



**Public Service
of New Hampshire**

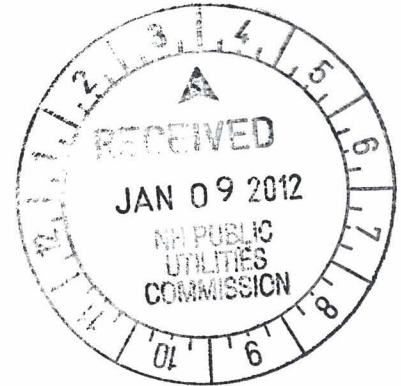
780 N. Commercial Street, Manchester, NH 03101

Public Service Company of New Hampshire
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A Northeast Utilities Company

Sarah B. Knowlton
Senior Counsel

January 9, 2012



By Hand Delivery

Debra A. Howland
Executive Director
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, NH 03301-2429

Re: DE 10-261: Public Service Company of New Hampshire Least Cost Integrated Resource Plan

Dear Ms. Howland:

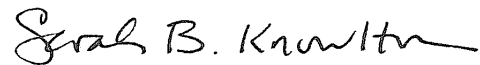
Pursuant to RSA 363:17, I am writing on behalf of Public Service Company of New Hampshire to request that the merits hearing in this matter be held or conducted by the full commission. My understanding is that while all three commissioners are expected to be available in January to hear this matter, it is highly unlikely that an order on the merits will issue prior to the departure of two of the three commissioners. The Company believes that it would be beneficial for all commissioners who heard the matter to participate in the final order on it given the size and complexity of the issues in this proceeding. Therefore, the Company requests that the hearing currently scheduled for January 18 and 19, 2012 be postponed until new commissioners are appointed. There is no deadline for a final order to be issued in this proceeding, and we believe that postponing the hearing will not unduly delay the proceeding or adversely affect the rights of any party.

I have conferred with Staff and the parties in this docket regarding this matter, and the Office of Consumer Advocate, TransCanada Power Marketing Ltd. and TransCanada Hydro Northeast Inc., Freedom Logistics, LLC and Halifax-American Energy Company, LLC assent to a postponement of the January 18-19 hearing. Staff, the New England Power Generators Association, Inc., and Conservation Law Foundation take no position on the request. New Hampshire Sierra Club does not assent to the request.

Debra A. Howland
January 9, 2012
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Thank you for your assistance with this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you wish to discuss this directly.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Sarah B. Knowlton". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Sarah B. Knowlton

cc: Service List DE 10-261