated with 3 the Company's payment of services from vendors. Expense float, or lag, is 4 discussed later in my direct testimony. The second period of float is the delay in 5 receipt of cash from customer payments. In this latter instance, National Grid 6 7 NH's cash requirements are reduced by the delay in mailing and check 8 processing. Many lead-lag studies assume that revenue float and check float are 9 equal and offsetting and, therefore, can be removed. A closer examination reveals 10 that the issue is much more complex. The majority of National Grid NH's larger 11 payments are made by wire transfer with a much shorter lag than a conventional 12 mailed check. On the revenue side, only a small portion of customer payments 13 are made by cash, credit card or bank transfer. Again, these payments have 14 smaller lag times to clear than conventional checks. Since the dollar volume of 15 utility payments exceed their receipts made by cash, credit card and bank transfer, the inclusion of check float in the lead-lag study should slightly increase CWC 16 17 requirements. I have chosen to avoid this level of complexity with the knowledge that our simplifying assumption will slightly understate CWC and will not 18 19 disadvantage customers. The inclusion of float would logically cause a slight increase to total net lag and a commensurate increase in cash working capital 20 21 requirements, albeit with a significant level of additional complexity to quantify

the actual impact. Therefore, I have chosen not to quantify float for revenues or
 expenses in this study.

# 3 Q. TURNING TO THE TIMING OF CASH FLOWS ASSOCIATED WITH 4 EXPENSES, HOW DID YOU DETERMINE THE LAG ASSOCIATED 5 WITH PURCHASED GAS EXPENSE?

The calculation of expense lags is summarized on Attachment PMN-LL-2, page 6 A. 7 Purchased gas expense, shown on line 2, is the largest category of expense 3. 8 and comprises over two-thirds of the Company's total revenue requirements. 9 Each purchased gas invoice for the year was scrutinized in the preparation of this 10 calculation. Consistent with general industry practice and without exception, each 11 invoice represents billings for the prior calendar month. The service period for each monthly invoice is defined as the 24-hour period ending at 10:00 AM. 12 Consequently, each invoice is for the period beginning at 10:00 AM on the first 13 day of the previous month and ending at the same time in the current month. 14 Payments are made on approximately the 25<sup>th</sup> of the following month, depending 15 on weekend and holiday schedules. The column labeled "Lag Days" shows the 16 17 lag between the mid-point of the service period and the payment date. In order to compute the average lag, the individual invoices were weighted by the dollar 18 amount of the invoice. The weighted average of the lag from each month's 19 purchased gas expense is calculated as 38.89 days. Note that our calculations do 20 not address gas placed in storage. The lead-lag study identifies the lag between 21 22 receipt of gas and payment of invoices. The additional working capital required

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1 to support gas in fuel inventory after the payment of invoices is outside of the 2 lead-lag study. That is, the lead-lag study addresses the working capital 3 requirements of the Company from the time gas is delivered until it is recorded in 4 fuel inventory. The fuel inventory amount is excluded from the lead-lag 5 calculation.

### 6 Q. HOW IS THE LAG FOR LABOR EXPENSE DETERMINED?

7 A. The majority of the Company's payroll stems from weekly or bi-weekly payroll 8 disbursements. Using sample data, we measured the lag between the mid-point of 9 the pay period and the pay date. However, not all labor costs earned by 10 employees in the pay period are paid out as salary, the difference being payroll 11 withholdings. In order to make an accurate calculation of total labor costs, we identified all labor-related costs and identified when the Company actually 12 13 expended the cash. These labor-related costs include all salary including 14 incentive compensation, payroll taxes including withholding taxes, and a wide 15 range of benefits. Regular payroll costs are the largest component of labor costs 16 and have the shortest payment lag. However, other components of labor costs 17 have relatively long delays. For example, incentive compensation pay was earned 18 from April 2008 to March 2009 and was paid in mid-June 2009, resulting in a 19 much longer expense lag. In addition to direct labor expense, we examined other 20 labor-related costs to the Company, including payroll taxes, benefit deductions, 21 and 401(k) contributions as discussed below.

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1 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE HOW THE LAG IS CALCULATED FOR PENSIONS 2 AND BENEFIT EXPENSE AND COMPANY 401(k) MATCH EXPENSES. 3 A. The method for calculating Pensions and Benefit Expenses and 401(k) Company 4 Match Expense follows the same approach used for all other lag calculations. For 5 each expense, the service period and its mid-point were determined. Then the 6 payment date was established. The lag was then computed as the difference 7 between the payment date and the mid-point of the service period. Next, a 8 weighted average of each expense was computed to determine the overall average 9 for this category. WERE OTHER CATEGORIES OF O&M EXPENSE ANALYZED 10 **Q**. 11 SEPARATELY AND INCLUDED IN THE EXPENSE LAG? 12 Yes. Regulatory Commission Expenses, Account 928, were analyzed separately A. 13 and included in the calculations of the expense lag. Again, the lags for each 14 expense item were computed as the difference between the payment date and the 15 mid-point of the service period. 16 **Q**. HOW WAS THE EXPENSE LAG CALCULATED FOR EXPENSES 17 **ALLOCATED FROM THE SERVICE COMPANIES?** 18 The expenses allocated from the Service Companies consisted of Labor and Other A. 19 O&M expenses that are charged to numerous O&M accounts. The expense lag of 20 65.21 days that is assigned to these expenses is based on the Service Agreements 21 the Operating Companies have with the Service Companies. Per the Service 22 Agreements, the Service Companies are to render a bill to each Operating

1 Company by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month for the services provided in the preceding 2 month. The Operating Companies then have 30 days to pay the invoice after it is 3 received.

## 4 Q. ARE THERE OTHER O&M EXPENSES THAT WERE INCLUDED IN 5 THE CALCULATION OF EXPENSE LAG?

Yes, the Company provided a comprehensive list of all cash disbursements made 6 A. during the year. In terms of total dollar expenditures, the majority of these 7 expenses have already been identified and their lags computed. However, 8 approximately \$3.4 million of expenses were not accounted for in these 9 calculations. These remaining expenses will be shown under the heading of 10 "Other O&M Expenses - Direct" in Attachment PMN-LL-2, page 3 of 3. 11 Because these expenses are made up of thousands of vouchers prepared 12 throughout the course of the test year, it is a daunting task to examine each 13 voucher, identify its service period and payment date, and calculate the expense 14 From a practical standpoint, statistical sampling is the only reasonable 15 lag. solution, and, therefore, that is the approach I have taken. 16

# 17 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE PROCESS FOR SAMPLING OF "OTHER 18 O&M" EXPENSE.

19 A. In order to develop an efficient sampling plan to study the remaining expenses, I 20 used a stratified sequential sample to estimate the lag of this wide variety of 21 expenses. In total, four strata totaling nearly 332 samples were drawn from the 22 population of all test year vouchers. Based on a sample of this size relative to the

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size of the population. I can estimate the lag on the entire population of invoices 1 to within plus or minus one percent at a 90 percent confidence level. Narrowing 2 this bandwidth would require much larger samples without any reasonable 3 expectation that the average lag would change. Considering the thousands of cash 4 expenses incurred by National Grid NH in this general category of Other O&M 5 Expenses, the sampling procedure provides a reasonable estimate for the expense 6 lag for this category without the considerable and unnecessary burden of 7 reviewing huge quantities of data. 8

### 9 Q. DID YOU INCLUDE ANY OTHER EXPENSES BESIDES O&M 10 EXPENSES IN THE CALCULATION OF THE EXPENSE LAG?

Α. Yes. Since Property Taxes, Other Taxes, Federal and State Income Taxes, and 11 Interest on Long Term and Short Term Debt represent cash outlays, they were 12 included in the fiscal 2009 period in the calculation of CWC. All property tax 13 payments made during 2009 were analyzed, and since they are generally prepaid, 14 they produced a negative lag. Other Taxes consist mostly of Payroll Taxes, 15 Unemployment Taxes, and Other Taxes. Each type of tax was analyzed 16 separately and assigned a lag based on the service periods and payment dates. 17 Federal and State Income Taxes were assigned lags based on the statutory 18 required fiscal tax year equal tax payments. Interest on Long & Short Term Debt 19 was assigned lags based on the actual interest payments for the June 30, 2009 20 21 fiscal period.

22

| 1  |    | 4. <u>Results of National Grid Lead-Lag Study</u>                                    |
|----|----|--|
| 2  | Q. | WHERE HAVE YOU PRESENTED THE RESULTS OF THE CWC                                      |
| 3  |    | CALCULATIONS FOR THE PRO FORMA TEST YEAR?  |
| 4  | A. | The results of the lead-lag study are summarized on Attachment PMN-LL-2, page        |
| 5  |    | 1. This page summarizes the revenue lag from page 2 and the cash expenses and        |
| 6  |    | corresponding expense lags from page 3 and computes the Company's pro forma          |
| 7  |    | CWC requirements for purchased gas expense and base rate revenue                     |
| 8  |    | requirements.  |
| 9  | Q. | HAVE YOU IDENTIFIED THE NET LAG DAYS BETWEEN REVENUE                                 |
| 10 |    | AND EXPENSE FOR NATIONAL GRID NH FOR THE TWELVE                                      |
| 11 |    | MONTHS ENDING JUNE 30, 2009 ON A PRO FORMA BASIS?                                    |
| 12 | A. | Yes. As indicated by the data in Attachment PMN-LL-2, page 1, the net lag is         |
| 13 |    | computed for each of the cash expenses. The net lag for National Grid NH's           |
| 14 |    | purchased gas expense is 14.27 days and for the base rate revenue requirements       |
| 15 |    | 14.08 days. The positive lags indicate that cash working capital is required to      |
| 16 |    | compensate for the fact that the lag in the recovery of revenues is greater than the |
| 17 |    | lag in the payment of expenses.  |
| 18 |    | On a pro forma basis, National Grid NH's CWC requirements                            |
| 19 |    | corresponding to these net lags for the June 30, 2009 test year are \$4,385,813 for  |
| 20 |    | purchased gas and \$1,507,192 for base rate revenue requirements. The base rate      |
| 21 |    | CWC requirement represents the capital that must be provided and included as an      |
| 22 |    | addition to rate base.   |

| 1          | Q. | REFERRING TO ATTACHMENT PMN-LL-2, COULD YOU DISCUSS                               |
|------------|----|---|
| 2          |    | THE STRUCTURE OF YOUR PRO FORMA LEAD-LAG STUDY                                    |
| 3          |    | SUMMARY?  |
| 4          | A. | The summary of the National Grid NH lead-lag study on page 1 consists of three    |
| 5          |    | sections. Line 1 shows the revenue lag. Lines 5 through 28 detail the expense lag |
| 6          |    | data. Lines 300 to 44 show CWC in total and segregated between purchased gas      |
| 7          |    | and base revenue requirements.  |
| 8          |    | In order to compute subtotals and totals, the rightmost working column,           |
| 9          |    | labeled "Day Weighted Amount," is also shown in Attachment PMN-LL-2, page         |
| 10         |    | 1. This column is the product of the annual expense and the net lag days. Row     |
| 11         |    | 27, Column 4, of Attachment PMN-LL-2, page 1, will show the weighted average      |
| 12         |    | net lag of 14.22 days for all expenses.   |
| 13         | Q. | ARE THERE ANY ADJUSTMENTS THAT YOU ARE RECOMMENDING                               |
| 14         |    | TO THE CWC CALCULATIONS ONCE THE PROPOSED RETURN                                  |
| 15         |    | LEVEL IS DETERMINED?  |
| 16         | A. | Yes. The calculations are based on the pro forma costs. Income Taxes and          |
| 1 <b>7</b> |    | Return are not indicative of the cash working capital requirements of the         |
| 18         |    | Company on an ongoing basis. For example, under normal conditions, the rates      |
| 19         |    | in effect are expected to allow the Company's stockholders to earn a reasonable   |
| 20         |    | return on their investment, and the utility must pay income taxes on this return. |
| 21         |    | Therefore, the level of CWC computed on a pro forma basis using test year return  |
| 22         |    | understates the level of CWC required for normal operations at the proposed       |

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return level because the CWC does not reflect the income taxes that will have to
 be paid on the proposed increase in return. The CWC requirement should be
 recalculated using the allowed return level and resulting change in income taxes.

### 4 Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN THE CALCULATION OF CWC FOR PURCHASED 5 GAS EXPENSES AND BASE REVENUE REQUIREMENTS.

Attachment PMN 2, page 1, shows that revenues are received 53.17 days after the 6 A. 7 service is provided to customers (line 4), and purchased gas expenses are paid 8 38.89 days after service has been provided by vendors (line 7). Thus, there is a net lag of 14.27 days (53.17 revenue lag days - 38.89 expense lag days = 14.279 10 net lag days) for gas expenses, as shown on Rows 5 and 36. Because the recovery 11 of revenues lags the payment of gas expenses, the CWC amount is a positive amount. The CWC required to support purchased gas expense is computed by 12 dividing the 14.27 days of lag by 365 and then multiplying by the purchased gas 13 14 expense, as shown on line 38.

The base revenue requirement CWC net lag is 14.08 days. This is computed on lines 43 and 44 by taking the difference between the total cash working capital requirements on line 33 and the purchased gas working capital requirements on line 38. Again, because the recovery of revenues lags the base revenue requirement expenses, the CWC amount is a positive addition to rate base.

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### 1 IV. <u>SUMMARY</u>

### 2 Q. PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR TESTIMONY.

A. I have prepared a lead-lag study to separately compute the lag days associated
with revenue collection from customers and the lag days associated with the cash
expenses, segregated between purchased gas expense and all other. The net of the
revenue lag and expense lags are used to determine the net lag days for National
Grid NH. Using the net lag days, I have computed the CWC associated with the
pro forma expenses of the Company.

9 The Purchased Gas CWC requirement is \$4,385,813, and the net lag is 10 14.27 days. The base revenue CWC requirement is \$1,507,192, and the net lag is 11 14.08 days. The CWC requirements should be adjusted to an ongoing basis for 12 the allowed return and resulting change in income taxes.

### 13 Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?

14 A. Yes, it does.

### ATTACHMENT PMN-LL-1

Qualifications of Paul M. Normand

#### **QUALIFICATIONS OF PAUL M. NORMAND**

#### Q. Mr. Normand, what is your present position?

A. I am a principal in the consulting firm of Management Applications Consulting, Inc. (MAC), 1103 Rocky Drive, Suite 201, Reading, PA 19609. This company provides consulting services to the utility industry in such field as loss studies, econometric studies, cost analyses, rate design, expert testimony, and regulatory assistance.

#### Q. What is your educational background?

A. I graduated from Northeastern University in 1975, with a Bachelor of Science Degree and a Master of Science Degree in Electrical Engineering-Power System Analysis. I have attended various conferences and meeting concerning engineering and cost analysis.

### Q. What is your professional background?

A. I was employed by the Massachusetts Electric Company in the Distribution Engineering Department while attending Northeastern University. My principal areas of assignment included new service, voltage conversions, and system planning. Upon graduation from Northeastern University, I joined Westinghouse Electric Corporation Nuclear Division in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. In that position, I assisted in the procurement and economic analysis of electrical/electronic control equipment for the nuclear reactor system.

In 1976, I joined Gilbert Associates as an Engineer providing consulting services in the rate and regulatory area to utility companies. I was promoted to Senior Engineer in 1977, Manager of the Austin office 1980, and Director of Rate Regulatory Service in 1981.

#### ATTACHMENT PMN-LL-1

In June, 1983, I left Gilbert to form a separate consulting firm and I am now a principal and President of Management Applications Consulting, Inc. My principal areas of concentration have been in loss studies, economic analyses, and pricing.

#### Q. Have you testified in support of any cost studies that you participated in or performed?

A. Yes, I have testified or submitted written testimony about such studies before the following regulatory agencies: the Maine Public Utility Commission, the Public Utility Commission of Texas, Illinois Commerce Commission, New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission, New Jersey Board of Public Utilities, New York Public Service Commission, Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities, the Kentucky Public Service Commission, the Arkansas Public Service Commission, the Public Service Commission of Louisiana, the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, the Public Service Commission of Missouri, the Delaware Public Service Commission, the Maryland Public Service Commission, the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission, and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

### Q. Could you please briefly discuss your technical experience?

A. I have performed numerous accounting and marginal cost of service studies, time differentiated bundled and fully unbundled cost studies for both electric and gas utilities since 1980. I have also used such studies in the design and presentation of detailed rate proposals before regulatory agencies. My additional experience has been in the area of unaccounted for loss evaluations for electric and gas utilities for over twenty-four years. These studies

### **1-11-ИМЧ ТИЭМНОАТТА**

include a detailed review of each system and the calculation of appropriate recovery

factors.

### ATTACHMENT PMN-LL-2

Pro Forma Lead-Lag Study Summary

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### National Grid NH Cash Working Capital Requirements 12 Months Ended Jun 30, 2009 Lead Lag Summary

| Line<br><u>No</u> |   | Annual<br>Expense<br>(1)     | Revenue<br>(Lead) Lag<br>Days<br>(2) | Expense<br>(Lead) Lag<br>Days<br>(3) | Net<br>(Lead) Lag<br>Days<br>(4) | Day<br>Weighted<br><u>Amount</u><br><sup>(5)</sup> | Source<br>(6)                                |
|-------------------|---|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|--|
| 1<br>2            | Total Revenue Lag   |                              | 53.17                                |                                      |                                  |  |  |
| 3<br>4            | <u>Total Expense Lag</u><br>Operation & Maintenance Expense | 0110 150 011                 |                                      | 00.00                                | 44.07                            | 04 000 004 040                                     |  |
| 5<br>6            | Purchased Gas<br>Labor - Direct                             | \$112,156,611<br>\$5,406,362 | 53.17<br>53.17                       | 38.89<br>20.22                       | 14.27<br>32.94                   | \$1,600,821,910<br>\$178,098,092                   | Page 3 of 3 - Line 2<br>Page 3 of 3 - Line 3 |
| 7                 | Labor - Allocated   | \$4,575,008                  | 53.17                                | 65.21                                | -12.04                           | -\$55,092,537                                      | Page 3 of 3 - Line 4                         |
| 8                 | Employee Pensions & Benefits - Direct                       | \$3,605,256                  | 53.17                                | 26.75                                | 26.42                            | \$95,240,278                                       | Page 3 of 3 - Line 5                         |
| 9                 | Employee Pensions & Benefits - Allocated                    | \$1,585,086                  | 53,17                                | 65.21                                | -12.04                           | -\$19,087,708                                      | Page 3 of 3 - Line 6                         |
| 10                | Regulatory Commission Expense                               | \$657,982                    | 53.17                                | -89.00                               | 142.17                           | \$93,542,846                                       | Page 3 of 3 - Line 8                         |
| 11                | Other O&M Expenses - Direct                                 | \$3,410,580                  | 53.17                                | 34.50                                | 18.67                            | \$63,658,689                                       | Page 3 of 3 - Line 9                         |
| 12                | Other O&M Expenses - Allocated                              | \$4,194,137                  | 53.17                                | 65.21                                | -12.04                           | -\$50,506,071                                      | Page 3 of 3 - Line 10                        |
| 13                |   |                              |                                      |                                      |                                  |  |  |
| 14                |   |                              |                                      |                                      |                                  |  |  |
| 15                | Other Taxes Excluding Property Taxes                        | \$332,748                    | 53.17                                | 17.97                                | 35.19                            | \$11,710,752                                       | Page 3 of 3 - Line 16                        |
| 16                | Property Taxes  | \$4,457,169                  | 53.17                                | -24.83                               | 78.00                            | \$347,662,947                                      | Page 3 of 3 - Line 17                        |
| 17                |   |                              |                                      |                                      |                                  |  |  |
| 18                |   | CO CO7 000                   | 60.47                                | 30.00                                | 23.17                            | COE 400 00E  | Page 3 of 3 - Line 21                        |
| 19<br>20          | Federal Income Taxes<br>State Income Taxes                  | \$3,687,983<br>\$928,128     | 53.17<br>53.17                       | 30.00                                | 23.17                            | \$85,436,805<br>\$21,501,260                       | Page 3 of 3 - Line 21                        |
| 20                | State income l'axes   | 3920,120                     | 55.17                                | 50.00                                | 23.17                            | \$21,001,200                                       | Fage 5 01 5 - Line 22                        |
| 22                | Interest Expense  |                              |                                      |                                      |                                  |  |  |
| 22                | Interest Expense<br>Interest on Long-Term Debt              | \$5,898,313                  | 53.17                                | 91.25                                | -38.08                           | -\$224,629,757                                     | Page 3 of 3 - Line 32                        |
| 23                | Interest on Short-Term Debt                                 | \$344,791                    | 53.17                                | 45.66                                | 7.51                             | \$2,589,386  | Page 3 of 3 - Line 33                        |
| 25                | Interest on Short-Term Debt                                 | Ψ <b>Ο</b> ΤΤ, 10 Ι          | 00.17                                | 40.00                                | 7.51                             | 02,000,000   |  |
| 26                | -   |                              |                                      |                                      |                                  |  |  |
| 27                | Net of Reveune less Expense Lag                             | \$151,240,154                | 53,17                                | 38.94                                | 14.22                            | \$2,150,946,891                                    | Sum of Lines 5 to 24                         |
| 28                |   |                              |                                      |                                      |                                  | 365  |  |
| 29                |   |                              |                                      |                                      |                                  |  |  |
| 30                | Avg Daily Cash Working Capital Requirements                 |                              |                                      |                                      |                                  | \$5,893,005  | Line 27 / Line 28                            |
| 31                |   |                              |                                      |                                      |                                  |  |  |
| 32                |   |                              |                                      |                                      |                                  |  |  |
| 33                | Cash Working Capital Requirements                           |                              |                                      |                                      |                                  | \$5,893,005  | Line 30                                      |
| 34                |   |                              |                                      |                                      |                                  |  |  |
| 35                | Purchased Gas Working Capital                               |                              |                                      |                                      |                                  |  |  |
| 36                | Purchased Gas Net Lag Days                                  |                              |                                      | 14.27                                |                                  | 0440 4EC 044                                       | Line 5 Col 4<br>Line 5 Col 1                 |
| 37<br>38          | Purchased Gas Cost<br>Purchased Gas CWC                     |                              |                                      |                                      | _                                | \$112,156,611<br>\$4,385,813                       | Line 36 / 365 X Line 37                      |
| აი<br>39          | Pulcilaseu Gas CVVC   |                              |                                      |                                      |                                  | 010,0014   | Ente 507 505 X Ente 57                       |
| - 39<br>- 40      | Base Revenue Requirements Working Capital                   |                              |                                      |                                      |                                  |  |  |
| 40                | Total Cash Working Capital Requirements                     |                              |                                      |                                      |                                  | \$5,893,005  | Line 33                                      |
| 41                | Less: Purchased Gas Cash Working Capital                    |                              |                                      |                                      |                                  | \$4,385,813  | Line 38                                      |
| 43                | Base Revenue Requirements Working Capita                    |                              |                                      |                                      | _                                | \$1,507,192  | Line 41 - Line 42                            |
| 44                | Base Revenue Net Lag Days                                   |                              |                                      | 14.08                                |                                  |  | Line 43/(Line 27-Line5) X 365                |
| 45                |   |                              |                                      |                                      |                                  |  | ,,   |
| 46                |   |                              |                                      |                                      |                                  |  |  |
| 47                |   |                              |                                      |                                      |                                  |  |  |
| 48                |   |                              |                                      |                                      |                                  |  |  |

48 49 50

National Grid NH Lead Lag Summary 6-30-09 Pro Forma Final 4-14-10.xls Lead Lag Summary

#### National Grid NH Cash Working Capital Requirements 12 Months Ended Jun 30, 2009 Revenues Lag Summary

| Line<br><u>No</u>    | <u>Revenue Lag</u>  | Revenues<br><u>Billed</u>    | Lead<br>(Lag)<br><u>Days</u> | Source                        | Wtg Delivery<br><u>Dollar Days</u> |
|----------------------|---|------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1<br>2               | Service Lag   |                              | 15.22                        | See Note 1                    |                                    |
| 3<br>4<br>5          | Billing Lag<br>Cycle Read Customers                                   |                              | 1.00                         | See Note 3                    |                                    |
| 6                    | Collection Lag  |                              | 37.03                        | W/P Supporting Page 1 Line 21 |                                    |
| 7<br>8<br>9          | Total Firm Gas Sales Revenues   | \$157,555,632                | 53.25                        | Line 1 + 4 + 6                | \$8,389,280,031                    |
| 10                   | Sales for Resale  | \$0                          | 38.89                        | W/P Supporting Page 2         | \$0                                |
| 11                   | Gas Revenues Total  | \$157,555,632                | 53.25                        |                               | \$8,389,280,031                    |
| 12<br>13<br>14<br>15 | Revenues from Transportation of Gas of Others<br>Total Sales Revenues | \$7,597,409<br>\$165,153,041 | <u>53.25</u><br>53.25        | Line 8                        | \$404,535,152<br>\$8,793,815,184   |
| 16<br>17             | Unbilled Revenues   | -\$2,991,010                 | 53.25                        | Line 8                        | -\$159,260,701                     |
| 17<br>18<br>19       | Late Payment Charges  | \$1,192,394                  | 42.43                        | See Note 2                    | \$50,590,550                       |
| 20<br>21             | Reconnect Fees  | \$245,820                    | 53.25                        | Line 8                        | \$13,089,045                       |
| 21<br>22<br>23       | NG Check Charge   | \$25,905                     | 42.43                        | See Note 2                    | \$1,099,090                        |
| 23<br>24<br>25       | Broker Balancing Charges  | \$0                          | 53.25                        | Line 8                        | \$0                                |
| 25<br>26<br>27       | Interruptible Sales   | \$0                          | 53.25                        | Line 8                        | \$0                                |
| 27<br>28<br>29       | Non Core Sales  | \$733,421                    | 53.25                        | Line 8                        | \$39,052,074                       |
| 29<br>30<br>31       | Total Revenue Lag   | \$164,359,571                | 53.17                        |                               | \$8,738,385,241                    |

<sup>31</sup> 

33 Notes:

34 1. Computed as 365.25/12/2

2. Fees are assessed on the next billing. Lag is computed as the collection lag on Line 6 plus the average of 5.4 days from due date.

36 3. Meters are read from 7AM to 3PM and posted to accounts receivable on the following day.

37

<sup>32</sup> 

Attachment PMN-LL-2 National Grid NH DG 10-017 Page 3 of 3

#### National Grid NH Cash Working Capital Requirements 12 Months Ended Jun 30, 2009 Cost of Service Lead Lag Summary

Load

|          | Lead   |               |        |                                 |                 |
|----------|--|---------------|--------|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| Line     |  | Revenue Req   | (Lag)  |                                 | Weighted        |
| No       |  | Amount        | Davs   | Source                          | Amount          |
|          | Ourselies & Maintenance European                 |               |        |                                 |                 |
| 2        | Operation & Maintenance Expense<br>Purchased Gas | \$112,156,611 | 38.89  | W/P Supporting Page 2           | \$4,362,126,677 |
| ∠<br>3   | Labor - Direct                                   | \$5,406,362   | 20.22  | W/P Supporting Page 46 Line 73  | \$109,338,000   |
| 3        | Labor - Allocated                                | \$4,575,008   | 65.21  | See Note 2                      | \$298,328,639   |
|          | Employee Pensions & Benefits - Direct            | \$3,605,256   | 26,75  | W/P Supporting Page 96 Line 31  | \$96,437,739    |
| 5<br>6   | Employee Pensions & Benefits - Direct            | \$1,585,086   | 65.21  | See Note 2                      | \$103,360,825   |
| 7        |  | \$5,518,477   | 00.21  | Non Cash Item                   |                 |
|          | Uncollectible Accounts - Acct 904                | \$657,982     | -89.00 | W/P Supporting Page 120 Line 5  | -\$58,560,398   |
| 8        | Regulatory Commission Expense                    | \$3,410,580   | 34.50  | W/P Supporting Page 121 Line 27 | \$117,669,116   |
| 9        | Other O&M Expenses - Direct                      | \$4,194,137   | 65.21  | See Note 2                      | \$273,492,714   |
| 10       | Other O&M Expenses - Allocated                   | \$141,109,499 | 00.21  | See Note 2                      | 0210, 102,111   |
| 11<br>12 | Total Operating & Maintenance Expenses           | 3141,109,499  |        |                                 |                 |
| 13       | Depreciation & Amortization Expense              | \$8,042,552   |        | Non Cash Item                   |                 |
| 14       | Depreciation & Amorazation Expense               | 00,0 12,002   |        |                                 |                 |
| 14       | Other Taxes                                      |               |        |                                 |                 |
| 15       | Other Taxes Excluding Property Taxes             | \$332,748     | 17.97  | W/P Supporting Page 132 Line 16 | \$5,980,238     |
| 10       | Property Taxes                                   | \$4,457,169   | -24.83 | W/P Supporting Page 139 Line 34 | -\$110,691,882  |
| 18       | Total Other Taxes                                | \$4,789,918   | 21.00  | the cappeneng, ego tot and a    |                 |
| 10       | Total Other Taxes                                | \$4,700,010   |        |                                 |                 |
| 20       | Income Taxes                                     |               |        |                                 |                 |
| 20       | Federal Income Taxes                             | \$3,687,983   | 30.00  | W/P Supporting Page 172 Line 13 | \$110,639,487   |
| 21       | State Income Taxes                               | \$928,128     | 30.00  | W/P Supporting Page 173 Line 13 | \$27,843,836    |
|          | Total Income Taxes                               | \$4,616,111   | 00.00  | till Sopporting tage to and to  |                 |
| 23<br>24 | Total moome Taxes                                | \$4,610,111   |        |                                 |                 |
|          | Provision for Deferred Income Taxes              | -\$2,794,596  |        | Non Cash Item                   |                 |
| 25       | Provision for Deletted lifcome taxes             | -42,134,030   |        | Holl Guol Holl                  |                 |
| 26       | Lass Court Dispessition of Broperty              | \$0           |        |                                 |                 |
| 27       | Loss From Disposition of Property                | 40            |        |                                 |                 |
| 28       | h the star Oracle man Damasite                   | \$19,557      |        | See Note 1                      | \$0             |
| 29       | Interest on Customer Deposits                    | \$15,557      |        |                                 |                 |
| 30       | <b>B</b> _4                                      |               |        |                                 |                 |
| 31       | Return   | \$5,898,313   | 91,25  | W/P Supporting Page 174 Line 5  | \$538,221,048   |
| 32       | Interest on Long-Term Debt                       | \$344,791     | 45.66  | W/P Supporting Page 174 Line 0  | \$15,741,856    |
| 33       | Interest on Short'-Term Debt                     | \$2,333,427   | 40.00  | Non Cash Item                   | 2.0,1 11,000    |
| 34       | Income for Return                                | \$2,333,427   |        | Non Guan terri                  |                 |
| 35       | Total Return                                     | \$6,070,031   |        |                                 |                 |
| 36       |  | \$164,359,571 |        |                                 |                 |
| 37       | Total Requirements                               | 5104,339,371  |        |                                 |                 |

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39 Notes:

40

 Customer Deposits and Interest is included as a deduction from Rate Base and therefore excluded from the lead lag study.
 Lag for Service Company charges is per the Service Agreements where a monthly invoice is submitted on the 20th for the preceding month's charges. 41

Invoice is then payable by the 30th day after the invoice is received. 42

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