THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DE 10-307

GRANITE STATE ELECTRIC COMPANY d/b/a NATIONAL GRID

2011 Retail Rate Adjustment Filing

ORDER OF NOTICE

On November 19, 2010, Granite State Electric Company d/b/a National Grid (National Grid) filed a request for approval of retail rate adjustments related to its stranded cost and transmission service charges for effect with service rendered on and after January 1, 2011. In its filing, National Grid calculates that the aggregate impact of the rates proposed for effect on January 1, 2011, on a total bill basis compared to rates in effect today, is a bill decrease of \$1.17 per month, or 1.75%, from \$67.00 to \$65.83, for a typical residential customer using 500 kilowatt-hours (kWh) per month.

The purpose of the stranded cost charge is to recover the Contract Termination Charge (CTC) billed to National Grid by New England Power Company (NEP) in connection with the termination of NEP's all-requirements power contracts with National Grid prior to the advent of retail competition in National Grid's service territory. The Commission approved the applicable recovery mechanism in *Granite State Electric Company*, Order No. 23,041, 83 NH PUC 532 (October 7, 1998). National Grid stated that it would separately file NEP's 2011 CTC Reconciliation Report with the Commission no later than December 1, 2010. At the time of its filing, National Grid proposed to decrease the uniform stranded cost charge from its 2010 value of 0.070 cents per kWh to 0.020 cents per kWh for 2011, not including the stranded cost

adjustment factors. Once the CTC Reconciliation Report is complete, National Grid stated it may file a revised uniform stranded cost rate that will reflect any required adjustment and reconciliation together with a return and adjustment to be incorporated into NEP's CTC to Granite State.

National Grid's transmission service charge includes costs that National Grid incurs in providing transmission service. Transmission service rates are implemented through separate transmission factors for each rate class. The transmission factors are designed to recover estimated transmission expense during the upcoming calendar year, together with an adjustment for over- or under-recoveries that occurred in the prior period. During 2011, transmission expenses and the adjustment are forecasted to produce an average transmission rate of approximately 1.577 cents per kWh, a decrease of 0.056 cents per kWh from the current rate of 1.633 cents per kWh.

The petition and subsequent docket filings, other than information for which confidential treatment is requested of or granted by the Commission, will be posted to the Commission's website at http://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2010/10-307.html.

The filing raises, <u>inter alia</u>, issues related to the reconciliation of the CTC, the costs included in the decreased stranded cost charge and transmission rate, and whether the rate changes and adjustment factors as proposed are just and reasonable as required by RSA 378. Each party has the right to have an attorney represent the party at the party's own expense.

Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby

ORDERED, that a Hearing, pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.12, be held before the Commission located at 21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire on December 13, 2010, at 10:00 a.m.; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.12, National Grid shall notify all persons desiring to be heard at this hearing by publishing a copy of this Order of Notice no later than December 3, 2010, in a newspaper with general circulation in those portions of the state in which operations are conducted, publication to be documented by affidavit filed with the Commission on or before December 13, 2010; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.17, any party seeking to intervene in the proceeding shall submit to the Commission seven copies of a Petition to Intervene with copies sent to National Grid and the Office of the Consumer Advocate on or before December 8, 2010, such Petition stating the facts demonstrating how its rights, duties, privileges, immunities or other substantial interest may be affected by the proceeding, as required by N.H. Code Admin. Rule Puc 203.17 and RSA 541-A:32,I(b); and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that any party objecting to a Petition to Intervene make said Objection on or before December 13, 2010.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this twenty-ninth day of November, 2010.

Debra A. Howland Executive Director

Individuals needing assistance or auxiliary communication aids due to sensory impairment or other disability should contact the Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator, NHPUC, 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire 03301-2429; 603-271-2431; TDD Access: Relay N.H. 1-800-735-2964. Notification of the need for assistance should be made one week prior to the scheduled event.