October 14, 2014 - 1:55 p.m. Concord, New Hampshire

DAY 1
AFTERNOON SESSION ONLY

RE:DE 11-250
PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE: Investigation of Scrubber Costs and Cost Recovery

PRESENT: Commissioner Martin P.Honigberg, Presiding Special Commissioner Michael J. Iacopino
F. Anne Ross, Esq., General Counsel

Sandy Deno - Clerk

## APPEARANCES:

Reptg. Public Service Co. of N.H.: Robert A. Bersak, Esq. Barry Needleman, Esq. (McLane...) Wilbur A. Glahn, III, Esq. (McLane...

Reptg. TransCanada Power Marketing, Ltd., and TransCanada Hydro Northeast, Inc.: Douglas L. Patch, Esq. (Orr \& Reno) Rachel A. Goldwasser, Esq. (Orr \& Reno)

Reptg. Conservation Law Foundation:
Ivy L. Frignoca, Esq. Thomas R. Irwin, Esq.

Reptg. the Sierra Club: Zachary M. Fabish, Esq.

COURT REPORTER: SUSAN J. ROBIDAS, N.H. LCR NO. 44


EXHIBITS PAGE

38 Article from Concord Monitor,
"Assessed value of Bow power
plant drops nearly $\$ 50$ million;
tax rates to spike" (11-12-13)
Staff Responses to TransCanada 82
Data Requests TC 1-5 thru TC1-12 and TC-27, TC1-37

40 Staff Responses TransCanada
Data Requests TC 1-1 thru TC 1-39

41 8/22/08 Letter from Staff 101 with request for information

42 PSNH Clean Air Project Capital 109 Project Review and Approval

43 Staff Response to TransCanada 109 Data Request 6-201
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AFTERNOON SESSION
(Resumed at 1:00 p.m.)

CMSR. HONIGBERG: Ms.
Goldwasser, I have a question. Do you have any other documents like the last document we were talking about that you would go over with other witnesses? I'm talking about things you think that the Company should have produced that it didn't produce.

MS. GOLDWASSER: I'm thinking hard about your answer [sic], sir, just so that I make sure that I answer correctly.

I have a 2010 document that is similar to the one that we just discussed that I didn't use because the one that we discussed was much more relevant to the facts of this case. I wasn't planning on asking any witnesses about that 2010 document. But it would have been responsive to the discovery requests.

CMSR. HONIGBERG: Okay.
MS. GOLDWASSER: I can't think of anything. I mean, this resulted from literal Google searches.

CMSR. HONIGBERG: Okay. I
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would ask counsel over here, what process did you all go through to respond to the requests regarding reports?

MR. BERSAK: When data requests are made of the Company, there is a rigorous team approach to making sure that we provide, you know, responsive and complete answers. With respect to this kind of data request, where there was a need to go to other operating companies, a number of us, including myself, made calls of the usual suspects over there as to who would have this data. Now, is there data available? I can represent that $I$ personally made phone calls to folks at Yankee Gas to find out what they would have had during the relevant time periods. I know that Mr. Smagula made those efforts, as well as others on the team that were responding to data requests. Is it possible, or is it even likely, given what we saw, that perhaps Yankee Gas subscribed to EVA back in 2008? It appears that they did. Now, does that mean we didn't make the

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attempt to find it? No. We've had, since the merger with NSTAR, significant turnovers in personnel and who's responsible for what. You know, practically my entire Scrubber team that started this case is now working at Liberty. I was going to subcontract this case out to them, you know. But trying to find information --

CMSR. HONIGBERG: I think
Staff has that problem, too.
MR. BERSAK: Yeah. So, you know, did we make a good-faith effort to find the information? Yes, we did. Did we miss something? Perhaps. Did we refuse to comply? No, we did not.
(Commissioners conferring.)
CMSR. HONIGBERG: We're going
to wait until we're done with Mr. Smagula, I think, before ruling on Ms. Goldwasser's motion. We're going to hear from the rest of the questioning and have our questions answered and redirect.

So, who was next? Okay. Mr.
Fabish.
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BY MR. FABISH:
Q. Good afternoon, Mr. Smagula.
A. Good afternoon.
Q. So I just have a couple of questions about your rebuttal testimony, which, if I remember correctly, was marked as Exhibit 12 in this proceeding; right?

MR. BERSAK: No, that's not correct.

MR. FABISH: That's not correct?

MR. BERSAK: The rebuttal testimony, so we're all on the same page... CMSR. HONIGBERG: No, it is 12, I think.

MS. GOLDWASSER: It is 12.
MR. BERSAK: Oh, is it 12?
You're right. I'm sorry. I take that back. You're correct.

BY MR. FABISH:
Q. Well, I apologize for the confusion. Exhibit 12, the rebuttal testimony, if you could turn to Page 33. And I'm looking at

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Line 1 on Page 33. There you make the statement, "Carbon regulation will increase everyone's costs, not just those at Merrimack Station." Is that correct?
A. Yes, that's the first part of the sentence.
Q. Uh-huh. Okay. And could you explain what you mean by "everyone" in that statement.
A. Generating facilities that burn a carbon-based fuel -- gas, oil, coal -- will all have a incremental compliance cost due to emerging federal regulation.
Q. Okay. So when you say "everyone," that is excluding -- that's excluding things like nuclear generation, hydro generation, wind generation, solar generation, things that don't burn carbon-based fuels; is that right?
A. Those facilities may not have that if they don't have a carbon-based fuel for their primary purposes of generating electricity. So you're right.
Q. Is it your understanding that all carbon-based fuels when combusted emit the same amount of CO2 per unit energy?

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A. No. Different facilities will burn different amounts, depending on a number of factors: Their design or their capacity factor.
Q. That wasn't quite my question, so let me rephrase. I apologize again for the confusion.

All else being equal -- boiler efficiency, dispatch, et cetera -- do all types of carbon-based fuel emit the same amount of carbon dioxide when combusted for unit energy?
A. The gas-fired generating facilities generally have a lower emitting rate than their counterparts to burn a solid fuel or liquid fuel.
Q. So if I said that -- scratch that.

When you refer to a "solid fuel," are you referring to coal?
A. Coal or a liquid such as oil. I said solid or liquid.
Q. Sure. How much more CO2 per unit energy does coal emit than, say, gas?
A. It depends on the efficiency of the

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facility. It could be anywhere from 40 to 50 percent or -- well, let's see. Let's say a coal plant could burn... let me put it a different way. A gas-fired plant would burn 50 to 60 percent the amount, depending on the coal plant design. With some of the newer coal plants, efficiencies are getting such that, that difference is becoming smaller.
Q. Is Merrimack Station one of those new coal plants?
A. No.
Q. And Merrimack Station burns coal; correct?
A. Yes. Yeah.
Q. All right. Switching gears a little bit. Could I ask you to take a look at Page 24 of your rebuttal testimony. I've got a couple questions for you that refer to the materials starting at the bullet point at Line 15.
A. Page 24. I believe that was part of the text that's been stricken.
Q. Has it been? I thought that the stricken part ended at Line 5. But 1 could be

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mistaken, and so I apologize.
CMSR. HONIGBERG: Mr. Sheehan.
MR. SHEEHAN: The copy we have, the strike ends at Line 5 as well.

CMSR. HONIGBERG: So that part has not been struck.

MR. SHEEHAN: Correct.
CMSR. HONIGBERG: All right.
BY MR. FABISH:
Q. Are you offering to strike it now?
A. No.

CMSR. HONIGBERG: Lawyer's
humor for you.
BY MR. FABISH:
Q. Okay. Well, then, referring to that section, could you tell us now what the current assessment of the Merrimack Station is for tax purposes by the Town of Bow?
A. Boy, you know, I don't think I recall the specific valuation amount for the Town of Bow, off the top of my head.
Q. Without speculating, could you offer a general number?
A. No, I would prefer not to.

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Q. Okay.
A. I don't have any idea.

MR. FABISH: So I have something I'd like to offer as an exhibit if I could. I guess this would be 38.
(The document, as described, was herewith marked as Exhibit 38 for identification.)

CMSR. HONIGBERG: Okay. Let's go off the record for a second.
(Discussion off the record.)
CMSR. HONIGBERG: All right.
Let's go back on.
BY MR. FABISH:
Q. So, Mr. Smagula, I know you didn't write this document, but $I$ thought maybe it would help refresh your memory.
A. Yes, it's very helpful. Thank you.
Q. All right. If you can look at the second page of the docket -- or document. If you look, there's a little advertisement in this newspaper article or periodical article for Smile Masters. If you look to the left of that, the lowest paragraph immediately to the left of that, starting in 2012, the

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plant was assessed at 143.5 million in 2012. Does that number sound right to you?
A. Yes, and I'm very glad I didn't take a guess at what the price was -- the estimate was. I would have had a lot lower number.
Q. Okay. And then this year, given that the date of this is November 12th, 2013, it says the assessed value has been 93.5 million. Is that also accurate, to your knowledge?
A. That's what the article says.
Q. Yeah, but does that sound right to you?
A. Yes.
Q. All right. And is PSNH challenging the value assessment of the value of the property for tax purposes by Bow?
A. Well, PSNH is always -- whenever a tax assessment comes up for renewal, we always participate with the town and the town's agent to come up with what's the relevant and proper amount. I'm not familiar with us involved in challenging it at the moment.

But that doesn't mean it's not occurring. I don't currently get involved in those activities.

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Q. Okay. So you wouldn't have any knowledge about that at all.
A. Not at present. I believe there may be some discussions going on with one or more of our plants. There often is some discussions going on with towns with one or more of our plants. I believe there is some discussions with the Town of Bow, but that's the extent of my knowledge.
Q. Okay. Is there another witness that would have knowledge about that, that you think I should direct these questions to you?
A. Not here.
Q. Okay. Thank you.

MR. FABISH: I think those are all the questions that $I$ have. Thank you. CMSR. HONIGBERG: Ms.

Frignoca.
MS. FRIGNOCA: Having
conferred with Zach over the lunch break, and cognizant of our instructions to work together, I have no questions.

CMSR. HONIGBERG: Delightful.
Mr. Iacopino.
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SP. CMSR. IACOPINO: Thank you.

INTERROGATORIES BY SP. CMSR. IACOPINO:
Q. Mr. Smagula, $I$ would like to talk with you about the secondary wastewater treatment system. I believe that you indicated on cross-examination that the decision was made to construct the secondary system, and you gave us a date, which I believe you said was November of 2010; is that correct?
A. Yes.
Q. And if I understand your testimony, you've had sort of a lengthy history of issues with the EPA with the existing NPDES certificate; is that correct?
A. Yes. The existing permit that we are currently operating under was last issued in 1997. And after five years of operation, you are to apply and get a new permit. And we did do that on a timely basis; however, the EPA had not responded and issued a new permit or a new draft permit until 2011. So, in order for us to have an incremental or added discharge, we would normally go to

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the EPA and say we're going to have this intermittent discharge, and they would modify the permit, or give you a separate special permit. They would work with the facility to accommodate their operational needs.
Q. And prior to knowing you're going to have an incremental discharge, which I understand you say is small, in any event, did you have any other reason to be seeking a change in your permits at that facility?
A. No.
Q. Okay. When did you learn you were going to have this increase in the incremental discharge?
A. As soon as the Project began. And we pursued and got all of the necessary permits to do the construction, and then we focused on operational permits. And as I indicated previously, we spent over a year, I'd say close to a year and a half, working with the state DES on, once we understood the guarantees provided to us from the primary wastewater treatment facility, the volumes,

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the constituencies and the make-up, and the guarantees they were going to provide us, we then had the data to go to the DES and start talking with them about our discharge permit. And we spent over a year going back and forth over excruciating detail to eventually come to an agreement and conclusion that the treated effluent from the primary system would be satisfactory to meet the standards for water quality that the state supported. During that time, the state had discussions with EPA. So there was awareness of our intent and our efforts and our focus. But upon going to them formally, that's when things changed, and a new opinion was provided to us from EPA as to how this would proceed in their view.
Q. If I understand correctly, this particular issue was managed by Public Service itself, correct, not by your EPC contractor?
A. No, the EPC contractor provided technical assistance to us with some experts. But we have always, as a company, pursued our relationships with state and federal

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agencies directly.
Q. And when $I$ was reading your prefiled testimony from June 15th, 2012, and the attachments to it, there's the Beck Reports that were filed every month. Are you familiar with those?
A. Yes. Yes.
Q. I'm just curious, because I noted that starting in January 2010, there was references to the wastewater treatment -secondary wastewater treatment facility. And there were notes, such as "preparation was begun on a request for proposals for providing additional FGD WWT systems to limit the discharge of small quantities and various elements in the Project wastewater effluent."
A. Yes.
Q. So, is that what you're talking about when you were dealing with DES?
A. With the DES, they required us to put on additional filtration equipment on the primary wastewater treatment system to get certain elements to a level that they felt

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was acceptable. But we were concerned about the ultimate approval of the EPA. And as a result, even though our primary discharge philosophy and direction was to have that primary wastewater treatment facility effluent discharge, we were concerned, and we started exploring what would happen if that was not easily achieved.

And I think I'll just say that that was the philosophy upon which we managed the entire project. We always had a course of direction, and I think it was with proper conviction and proper basis. However, we anticipated what risks there were and what potential problems could occur, and we were always exploring those, because if we wanted to make an adjustment and have to have a change, then we were further down that path.
Q. All right. So you then eventually hired Siemens again, or SESS, and they basically became responsible for the construction of the secondary?
A. No, we worked with Siemens to provide additional filtration on the primary

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wastewater treatment system. However, when it became clear that that effluent was not going to be allowed to be discharged and we were going to have to install and make -build an additional building and put in additional, different equipment to further treat the water, we went with a company that had experience with that technology, and that was Burns \& McDonnell. So we went with a different company for our engineering and design and construction.
Q. And if I understand correctly, you dealt with the issue of not being able to discharge for some period of time by just basically hauling the wastewater to publicly-owned wastewater treatment plants;
is that correct?
A. That's correct.
Q. And do you know yourself, or do you know if there is a document that would inform us as to what the cost of doing that are -- were at the time and what they might be at present?
A. There is a document that has some of those

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costs. I don't have it with me. We kept a log of how many vehicles were used and the fees associated with where they went. They'd go to different locations. The concern with continuing down that path was that we had numerous discussions with the Town of Bow regarding truck traffic. They were concerned about truck traffic. And if you look at our information, as far as the quantity of trucks needed to haul water from the primary wastewater treatment system, the secondary would be significantly less. Greatly -- a great amount less. It was approaching 500 to 600 trucks a day. That's, you know, 20 trucks -- 500 to 600 per month. Excuse me. Per month. That's maybe 20 trucks a day. So you're going to really have to be loading trucks almost continuously, 24 hours. POTWs are not open 24 hours. So there are logistic challenges. There are town trucking traffic issues. There's costs. There's a lack of control over the ability to continue to bring in this liquid to these

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facilities. There are a number of risks and costs and concerns that entered into our -and among other things, that entered into our overall assessment.
Q. Was any economic analysis done comparing running the plant on hauling the wastewater away as compared to spending the additional capital on building a secondary wastewater treatment system?
A. I wouldn't say that there was a rigorous analysis made. However, if you look at the risks associated with continuing to haul trucks, one truck an hour, almost 24 hours a day, every day, I think that's not a reasonable expectation that is sustainable, especially with the Town of Bow concerned about traffic and about the other facilities being opened just to receive our effluent. And it allowed too many variables to be out of the control of the Company; whereas, with the secondary system, we could have a much significantly less amount. We could manage the effluent, and we could do it -- but also, if we couldn't do that, and we had

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problems with risks with the primary system, the Project -- the facility -- the Scrubber facility may not be able to operate if we have nowhere to put these large volumes, and it would shut the plant down.
Q. Let me go back to that point in a minute.

But let me just talk about --
(Court Reporter interrupts.)
Q. I want to put the plant shutting down aside for a moment. But when you -- would you say, then, that the primary reason why the choice was made to construct the secondary wastewater treatment system was because of the concern that you had about truck traffic?
A. That was a primary concern in the short term. But we saw too many other risks that would perhaps ultimately stop the trucking totally if POTWs would change their mind or for some reason have a difference of opinion as to receiving the liquid. We would lose control of our ability to bring it somewhere. So we had to reduce the volume to better manage it.

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Q. Talk about the truck traffic for a minute again, though. Did you sit down and have any types of meetings with Bow or --
A. Yes.
Q. -- Franklin or wherever you were taking the materials to, to those towns, to discuss the amount of truck traffic?
A. We met with all of the POTWs involved that we dealt with, and we met with the Town of Bow on numerous occasions on trucking -- for a number of topics. We have trucks for gypsum. We have -- and that was one of the reasons we put in the truck wash, in order to minimize truck traffic. We had construction trucks. We had -- I'm trying to think of what other volume of material we had. Anytime we had to change our truck patterns bringing coal to the facility from Schiller, from South America, the town paid extra attention and was very concerned about incremental truck traffic on not only River Road and Johnson Road, but on Route 3A. So, truck traffic was a high sensitivity issue with the town on any issue.

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Q. And how does the truck traffic with respect to the hauling of the wastewater compare to the other truck traffic that you see at the facility both before and after the construction of the facility? I'm not so much concerned about construction trucks.
A. Right, right. I would say the truck traffic would be significantly increased due to this primary water trucking.
Q. You said the price for -- well, the additional costs for the secondary wastewater treatment system was about \$32 million.
A. About $\$ 35$ million.
Q. Thirty-five?
A. Yup.
Q. And there's been some discussion here this morning about the change in the price estimate. Did that change in the wastewater treatment system have anything to do with the increase from $\$ 250$ million to the $\$ 457$ million estimated project cost?
A. No, because the need to pursue a secondary wastewater treatment system was not

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determined until approximately 2011, which was three years beyond the new estimate of 457.
Q. Another question $I$ have is, I understand that as part of the process of the FGD process you actually create a byproduct known as gypsum; correct?
A. Synthetic gypsum, yes.
Q. And you sell that product; correct?
A. We do.
Q. And I guess it's considered to be synthetic gypsum?
A. Right. That's correct.
Q. And it's sold to wallboard companies and places like that?
A. We have a contract with Georgia-Pacific in Newington, New Hampshire.
Q. At the time that you put -- well, after putting the Scrubber into service and before filing here -- and before filing for your temporary rates, do you know how much gypsum you had manufactured or how much byproduct you had produced?
A. I'm sorry. I don't have that number in

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hand. We have a large building that it's stored in, and trucks are moving that. But when our units are running, the trucks are running that with high frequency.
Q. And what is the price that you generally get for gypsum? Do you know? Is it usually sold by the ton?
A. It's sold by the ton. I think it's on the order of $\$ 6$ or $\$ 7$ per ton, and then there's a trucking cost associated with it.

The key reason, however, for removal of the gypsum is because, if it was not developed as a wallboard-grade gypsum -which it is and meets all the federal standards -- if it were not for that, we would have a large amount of off-spec gypsum with no receiver, and we would be spending 20 times the cost per ton to dispose of it. So it's -- we're not necessarily trying to make money. We're trying to avoid a huge expense.
Q. How do you account for the money earned from selling the gypsum?
A. That's all a credit to customers.

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Q. Is it?
A. Yes.
Q. Okay. Do you --
A. There's a trucking cost and there's a cost to bring it there. So, any of the net positive or negative proceeds of that is part of our operating budget, our expense budget.
Q. So it would be an operating item?
A. Yes. But as $I$ indicated earlier, because it's a cost -- or a credit associated with the Scrubber, it's in a deferred account, and we're not collecting that from customers. It's part of the deferral.
Q. Until this proceeding is resolved.
A. Yes.
Q. So that the ratepayers will get whatever credit there may be from the sale of the gypsum from the facility.
A. Yes.
Q. Is the secondary wastewater treatment facility, is that operational now?
A. It's fully functional, yes. We continue to -- because this technology is extremely

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new to the United States -- there's probably only a half a dozen facilities, perhaps eight in the world that have used this; it's a technology that's been used in other industries, but adapted to Scrubber effluent. There's only a handful. And we have gone through a number of troubleshooting and tuning. So it is functioning well now. We think it will continue to function better going forward. But we did have a lot of not unusual activities associated with scaling and things like that until we balanced the chemistry. So it's a very complex chemistry equation we're solving from the Scrubber to the primary wastewater, to the secondary, and it's very challenging.
Q. Can you tell me, then, why it is you still want to discharge effluent, why you're still looking for the NPDES permit if it's working well?
A. Because we think the facts and the data support that ability. And we also -- if that is not able to be achieved, and there

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is an upset or a malfunction or something goes wrong with the secondary system, we need to be able -- we would like to have the flexibility from an operations' viewpoint to take an effluent that is deemed acceptable to the state to be able to be discharged at least for periods of time.
Q. So what's the first plan of action, though? Is it -- let's assume you get your NPDES, which $I$ know is an assumption. Is the first plan of action to use the secondary wastewater treatment system and simply take the solids that wind up off site, or is it to discharge in the first instance and only use the secondary wastewater treatment system as a backup?
A. Well, the secondary system does still have effluent. It still has a small amount of liquid that comes out of it. That's not -we recycle it as best we can, but there is always some residual material. And I think our intentions are to await the NPDES permit and then see what allows us -- what allows the flexibility. I think the costs for that

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secondary system, as far as our savings and other expenses, we have far more than offset that customer cost for the secondary system. But ultimately, depending on the final permit, will determine what's the best course of action for customers.
Q. But it sounds to me like one of those could be that the secondary water system will not be used very much.
A. I don't know what the likelihood of that will be from --
Q. But that's what could happen; is that correct?
A. That is a potential possibility. But a final NPDES permit is not expected for quite a while. As I indicated earlier, it's recently been reopened, which is a little unusual, and it may even be reopened again. Ultimately, a final permit will be issued. And I suspect, based on our experience, no matter what is issued in that final permit, it will be appealed. And there's two levels of appeals processes. So this secondary system is going to be in full use for many,

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many years to come.
Q. Assuming all your predictions about appeals come true again.
A. Yes, and I believe that's one of the assumptions that $I$ feel pretty good about. Or bad about. I'm not sure which.
[Laughter]
Q. And I have one other question. This is just to satisfy my curiosity. In your rebuttal testimony, you made the claim that there are 135 New Hampshire Supreme Court decisions that deal with the term "statutory mandate." And did you do that research yourself?
A. I didn't do it myself. But I think, actually, the number is 137. But I did review that document to validate it.
Q. Did you review all 137 New Hampshire Supreme Court --
A. No, I had a summary of the cites. But it was about eight pages long, highlighted. It was highlighted to make it easy on me to check the count.

SP. CMSR. IACOPINO: Mr.
Chairman, I have no other questions.
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CMSR. HONIGBERG: I have a
few.
INTERROGATORIES BY CMSR. HONIGBERG:
Q. Looking at Mr. Long's deposition and Exhibit 7 to that deposition -- that is, the draft cost estimate analysis for PowerAdvocate --
A. I have it, yes.
Q. -- there are the two tables and then graphs that were generated from those tables.
A. Yes.
Q. The "levelized concept," which is the
triangle on the graphs, can you explain
"levelized" in this context?
A. Yes. "Levelized" means that, in simple
terms, when you're comparing
project-to-project, every project is a bit different. It's site-specific. And I can identify the six or eight specific items associated with Merrimack Station that make it unique from others. But in order to compare scrubber to scrubber, you have to have some basis of getting them on an equal playing field. For example -- and I guess I'll take a second here. It's worth the

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effort to understand.
Merrimack Station has one scrubber for two units. That's not uncommon. But it's often one-on-one. We have two different-size boilers. The boilers are pressurized. They don't have induced draft fans. The boilers are cyclone-fired, which is also unusual. They have SCRs on both units to reduce NOx emissions. The site was very constrained with regard to where the Scrubber could go, and we had to bring ductwork around to the Scrubber while we still had an operating railroad line receiving coal underneath these elements.

So you have to take out the incremental costs for the site -- and this was a mercury Scrubber. All these other Scrubber are generally for removal of sulfur. So this absorber vessel, the big heart of the Scrubber equipment, was wider in diameter, was taller, and it had incremental design features on its internal. So it was unique for this site. Well, if you try to discount all these site-specific elements to get it

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to be vanilla or be an apple so you could compare it to other apples, normalizing it is making it so you could compare apples and apples.
Q. In both charts from the exhibit to the Long deposition, and also in the Attachment 3 to your June 15th testimony, the table that's associated with the chart has for Merrimack Station's cost the 354, just under the $\$ 355$ million number.
A. Right.
Q. You testified earlier that that number is a partial -- you said a "partial cost."
A. Yeah.
Q. It doesn't include everything.
A. Yeah.
Q. Why is the full number not used here?
A. Because every company's cost of capital, every company's overhead, every company's approach to doing the engineering work is also a bit different. So they try to get just the hardware. They try to get it down to something that is analogous from project to project. And that's why we went from a

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site-specific to a levelized. And when that is done, we get in the ballpark of all -- of the other facilities.
Q. New topic. The large spreadsheet that is Exhibit 31, and Exhibit 32, which has -which is a data response, but it has attached to it a presentation that was prepared by somebody at PSNH for use -- I don't think you knew where -- regarding Senate Bill 152. So it's Exhibits 31 and 32.
A. Yeah. I don't have that.
Q. Okay. That's 31. Do you also have 32?
A. I'm sure I do. I just have to figure out -I don't mark them. (Pause)
Q. If you could turn to Page 24 of the presentation that's in Exhibit 32. I think you were asked questions about it earlier. It's the one that has the statement that, "PSNH customers could be on the hook for \$300 million in stranded costs with nothing to show for it." Is there a relationship between the statement in that document and

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the spreadsheet?
A. No.
Q. They certainly -- they seem to be talking about the same topic.
A. They could be talking about costs for the customers, but there's no correlation with those two numbers.
Q. How was the number in Exhibit 32 developed then?
A. Which number? The 230?
Q. The 230.
A. The 230 was the costs that were committed. It's the sum of all of the values of all the purchase orders that have been issued. It wasn't how much had been spent on each one. It wasn't the cancellation cost. It was the sum -- if we took all the purchase orders that had been issued, as to what the full amount was, that's where that number came from.
Q. Then what's Exhibit 31? That's the big spreadsheet.
A. This exhibit was developed by a team of engineers and professionals under my

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guidance. It utilized the services of two to three URS project experts who worked on this Project for many years. And it used three or four people who worked for PSNH on the project -- our project team for many years. And we spent a lot of time developing a spreadsheet for every major contract and every minor contract, looking at when the contract was issued, the cash flow for every contract, the type of contract, whether it was labor-intensive or whether it was material-intensive, and other aspects of it. And we did an analysis on a contract-by-contract basis, based on when the contract was issued, what the scope of work was, and over what period of time that work would have occurred. And we developed a cost to -- if we were to stop that contract at any given month, how much would the cost be to do that. And the report that accompanied this large spreadsheet is about 18 pages long and simply explains our methodology in very clear detail. And we developed costs that were for money spent,

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money that was either paid or booked, costs in liabilities, payment of all tangible contractor and vendor work that was completed. Because when you release a contract, a lot of these vendors go to subcontractors, and they start building pumps and tanks, and you have to go in and shut all those down.

What were reasonable and customary termination costs? In the first page of my report it talks about termination expenses, settlement costs, immobilization, reasonable mark-up, things that are in our contracts typical for our industry and our business. And there's also stationary remediation costs.

And we asked ourselves these series of questions for every purchase order on the calendar -- of each purchase order within the calendar of the whole project, and we went through excruciating detail to develop a methodology to assess this. And we built up a series of dozens of spreadsheets which then summed this spreadsheet. And

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eventually, this became -- this wasn't really designed to be, you know, discussed in this forum. It was really a working document. But we were able to get through it, I think, pretty well with some questions today. So we developed all the costs and a lot of other information, and then eventually from that we broke our costs into four categories that were also discussed here.
Q. Are those the four categories at the bottom of the page?
A. Yes. The terminology used there is a little awkward. But it's money spent, project costs and liabilities, reasonable and customary termination costs, and station remediation and project area mothballing. Those were -- that was the analyst's jargon for what those four were.
Q. Now, when you talked about those four with Ms. Goldwasser, she directed you to a couple entries that had boxes around them in purple under September ' 08 and November '08. Do you remember that?

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A. Yes.
Q. And I think that she and you talked about the four numbers below each of those figures --
A. Yup.
Q. -- being added together to get to those figures.
A. Correct.
Q. Now, I was playing around with this, and that seemed to hold until the next page, under June of 2010, because if you add the numbers together under June of 2010, which is the third to the last column, and it seems that all columns afterwards, they don't sum anymore. Those four figures below don't add up to the figure that's just above them. So I'm wondering -- and this may be totally insignificant. But since my attention was drawn to it earlier and I started looking at it, it doesn't seem like the numbers add up anymore. So tell me if I'm wrong, or if I'm right, what it means.
A. Let me look at this just for one moment, please.

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(Witness reviews document.)
A. I believe the difference is in the line above the 308,000 . It's the $\$ 25$ million amount. But I'm hard-pressed to recall... let me see if...
(Witness reviews document.)
Q. Tell you what. Why don't we go to something else. And we're going to probably, after your counsel has a question -- has an opportunity to ask you some questions, maybe take a break. Maybe you'll be able to look at that during the break --
A. Okay. Yeah.
Q. -- and then we'll finish and close that out.
A. I'm sure $I$ have a reasonable answer, but not at the moment.
Q. All right. You were asked about the valuation of the plant for tax purposes. I think from that Concord Monitor article that you were shown printed off the Web, it looks like the last valuation was done last fall. If property tax cycles are what they are, usually you should be getting a new valuation pretty soon on that.

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A. Yes.
Q. Do you have any idea what that's going to be?
A. No. But whatever the outcome of that will be, there will be a discussion, and it'll -I can't predict what the ultimate number would end up being.

CMSR. HONIGBERG: I don't have anything else.
(No verbal response)
CMSR. HONIGBERG: Mr.
Iacopino, do you have anything else?
(No verbal response)
CMSR. HONIGBERG: Counsel, do
you have redirect?
MR. BERSAK: Yes, I do. Thank you, Mr. Honigberg.

I want to first commend both
of you Commissioners for reading my mind. You did a great job of going through many of my redirect questions, so there'll be much less than there would have been.

REDIRECT EXAMINATION
BY MR. BERSAK :
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Q. I would like to just fill in a couple more details with respect to the NPDES permit, Mr. Smagula, that you were asked about by Commissioner Iacopino.
A. Yes.
Q. First of all, is it correct that the current NPDES permit under which Merrimack Station is operating actually expired on June 27, 1997?
A. Yes.
Q. I believe that you had originally testified it was issued in 1997.

And is it correct, then, that EPA has been responsible for renewing that permit since that 1997 expiration date?
A. Yes. It's something they've been working on, I guess, for that period.
Q. In light of that, is the need for an NPDES permit something that would exist, even without the Scrubber Project having been installed?
A. Yes.
Q. When did NPDES finally issue a new draft permit for Merrimack Station?

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A. September 30th, 2011.
Q. Was that before or after the Scrubber went into commercial operation?
A. Two days after the Scrubber went into commercial operation.
Q. So you're saying it took over 14 years for EPA to renew an expired permit?
A. To issue a new draft of the permit, yes.
Q. Since that September 2011 draft permit was issued, has the EPA issued a new draft of that same permit?
A. In that draft permit there were a number of technical flaws associated with it, both from a science viewpoint and legal concerns. Our comments were extensive, as were comments from other parties. The EPA received those comments in February of 2012 and was assessing all of those inputs to determine what they would do with the final permit. One aspect in their draft permit was their interest in putting some additional treatment equipment on our wastewater effluent. We challenged their technical recommendation on a number of

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bases. And a few months ago, the EPA opened their draft permit proceeding, removed their technology and imposed an additional, different technology in their modified draft permit. That proceeding is still in a review and comment phase which ultimately will close soon, and then the EPA will go about their business assessing not only the original comments on the draft permit but the new comments on the draft permit.
Q. In the new, modified draft EPA NPDES permit, did they include a restriction that would require the operation of a secondary wastewater treatment facility in order to allow the Merrimack Station to go into commercial operation?
A. Yes. They specified that we should install the equipment that we had installed.
Q. Are interested parties now submitting comments to EPA on this new draft?
A. Yes.
Q. Do you know whether EPA might issue yet another draft of this permit in the future?
A. We did not agree with many of their

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scientific and technical and economic conclusions, and we responded to them with an equal level of specific questions and concerns, similar to what we did on their original draft permit. So, while I'm not sure what they will do, I would not be surprised if they were to consider our comments, because I believe we are perhaps one of the most expert in this technological field of secondary wastewater treatment in the country. And I would not be surprised if they accepted those comments and had to rethink some of their conclusions. So it would not be surprising if it were reissued again, in my view.
Q. Is EPA right now in the process of issuing new regulations that would limit water emissions, such as those from Merrimack Station?
A. There are a number of EPA decisions that have emerged and have potential to emerge which affect cooling water systems.
Q. Do you have any idea when the EPA might actually issue a final NPDES permit for

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Merrimack Station?
A. No. But as I indicated previously, based on the length of time they take to review our comments and the comments of others, and their subsequent decisions and issuances of final permits, potential appeals, I think it could go on for many, many years.
Q. Until a final permit is issued, what's the status of the permitting requirements for Merrimack Station?
A. We remain in full force with the existing permit that had been in place for a long time.
Q. And that's the permit which the EPA refused to reopen to allow Merrimack Station to operate without additional water treatment?
A. Yes.
Q. You were asked a question by Commissioner Honigberg regarding the $\$ 355$ million price that appears in the PowerAdvocate report that's attached to Mr . Long's deposition exhibits that's been marked as 27-7. Do you recall that?
A. Yes.

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Q. And you said that the $\$ 354-$ or $\$ 355$ million estimate was made "because we needed to compare apples to apples."
A. Yes.
Q. Suppose that you and I -- we both live in Bedford. Suppose we both went out and bought new cars. We're going to buy Mercurys, because I think that would be appropriate for this proceeding. Now, you've got a lot more money than I do, so you pay cash. I have to go to that Payday Loan thing on South Willow Street in Manchester to finance it. If we're going to compare the cost of the cars and see whether we got a good deal or not, would you include my financing costs in that comparison?
A. No.
Q. Is that kind of what you were trying to sort of explain when you said that those kind of costs were taken out in order to compare our price for the Scrubber equipment to others around the country?
A. That's one example of the types of costs that would be appropriate to levelize true

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costs to compare apples and apples, yes.
Q. If you recall, there was also a couple graphs that Commissioner Honigberg brought your attention to in 27-7, the ones with the squares and the triangles.
A. Yes.
Q. All the other plants represented on that graph were diamonds. Do you know if any of those diamond plants were scrubbers designed to remove mercury or which had mercury-removal guarantees from the suppliers?
A. No.
Q. No, you don't know or, no, they don't have guarantees?
A. I don't know specifically. But I guess I will say that the Merrimack Station Scrubber, to my knowledge, was the first mercury Scrubber specifically designed for that element in the country. So I suspect -- I don't know for a fact, but I suspect all of the rest were the traditional sulfur, SO2-removal scrubbers.
Q. One final question. You were asked a

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question by counsel for Sierra Club regarding the assessed value of our facility in Bow, New Hampshire. If Merrimack Station was retired or was unable to operate, do you have an opinion of what would happen to its assessed tax value for the Town of Bow?
A. Well, Merrimack Station is assessed based on its function, which is to provide electricity to customers in New Hampshire at PSNH. So if it is unable to fulfill that mission, $I$ think the facility could not operate. And as a result, one of the key criterias that is looked at for value assessment is its capacity factor and its use for customers in the state. So I suspect the assessed value would plummet.
Q. Thank you, Mr. Smagula.

CMSR. HONIGBERG: I think
that's all we have for now, subject to the desire to try and figure out what's going on with that spreadsheet.

So, can we take a few-minute
break and give everybody a chance to come back in about 10 minutes to finish the questioning, and

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then we'll strike the I.D. from whatever exhibits need to be struck -- I think I've got it written down -- and then move on to the next witness? Does that sound right?

MR. BERSAK: If we could talk about, before you go, the next witness. If we're talking about getting back here sometime after 3:00, $I$ don't think it will be possible to get all the way through Mr . Frantz. But we do have a swing witness, Mr. Chung, who I think we definitely can finish up with today, and we can start fresh with a new witness tomorrow, if that makes sense to everybody.

CMSR. HONIGBERG: Does that make sense to everybody else?

MR. SHEEHAN: That's fine with the Staff.

CMSR. HONIGBERG: Wait. Ms.
Goldwasser has a concern.
MS. GOLDWASSER: I'm just not sure if we'll be able to get through Mr. Chung today but --

CMSR. HONIGBERG: Well, I
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mean, we may break wherever we break. And if someone's on the stand and we break, it's not the end of the world. We come back and finish.

MR. BERSAK: We definitely won't finish with Tom, but we might with Eric. So, whatever works best.

CMSR. HONIGBERG: Any other opinions? The plan would be to go with Mr . Chung when we get back? All right. So we'll come back shortly after 3:00.
(Whereupon a recess was taken at 2:55 p.m. and the hearing resumed at 3:11 p.m.) CMSR. HONIGBERG: I gather there was discussions about how to proceed during the break. So, my understanding is that Mr . Smagula was not able to resolve the issues with the spreadsheet in the short time he had, and I understand that. What we can do is we can basically wrap him up otherwise. And if there's a relatively straightforward, simple explanation from that, counsel can make an offer tomorrow or the next day as to what the situation is

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with that. If we need to bring him back to explain that, we can do that. But as far as we're concerned, Mr. Smagula's going to be done. And we'll deal with the exhibits in a minute.

I also understand there was a concern about bringing Mr. Chung up right away, and that's fine. We can -- the plan was to have Mr. Frantz start, and we can have Mr. Frantz start. We can get to wherever we get, and we'll break right around 4:30 and pick up tomorrow morning at that point. I know there's scheduling limitations on tomorrow, at least one or two of tomorrow's witnesses, and we'll deal with that as we have to.

So, is there anything -- did I
get that correct?
(No verbal response)
CMSR. HONIGBERG: All right.
So, is there any objection to striking the identification on the exhibits that were used during Mr. Smagula's testimony? And I don't know that $I$ have a complete and exact list of what those were. It seems to me it

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was 11 and 12 , which were his June testimony and his rebuttal testimony. There was a part of, or exhibits from, I guess, the deposition; is that right? Were there any other -- what's happening with that exhibit? Is it just the exhibits that were used that were I.D.'d and are going to be put in at this time?

Mr. Sheehan, you seem ready to
say something.
MR. SHEEHAN: I was going to say I don't know.

CMSR. HONIGBERG: You're in the same shape I am.

MR. BERSAK: What was the question? I'm sorry.

CMSR. HONIGBERG: Well, we used parts of the deposition transcript -we didn't use the transcript. We used the exhibits from the deposition. Is it just those exhibits that are going in at this point as exhibits for our purposes in this hearing, or is it the whole transcript and all the exhibits?

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MR. BERSAK: I believe that the entire transcript and all the exhibits have been marked for identification.

CMSR. HONIGBERG: How? The question is: What are we striking? From what are we striking the I.D. and making full exhibits at this time? Ms. Amidon.

MS. AMIDON: If I may? I don't think the Commission should do anything at this point. Perhaps at the end of this week we can agree to what to offer as exhibits. But I don't believe Staff, for example, has looked through everything and agreed with everything being introduced as an exhibit. I mean, customarily, as you know, the Commission waits -- we have a big volume here --

CMSR. HONIGBERG: I was hoping to try to get some of that knocked down.

MS. AMIDON: Maybe that's one
thing that the parties can talk about tomorrow morning and present a solution to you tomorrow. But that's what I would propose.

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CMSR. HONIGBERG: Works for me if it works for everybody else.

MS. AMIDON: And with respect to tomorrow, you are correct. There are some scheduling concerns. The witnesses from Jacobs Consultancy are only available tomorrow. And I'm looking to the Consumer Advocate.

MS. CHAMBERLIN: My witness is
available -- he's flying in tonight, and he's available all day tomorrow. And I believe he's available Thursday morning.

MS. AMIDON: So that's just
for your information as we go forward. And, you know, we'll probably give you friendly reminders of things going away that might interfere with that schedule. Thank you.

CMSR. HONIGBERG: Okay. So,
then, are we done with this at this point
and ready to call Mr. Frantz? All right.
(WHEREUPON, THOMAS C. FRANTZ was duly sworn and cautioned by the Court Reporter.)

THOMAS C. FRANTZ, SWORN
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## DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. SHEEHAN :
Q. Your name, sir.
A. Thomas C. Frantz, $\mathbf{F}-\mathrm{R}-\mathrm{A}-\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{T}-\mathrm{Z}$.
Q. You're sure it's not Steven Mullen?
A. I am.
Q. Okay.
A. That may change, though, during the course of this examination.
Q. And your occupation, sir?
A. I'm the Director of the Electric Division here at the Public Utilities Commission.
Q. And can you give a very brief overview of your background.
A. I came to the Commission in 1989; 25-1/2 years as an analyst first -- well, largely as an economist first and then analyst, and then chief economist. When the Commission restructured, $I$ was assigned the Electric Division as its Director. And I've testified numerous times before this Commission on cost of capital, rate design, general ratemaking.
Q. And in this proceeding, you have the chore

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or obligation or joy to adopt another person's testimony; is that correct?
A. That is correct.
Q. And that other person is whom?
A. That person is Steven Mullen. He was -- at the time the prefiled testimony was filed with the Commission, he was the Assistant Director of the Electric Division.
Q. And you are here today to adopt Mr. Mullen's testimony.
A. I am.
Q. Can you tell us what involvement you may have had in drafting and preparing Mr.

Mullen's testimony that was filed?
A. Mr. Mullen worked directly under my supervision. He was the lead Staff member for the Scrubber proceeding. He worked closely with Jacobs Consultancy. And we conferred throughout this proceeding on numerous issues, and including his testimony.
Q. Today, are there any changes that you would like to offer to the testimony before you formally adopt it?

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A. Yes, there is one. If we look at Footnote No. 12, which is found on Page 10, it states: "The Commission currently has an open proceeding [sic], IR 13-020, regarding the valuation and potential divestiture of PSNH's generating assets" -- "generating units." I would like to add the words "Also, the Commission recently opened Docket No. DE 14-238, Determination Regarding PSNH's Generation Assets."
Q. And other than that change, $M r$. Frantz, if I were to ask you all the same questions that appear in Mr. Mullen's testimony, would you adopt the answers that Mr. Mullen gave?
A. Yes.
Q. And I understand you have a brief statement you'd like to give to the Commissioners prior to your cross-examination.
A. I do, if I may. My testimony, adopted from the prefiled testimony of Mr. Steven Mullen, as I said, at the time of the filing was the Assistant Director of the Electric Division, provides an overview of the Scrubber Project, including the legislation

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addressing mercury emissions. The testimony also includes recommendations concerning "prudence" of the Project's management and construction based on the work done by Staff's consultant, Jacobs Consultancy, and the audit reports filed by the Commission's Audit Division. Based on those reports, review of the legislation and the information available during the time frame under consideration, Staff's position is that PSNH acted prudently in the management and construction of the Project and that the costs were prudently incurred. The prudently incurred costs should be recovered in permanent rates and included in default service.

In addition, the unrecovered costs, due to the passage of time between setting temporary and permanent rates, and the less-than-full amount included in the setting of the temporary rates, has created a difficult ratemaking issue. Staff proposes that the unrecovered costs be recovered over a seven-year period as a way

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to balance the significant rate effects of those unrecovered costs with the interest of shareholders. So it's a balance of interests of customers and shareholders for rate recovery. That concludes my remarks.
Q. Thank you.

MR. SHEEHAN: Mr. Honigberg, he's now available for cross-examination.

CMSR. HONIGBERG: Who's going to be asking questions first of Mr. Frantz?

MR. BERSAK: I believe that the Company is going first on this one.

CMSR. HONIGBERG: Mr. Bersak or someone else over there?

MR. BERSAK: It shall be me. CROSS-EXAMINATION

BY MR. BERSAK :
Q. Good afternoon, Mr. Frantz.
A. Good afternoon.
Q. You just indicated you're adopting Mr.

Mullen's prefiled testimony in this proceeding. Is it correct to assume you're also adopting his responses to the data requests that were made by Staff in this

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proceeding?
A. Correct.
Q. Thank you. Are you aware that other parties to this proceeding have taken the position that there are practical alternatives available to PSNH in lieu of installing the Scrubber?
A. Yes.
Q. I'd like to start by discussing the
so-called "divestiture alternative" of the Scrubber installation with you.

If you turn to Page 8, Line 13, of your
testimony -- and I'll refer to it as "your
testimony" because Mr. Mullen has escaped -you indicate that, in your opinion, the Scrubber Law was "written with a single owner of the affected sources in mind"; is that correct?
A. Correct.
Q. And that single owner was PSNH?
A. Correct.
Q. You also testified that the sale of only one of the, in quotation marks, "affected sources," as that term's defined in the

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Scrubber Law, such as the sale of the Merrimack Station but not Schiller Station, would be impractical, because then you would wind up with different owners tied together by a common emissions reduction requirement; is that correct?
A. Yes.
Q. So, is it your opinion that any proposed divestiture, in lieu of installation of the Scrubber, would realistically require that all the affected sources would have to be sold together so there was one common owner responsible for meeting the aggregated emissions reduction requirement?
A. Practically speaking, that answer is yes. It would be extremely unlikely and difficult to have had more than one owner.
Q. So, since the --

MR. PATCH: Mr. Chairman, I
would like to raise an objection at this point in time. We were counseled during the technical session not to do "friendly cross," and I think that's exactly what this is. And we've not prepared friendly cross

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of witnesses by other intervenors because we were counseled not to do that.

CMSR. HONIGBERG: I'm not -- I tend to agree with you.

Mr. Bersak, certainly that
first set of questions was just a repetition of something that's already in the testimony. I think we'd all prefer if you have other areas you want the witness to elaborate on, that would be great. But we have read Mr. Mullen's testimony, which Mr. Frantz has adopted.

MR. BERSAK: If I can sort of make an offer of proof here as to where I'm going with respect to divestiture, is that the alternatives that have been proposed in other's testimony is we could have -- or the Company could have divested Merrimack Station. The witness just testified that was not practical; it would really have to be Merrimack and Schiller.
The next thing I'm going to
ask about is, in light of what the Company would have left, which is Newington Station and some hydros, would that essentially put us into the E 11-250\} [Day 1/Afternoon Session ONLY] \{10-14-14\}
total divestiture situation, which is --
CMSR. HONIGBERG: I think -you don't need to go any further because I think that's fair. It occurred to me, as I was listening to the questions, that $I$ thought he was probably setting up the next couple of questions. So, on that basis, I'm going to let him proceed. But you understand what Mr. Patch said.

MR. BERSAK: I understand.
CMSR. HONIGBERG: And I think we all agree that's a good way for us to go going forward. So, ask the question -BY MR. BERSAK :
Q. If in fact a divestiture of both Merrimack Station and Schiller Station was proposed, that would have left PSNH with only Newington Station and its hydros and the two combustion turbine sites as generating assets; is that correct?
A. Correct.
Q. Do you agree that Newington effectively operates in the capacity market and is primarily a peaking plant?

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A. It has a very low capacity factor, and it's probably going to continue to have a very low capacity factor.
Q. So, would it be unreasonable for PSNH to consider that a generation fleet consisting only of Newtonian and the hydros would be impractical to be the basis of providing energy service to its customers?
A. It also has purchase power agreements, I would state that, of some significance. However, it would create a lot of difficulties to have only one fossil-related generating asset and then the hydros.
Q. So, based on your opinions I'm hearing, in reality, any thought of using divestiture as an option to avoid installation of the Scrubber by PSNH would really have resulted not just in the sale of the Merrimack Station, but also Schiller, and quite possibly lead to a decision as to whether the entirety of PSNH's generating fleet should be divested. Would you agree?
A. I think it would have been an issue. And whether the hydros would have been divested

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or not under those kind of scenarios, well, that's one of the things we'll be looking at in DE 14-238.
Q. And that's -- 14-238 is a proceeding that's being held under the auspices of R.S.A. 369-B 3-a; is that correct?
A. Correct.
Q. And in order to have such a divestiture of Merrimack or Schiller, or even more than those two assets, there would have to be an adjudicative document to determine whether such divestiture was in the economic interests of PSNH's customers?
A. Correct.
Q. In his testimony, do you recall that

Mr. Reed referred to an October 25, 2013
letter from Commission Chair Ignatius to the
Chair of the Electric Restructuring
Legislative Oversight Committee concerning how long such a proceeding might take?
A. I remember reading that as part of his testimony.
Q. And in that letter, do you recall that the Chair stated that the litigated portion of

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such a proceeding, which would typically follow initial Staff report, would take six months or more, barring appeals or any traditional remedies?
A. Yes, I do remember reading that.
Q. If a divestiture attempt was deemed to be the proper course of action following any such investigation under R.S.A. R.S.A. 369-B:3-a, do you recall that Mr. Reed testified that the time period to determine how that divestiture process should be run, the time to initiate it, to have bidders perform their necessary due diligence, to receive bids, analyze bids, meet with bidders, determine potential winning bids, negotiate final contracts and have the Commission review the process, and then, if all that goes well, reach closing, would be an additional 10 to 18 months?
A. I recall that he mentioned a much longer time frame.

CMSR. HONIGBERG: Mr. Bersak,
now you have him repeating Mr. Reed's testimony.

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MR. BERSAK: Well, I'm just establishing a time period as to whether divestiture was going to be practical in light of the legislative requirements of the Scrubber Law.

CMSR. HONIGBERG: Okay.
BY MR. BERSAK :
Q. So the entire divestiture process, from start to finish, would have been a year and a half to two and a half years or longer perhaps.
A. It would require a significant time frame, in my opinion.
Q. And that also assumes that the divestiture process was successful and did not result in a failed option.
A. That's always an assumption.
Q. In light of the obligation under the Scrubber Law for the owner to install and have a Scrubber operational at Merrimack Station, would you consider the possibility of having a failed option to be higher than normal?
A. Could you repeat that question, please?

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Q. Sure. In light of the obligation of the owner under the Scrubber Law to install and have operational Scrubber technology at Merrimack Station by July 1st of 2013, if there was to be an attempt to divest Merrimack Station in lieu of installing the Scrubber, do you think that that obligation would result in a higher likelihood of a failed option than a normal option?
A. I think it would create challenges for any option with that type of requirement hanging over any potential bidder. Whether they'd come to the table, I think that would depend on how the contracts were written and the bid was solicited -- the solicitation of the bid.
Q. As I recall, subsequent to the restructuring law going into effect in the state, you were involved in several generation divestiture processes; is that correct?
A. I was.
Q. In light of the statutory operations -- I'm sorry -- statutory obligation for the owner to have Scrubber technology installed and

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operational at Merrimack Station by July 20, 2013 --
(Court Reporter interrupts.)
Q. Do you have an opinion on how that obligation would impact a rational bidder's due diligence?
A. Well, as I said, I think it complicates any bid. And the kind of requirement time frame of it, the potential costs of installing the technology would all -- with all those aspects would make any bidder probably more nervous or at least risk-averse to bidding on assets.
Q. Is it likely that such a bidder or potential bidder would deem the Scrubber Law obligation to be an economic liability that had to be factored into the price?
A. You're asking me what I think the bidder would actually legally look at, and I just think it would complicate any analysis of a bidder that would be interested in those assets. And uncertainty is never a friend of financial outcomes.
Q. In making your determination and

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recommendation to the Commission that PSNH's efforts to comply with the mercury reduction law were prudent, did that include a review of the Company's installation of the secondary wastewater treatment facility?
A. It did. And that was based on discussions and reports with our consultant, Jacobs Consultancy, who looked in detail at those aspects. I will say that at the time, I think the record reflects that there was an expectation that the wastewater treatment facility would literally be in the zero to 5 percent level for waste from that facility. And so that was what the expectation was. I think that's reflected in the Jacobs testimony and reports.
Q. Are you familiar with Mr. Hachey's testimony in this proceeding?
A. I'm familiar with it.
Q. And in his testimony, Mr. Hachey discusses the economic analysis that PSNH prepared regarding the Scrubber, especially concentrating his discussion on the spread between gas and coal prices included in the

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analysis. Are you aware of that emphasis that Mr. Hachey placed on that coal/gas price spread?
A. Generally, yes. If you want to refer me to the specific number in his testimony, that's fine.
Q. In his testimony, if you want to look at Pages 11 to 13 of Mr. Hachey's testimony, do you recall that he testified that it appears PSNH did not disclose information regarding the significance of that coal/gas price spread to Staff and OCA?
A. You're at Page 11 of his testimony?
Q. Yes. Between 11 and 13 generally.
A. $\mathrm{Hmm}-\mathrm{hmm}$.

MR. PATCH: Mr. Chairman, I doubt very much this is unfriendly cross. You know, I mean, maybe Mr. Bersak can make an offer of proof that it is. But it seems to me, again, we were told at a technical session that the Commissioners did not want to hear friendly cross. And I'm just worried that Mr. Bersak's spending a lot of time, you know, basically trying to boost

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Mr. Frantz's testimony on issues that favor his company --

MR. BERSAK: Well, actually --
MR. PATCH: -- and I think
that's "friendly cross."
CMSR. HONIGBERG: Mr. Bersak.
MR. BERSAK: Actually, what I'm trying to do is discredit Mr. Hachey's testimony.

CMSR. HONIGBERG: Yeah, I
thought that's where he was going with this. I thought he was going to ask the witness -I expect he's going to ask the witness to criticize Mr. Hachey's testimony rather than bolster his own. I totally agree with you, but --

MR. PATCH: Isn't that
friendly cross?
CMSR. HONIGBERG: Well, I
think there was a -- I think what we have in mind is we don't want the parties to pile on bolstering a particular witness' testimony through friendly cross-examination. That doesn't mean a party can't ask a witness of

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another party who tends to be aligned with them on topics that will help them otherwise, that the witness didn't address in his or her own testimony. Is that a distinction that people can appreciate?

MR. PATCH: Well, I wish we'd been told that at the technical session, because the advice we were given at the technical session was different than that.

CMSR. HONIGBERG: We're going to go off the record for a minute.
(Discussion off the record)
CMSR. HONIGBERG: Let's go back on the record.

MR. BERSAK: I'm willing to make an offer of proof in response to that objection.

CMSR. HONIGBERG: Mr. Bersak.
MR. BERSAK: In the cited
pages of Mr. Hachey's testimony, Pages 11
through 13, he testifies that it's his
opinion that PSNH did not provide information regarding the price spread and sensitivity of the Scrubber Project to that

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price spread between gas and coal to Staff and OCA. There are a series of data request questions asked by TransCanada where they inquired of Staff on this very topic, and Staff's responses to those questions are educational and indicate that Staff was well aware of the sensitivity of the Scrubber Project to the price spread between gas and coal as a result of PSNH's presentation to them.

CMSR. HONIGBERG: Mr. Patch.
MR. PATCH: I think I've
stated the arguments $I$ have so far. They didn't ask any data requests about this. I think they've made it pretty clear. It's clearly an attempt to try to, you know, contradict testimony of opposing witnesses, Mr. Hachey in particular, and they're using Mr. Frantz for that. And I think that qualifies as friendly cross.

CMSR. HONIGBERG: I think when
we were off the record you also said it was -- it exceeded the scope of the direct testimony. Did I remember that correctly?

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MR. PATCH: Well, I think that's right, although I guess one of the things that we asked data requests about, you know, once Mr. Hachey filed that testimony, was specifically about that. So we've got some hard evidence that we want to offer, you know, in terms of questions of Mr. Frantz about that presentation. So I don't want to mislead you into thinking that I don't have questions about that, because I do. But it just seems to me that this is a preemptive effort by Mr. Bersak to try to get to those issues first and try to get Mr. Frantz to say good things on behalf of his client about that. And it seems to me that's what we were told we should not be doing.

CMSR. HONIGBERG: Mr. Sheehan.
MR. SHEEHAN: I'm not sure
what the response to Mr . Patch is.
CMSR. HONIGBERG: I guess the
question is: Should your witness be allowed to answer that question, in your view?

MR. SHEEHAN: Well, this is --
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and again, $I$ don't want to argue for Mr . Bersak. This is Mr. Bersak's chance to ask questions. And if he's anticipating what Mr. Patch may do, so what? What if

Mr. Patch doesn't ask the question? Then Mr. Bersak's lost the opportunity. I think that's the nature of the beast when you have questions going in an order, that maybe the usual order that you expect from courtrooms doesn't quite come out. I'm comfortable with the friendly cross ruling, if you will, as you've made it. To the extent he's asking questions to impeach another witness, that seems okay, and assuming it's within the bounds of discovery and direct testimony.

CMSR. HONIGBERG: Mr. Patch.
MR. PATCH: Yeah, the only
other thing I would say is that PSNH had a full and fair opportunity to put in rebuttal testimony on the issue of Mr. Hachey's testimony, and they did that. They could have rebutted that specifically if they wanted to. They had eight witnesses. They

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had 700 pages of testimony and attachments. So, using Mr. Frantz to make this point -you know, I mean, if you don't let them cross on this, you're not precluding them from doing something they had a full and fair opportunity to do.

CMSR. HONIGBERG: Mr. Bersak.
MR. BERSAK: If I could, Mr.
Honigberg.
(Commissioners conferring)
CMSR. HONIGBERG: We're going
to let Mr. Bersak proceed with this. So we're overruling the objection.

MR. BERSAK: Thank you.
BY MR. BERSAK :
Q. Where we left off or were discussing is the part of Mr. Hachey's testimony where he was asked the question whether PSNH presented information regarding the natural gas/coal spread to Staff and OCA, and his answer was "apparently not."

I'd like to turn your attention to Staff's response to several data requests that were asked of Staff by TransCanada.

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MR. BERSAK: I'd like to mark as an exhibit Staff's responses to TransCanada data requests Questions TC 1 through 12, No. 27 and 1-37. And we'll have copies sent around.
(The document, as described, was herewith marked as 39 for identification.)
Q. So Exhibit 39 is a total of 10 data request responses from Staff to questions proposed by TransCanada.

Mr. Frantz, would you please take a look at Staff's response to TC Question 1-5 discussing a presentation made by PSNH to Staff and OCA on July 30, 2008 regarding the Scrubber Project. Do you have that?
A. I do.
Q. According to this data request response, you were in attendance at that presentation?
A. I was.
Q. And according to this data response, you were accompanied by Mr . Mullen and Mr. McCluskey, Attorney Ross, Attorney Hatfield, who was then the consumer advocate, and Mr . Traum, then the deputy

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consumer advocate; is that correct?
A. Yes.
Q. If you could turn your attention now to the next data response from Staff, TC 1-6. According to this data request, Staff responded with an annotated copy of the presentation that PSNH made to Staff and OCA on that date; is that correct?
A. Yes.
Q. And is it correct to assume that the annotations on that attachment were made by Mr. Mullen?
(Witness reviews document.)
A. I saw his handwriting for a lot of years. It appears to be his.
Q. His name was originally on the response to this question; is that correct?
A. Yes.
Q. And in that response it says, "Attached is my copy of the presentation [sic], including my handwritten notes on the presentation, as well as additional notes taken by me." So that would appear to be Mr. Mullen's annotations?

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A. Yes.
Q. I would like to turn your attention to Page 15 of the presentation that was annotated by Staff, a slide captioned "Financial Assessment." Let me know when you have that.
(Witness reviews document.)
A. I am there.
Q. Okay. On that slide, is it correct that PSNH discussed natural gas and coal price assumptions for the Scrubber Project?
A. That's correct.
Q. I'd like you to turn your attention to the last bullet on that slide, the one that reads, quote, "Our analysis show that customer economics are most sensitive to the coal/natural gas price spread and far less sensitive to capital cost or RGGI cost increases"; is that correct?
A. That is correct.
Q. Do you see that the words "are most sensitive to" are underlined on what was attached to Staff's response to this data request?

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A. Yes.
Q. Is it correct to assume from the response to this question that the underline was made by Mr. Mullen?
A. Yes.
Q. Since you were at that meeting where PSNH provided this presentation, would it be reasonable to assume that Mr . Mullen's underlining of that phrase was the result of PSNH's discussing that bulleted item during its presentation to Staff and the Consumer Advocate's Office?
A. I don't know what his motivation was. It's fair to acknowledge that that caught his attention.
Q. You were there. Do you recall it?
A. I do.
Q. Thank you.

And those underlined words, in fact, emphasize the importance of the spread between the price of natural gas and coal. Do you agree?
A. Yes.
Q. In fact, do you agree that Staff was well

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aware of the significance of the differences in cost between coal and gas on the economics of the Scrubber?
A. Yes.
Q. In response to questions from TransCanada, do you agree that Staff indicated that the economics of the Scrubber were subject to many moving parts and not just to the relative prices of gas and coal?
A. On a project of that size and significance, there are always a lot of moving parts, including the overall capital costs, delay for potential weather. There's a tremendous amount of moving parts in a large project like that.
Q. That is it. Thank you very much, Mr. Frantz.

CMSR. HONIGBERG: All right.
Who's going to be asking questions of Mr .
Frantz next? Ms. Chamberlin.
MS. CHAMBERLIN: Yes, I have a few.

CROSS-EXAMINATION
BY MS. CHAMBERLIN:
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Q. The Mercury Emissions Statute refers to cost-effective reductions in sulfur dioxide; is that correct?
A. Well, there's the general R.S.A. 125-0, which is the four pollutants overall statute, and that refers to four pollutants: Sulfur dioxide, oxides of nitrogen, mercury and carbon dioxide. The subsections of 125-0, from 11 to 18, are referred to as the "mercury emissions" subsections.
Q. So your answer is that it refers to cost-effective reductions in sulfur dioxide as well as other pollutants. Is that a fair summary?
(Witness reviews document.)
A. If you're referring to 125-0:13, it directly addresses mercury emissions reductions.
Q. I was referring to Page 5 of your testimony, and I was referring to Line 9 through 11, which is a quote of R.S.A. 125-0:11.
(Witness reviews document.)
A. Yes, that's...
Q. So that section refers to, "including, but not limited to, cost-effective reductions in

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sulfur dioxide" and some other pollutants?
A. Yes.
Q. The statute, R.S.A. 125-O, includes reporting obligations; is that correct?
A. Correct.
Q. And one of those reporting obligations is to the Legislature?
A. Yes.
Q. And your testimony is that legislators knew in 2008 and 2009 about the increased construction costs of the Scrubber; is that a fair summary?
A. Yes.
Q. And the basis of that conclusion is that PSNH provided documents to the Legislature discussing the price increase; is that true?
A. Yes.
Q. And you agree that the Legislature relied on PSNH for information about the Scrubber.
A. Well, now you're asking me to infer what the Legislature relied upon, and I'm not sure I'm quite capable of making that conclusion.
Q. Well, in your 25 years of experience as a regulator, have you had any experience with

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the Legislature?
A. A lot, yes.
Q. And would you say that the Legislature relies on the expertise of the people who come before it for information?
A. I believe that the Legislature relies upon the expertise of people who come before it and the discussions that ensue. And how they ultimately reach their decisions is somewhat still a mystery to me.
Q. And is it a fair conclusion to say that the Legislature was relying on PSNH to provide it information based on the reporting requirements of the statute $125-0$ ?
A. Clearly, PSNH made disclosures to the Legislature and provided information, as it was required to do. I was at some of those hearings.
Q. Turning to the exhibits that Mr. Bersak just handed out, and I believe...

MS. CHAMBERLIN: Did you mark
it? Is it one single exhibit?
MR. BERSAK: Yes, Exhibit 39.
MS. CHAMBERLIN: Exhibit 39.
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BY MS. CHAMBERLIN:
Q. And turning to the presentation given to the PUC, Staff and the Office of the Consumer Advocate, PSNH concluded that there would be a net customer benefit under "expected conditions." Is that a fair summary?
A. Point me to exactly where you see that.
Q. I used a different exhibit, so hold on.
A. Are you talking about Page 3, "The Net Present Value of Revenue Requirements... and the benefit to customers of $\$ 132$ million" or --
Q. Yes, that is what $I$ am talking about.
A. That is stated on Page 3.
Q. Right. And that's the arrow for above that says under "expected conditions"; correct? (Witness reviews document.)
A. Yes. To be clear for the record, it's the fourth arrow down under "Executive Summary" and states in its entirety, "Despite the capital cost increases, Merrimack Station remains economic for customers under expected conditions."
Q. And turning to Page 5, Arrow No. 2 -- let me

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know when you're there.
A. I'm there.
Q. Is one of the "expected conditions" the
"historic high capacity factor and cost-effective operation of Merrimack Station" that's listed there?
A. Listed there is the "historic high capacity factor and cost-effective operation of Merrimack Station." That is correct.
Q. And would you say that that qualifies as an "expected condition"? (Witness reviews document.)
A. Well, it's listed under "Merrimack Station Benefits PSNH's Customers." Whether that's a direct tie to a needed or listed condition, I'm not sure I would make that jump.
Q. So this is a description of the "historic benefits of Merrimack Station"; correct?
A. Yes.
Q. And having occurred historically, is it a reasonable jump to say that that's one of the "expected conditions" of ongoing operation for the benefits to occur?

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A. If you can give me a moment.
(Witness reviews document.)
A. I think it was a reasonable conclusion that the plant would operate at a fairly high capacity factor. That's my recollection.
Q. Thank you. And the bold -- right above the bold lettering on the same page it says, "Historically, coal has maintained a price advantage over oil or natural gas..." Have I read that correctly?
A. Could you tell me exactly where you are right now?
Q. Yes. I'm on the fifth arrow on the same -on Page 5.
A. Yes, that's correct.
Q. And is it fair to conclude that, with the description "historically" in front of that, that that is one of the "expected conditions" PSNH was relying on for customer benefits?
A. I think that was a reasonable conclusion from that arrow.
(Court Reporter interrupts.)
A. I think that was a reasonable conclusion

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from that arrow.
Q. Now, PSNH provided one slide on historic fuel prices. I'm trying to find the page number. I know it's in here. Here it is. Page 16.
A. I'm there.
Q. And the slide shows the price differences between gas and coal; correct?
A. Correct.
Q. And it shows them from the year 2000 to 2008, approximately?
A. Correct.
Q. Now, there isn't a written statement certainly on this page regarding the historic fuel spreads before the year 2000; is that correct?
A. That's correct.
Q. So, history is simply starting at 2000 on this chart.
A. Yes.
Q. That's all I have. Thank you.

CMSR. HONIGBERG: Who's next
to ask questions of Mr . Frantz? Mr . Patch.

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## CROSS-EXAMINATION

BY MR. PATCH:
Q. Good afternoon, Mr. Frantz.
A. Good afternoon.
Q. I want to start pretty much where Ms. Chamberlin left off.

MR. PATCH: We actually would like to have marked the entire set of responses to the data requests from TransCanada. And we have them in a package, so there may be some duplication with Exhibit 39 that PSNH presented. But --

CMSR. HONIGBERG: Is everything in your Exhibit also in 39 or not?

MR. PATCH: Yes. No, no. There's more in our exhibit than there is in 39.

MR. BERSAK: So ours is a subset of his. So we can replace his with ours and we can --

MR. PATCH: Except that there's a disagreement between counsel. It sounds to me like -- let's just deal with

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this individually. So we'll call this Exhibit 40 and move on, because it sounds -in looking at it in Ms. Goldwasser's hand, it looks smaller.
(The document, as described, was herewith marked as Exhibit 40 for identification.)

BY MR. PATCH:
Q. And just to keep things moving, Mr. Frantz, these are our -- I'll represent to you that these are responses that Staff provided under Steve Mullen's name to the data requests that TransCanada propounded on January 21st of this year.

And the one thing that is a little different from what PSNH provided, the attachment to 1-6, the only thing included there is the last page of the attachment that Staff provided, which are Mr. Mullen's notes, independent of the notes that he wrote on the slides.

So, you know, fair to say, I mean, you haven't looked through all of these. I'm going to walk you through a few of these. But first of all, with regard to $1-6$, if we

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could start there.
A. I'm there.
Q. You had described -- or Mr. Mullen had described -- I guess I'll say "you" from now on, but understanding that it was Mr. Mullen who provided the response, but you've adopted it. You described that meeting on July 30th with Staff, the consumer advocate, PSNH representatives, and I think the Governor's Energy Office, as a meeting -- as a "confidential briefing"; is that correct?
A. I think that's correct. But I don't -- I believe it was the OCA, Staff and PSNH. I don't believe it was the Office of Energy Policy. It was the OCA.
Q. Okay. Well, I guess the record will speak for itself. I thought the Governor's Office of Energy had a representative there. But in any event, I'm not concerned about that right now. It's really more about your response to 1-6.

So, you said it was a "confidential
briefing"; correct?
A. Yes. And the materials provided stated at

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the bottom, "privileged and confidential."
Q. And "not a meeting designed to provide Staff with all justifications or analyses related to the Scrubber Project"; correct?
A. Correct.
Q. What does that mean?
A. Well, $I$ think there was a lot of data and information that probably could have been provided to Staff that wasn't. It was a high-level overview. It was information that talked about the increase in cost, talked about the work that was being done. There was what I would say was -- though it's an overused term, it was certainly a "general overview" and information to keep Staff up to date on some recent changes in the Project.
Q. And so you didn't expect them -- seems like you're comfortable with the fact that they didn't provide you with the same analysis or justification that they provided to the Board of Trustees or the NU RACC Committee; is that fair to say?
A. Well, $I$ don't know if that's fair to say.

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But we're not the Company's board of directors and we're not the risk assessment group and we're not the ones making the decision to expend the money. I do think as regulators that we're entitled to and should receive information of major changes of major projects. And in that light, I think we got that type of information. I would expect any company to provide more detail and more information to the people that are approving a project or writing the check at the time than on an ongoing basis to regulators.
Q. So, to the full Commission, as opposed to just in a briefing like that to Staff I take it is what you're saying?
A. Yes. However, at this point in this docket, there's a lot of information that should be provided, and has been.
Q. And so you're saying the Commission really ought to take into account all of that information when making its decision; is that right?
A. All what information?

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Q. I'm trying to pick up on what you just said.
A. Well, I'm just saying you asked for context of the type of briefing we got from PSNH at the time, and I'm saying I don't think that was an unreasonable briefing of the information at the time.
Q. And if something was required to make the project economic for ratepayers -- required to make it economic -- would you expect they would have raised it at that meeting?
A. I think that it would have been reasonable to expect all the fairly high-level, important, pertinent information to have been mentioned.
Q. And then, what about the report to the Commission in DE 08-103, which I believe it's already been indicated is 27-1 -- or 27-9? That's the September 2nd, 2008 report that PSNH filed. Is that the time when PSNH should have provided all of that information that you're referring to, even if they didn't provide it all in that briefing to Staff?
A. I think there was a request by the

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Commission on that. And if you have that request, I'd be happy to take a look at what the request was.
Q. I do have a copy of that. And I think that's the August 22nd, 2008 letter that --
A. From the executive director.
Q. That's right. And I think it went to Mr . Bersak, actually, I think. Have to take a look at that. Ms. Goldwasser is going to hand out a copy of that letter. Do you have one handy right there?
A. I don't. I'll be happy to look at it. (Ms. Goldwasser hands document to witness.)
A. Thank you.
(Witness reviews document.)
CMSR. HONIGBERG: Are we
marking this as an exhibit, or is it somewhere else already?

MR. PATCH: Well, that's a good question.

CMSR. HONIGBERG: Well, why
don't we just mark it. That would be easier.

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MR. PATCH: Okay. Fine.
CMSR. HONIGBERG: That's 41.
(The document, as described, was herewith marked as Exhibit 41 for identification.)
A. I would point to the second paragraph, Mr. Patch.

BY MR. PATCH:
Q. Yes.
A. And this type of letter from the Executive Director of the Commission does provide, I think, a rather detailed and descriptive aspect of what the Commission was seeking from PSNH. In effect, it says "a comprehensive status report on its installation plans, a detailed cost estimate for the Project, an analysis of the anticipated effect of the Project on energy service rates," and these others things.
Q. Well, and I thank you for sort of jumping ahead so $I$ didn't have to read that.

And the last thing is kind of interesting, too, isn't it, "an analysis of the effect on energy service rates if Merrimack Station were not in the mix of

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fossil and hydro facilities operated by PSNH"? I thought that was kind of curious, in light of sort of how far we have come in this docket and issues about all of the types of options that PSNH had and that they should have reviewed. Don't you think that's kind of interesting in that light?
A. I guess you could call it interesting, or at least something for them to file.
Q. So, is it your opinion that PSNH should have provided the Commission, in September of 2008, with all of the justifications and analyses, as you referred to them, that they provided to the board of trustees?
A. No. I think, in 2008, based on the requirement in this executive letter, they should have filed exactly what the Commission asked for.
Q. Okay.

MR. PATCH: These probably
ought to be marked as separate exhibits.
But we have a couple blow-ups of the charts comparing the -- it's the chart that Ms.

Chamberlin had referred to about the
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historical gas prices that was included in the presentation to Staff, and so it's already included as another exhibit. But we have a blow-up of that. And then we also have a blow-up of the similar graph or chart that was presented to the board of trustees on July 15th of 2008.

BY MR. PATCH:
Q. And so I'm going to ask you, Mr. Frantz, to make a couple of observations about those two charts. And as Ms. Chamberlin already walked you through the chart that was presented to Staff, which is the chart included, I believe, to the right there -and you can't see them from where you are, so -- but if you've got -- have you got that chart in front of you?
A. The one from July 30th?
Q. Yes, included in the presentation to Staff.
A. I do. If you'll just wait a second. It's the one on Page 16; correct?
Q. Yes.
A. I have it.
Q. And as indicated, that shows, you know,

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pretty consistently the price of coal doesn't change significantly, does it, over that period of time?
A. No. Coal is the dark line in that chart, and it is fairly constant throughout the range of years in the chart.
Q. But the price of natural gas, in green, obviously fluctuates quite a bit in that chart.
A. Yes, it does.
Q. So, then I'd like you to look at the corollary to that, the chart that was presented to the board of trustees. And I don't know if you have that in front of you. If you don't, we can certainly get you a copy of that.
A. I can see it from here.
Q. You can?
A. I can.
Q. Okay. And so what's the time period that that chart covers?
A. I can't see that.
Q. You can't see that.

MR. PATCH: I'm going to ask
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Ms. Goldwasser to pass out colored copies of the presentation that was made to -- in this case, this was the board of trustees I think that you're handing out, Ms. Goldwasser; correct?

MS. GOLDWASSER: Yes.
(Ms. Goldwasser hands document to witness.)
Q. So this is the presentation made basically two weeks before the presentation to Staff. And I think if you look at --
A. I am on Page 9. I believe that's the chart you're referring to.
Q. Okay. Thank you. And the historical price of natural gas that's reflected in that chart goes back to what year?
A. This one goes back to 1993, and it's a 1993 through 2008 time frame. So the ending time period appears to be exactly the same as the one we saw; however, there are seven years of additional data prior to the 2000 start period for the one that we saw.
Q. And I'd like you, if you would, to read into the record the narrative that is above the

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chart at the top of that page.
A. Well, it starts with, "Historic Fuel Spreads" and has an arrow. Would you like me to read what's beside the arrow?
Q. Yeah, there are two green arrows there.
A. Yes. "Gas/coal spread has averaged \$3.18 per million Btu over the last 15 years, as compared to the required customer break-even level of $\$ 5.29$ per MMBtu," and in parens, "based on current price levels." And then there's a little indentation and a dot from that that says, "However, post the hurricane season of 2005, the spread has averaged \$6.22 per MMBtu." And then there's a second arrow, and it says, "Since January 2007, the spread has averaged nearly $\$ 6.63$ per MMBtu, and current spreads are more than approximately $\$ 9$ per MMBtu."
Q. And so, is it fair to say that, based on what they told the board of trustees, in order for there to be a customer break-even level on this Project, on the Clean Air Project, as it says in the upper right-hand corner, there had to be a spread of $\$ 5.29$

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per MMBtu between the price of natural gas and the price of coal?
A. That's what it says on that first arrow. That is correct. "As compared to the required customer break-even level of $\$ 5.29$ per MMBtu (based on current price levels)."
Q. And what it says, actually, at the very beginning of that sentence, is that the average over the period of time going back to '93, not to 2000, as they presented to Staff, but to '93, has actually been more than $\$ 2$ less than that required spread; is that correct?
A. That's correct. $\$ 2.11$ less, to be precise.
Q. And so, did they present this information to you on the 30th of July?
A. Not that information.
Q. And to the best of your knowledge, did they present it to the Commission on

September 2nd of '08?
A. I'd have to look at what was filed in '08.

I don't believe so. But I think that's subject to check.
Q. We had asked PSNH in a data request about

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the differences in the presentations, and I want to show you a copy of their response. It's TC 6-201.

MR. PATCH: And I would ask that this be marked as an exhibit. Ms. Goldwasser will hand it out. (Ms. Goldwasser hands document to witness.)

CMSR. HONIGBERG: Before we mark that, let's talk about the numbering on what we have in front of us. Do you want to mark the document you were just talking about with Mr. Frantz, the presentation to the board of trustees, as 42?

MR. PATCH: We can if you'd like. I can tell you where else it already is in the existing ones. It's not a colored copy there. So if you want to just mark it separately for ease of convenience or whatever, that's fine.

CMSR. HONIGBERG: Where is it elsewhere?

MR. PATCH: It's 20-11, I
believe. It was an attachment to Mr .
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Hachey's testimony.
CMSR. HONIGBERG: Let's mark
it here because it's a nice, clean copy.
MR. PATCH: Okay.
CMSR. HONIGBERG: So that's
42.
(The document, as described, was herewith marked as Exhibit 42 for identification.)

MR. GLAHN: What was the
secretarial letter of August 22? Was that 41?

CMSR. HONIGBERG: Yeah, that was 41.

So what Ms. Goldwasser is
handing around right now is 43?
MR. PATCH: Yes. Thank you.
(The document, as described, was herewith marked as Exhibit 43 for identification.)
Q. And so the question that we asked: "Was the information shared with the PUC and the OCA the same as was shared with the Utilities Risk and Capital Committee? If not, what were the differences, and why did PSNH not provide the same information both to the PUC

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and the OCA as to the Utilities Risk and Capital Committee and the Board of Trustees? And the response is that, "The facts shared with the PUC Staff and OCA were the same as those shared with the RACC." Did I read that correctly?
A. You read that correctly.
Q. Do you think that's true, given what we just went through? Was the fact about the $\$ 5.29$ spread shared? Was the fact about the historical average being $\$ 3.18$ shared? Were those facts shared with the Staff and the OCA?

MR. SHEEHAN: Just an objection. Just ask one question at a time so we know which one he's answering, please. BY MR. PATCH:
Q. Okay. We'll start with the \$5.29.
A. We did not receive the $\$ 5.29$.
Q. And did you receive the $\$ 3.18$, the actual spread over the historical period going back to 1993? Was that a fact you received?
A. Not in the July 30th, 2008 submission.
Q. And to the best of your knowledge, you said

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not also in the filing with the Commission on September 2nd; is that correct?
A. I think I'd prefer to look at that submission.
Q. You said "subject to check."
A. Subject to check, yeah.
Q. Yeah. I just want to walk you through a couple of pages in that September 2nd, 2008 report to the PUC. I think it's marked as 27-9. I don't know if you have a copy in front of you.
(Attorney Sheehan hands copy to witness.)
CMSR. HONIGBERG: Mr. Patch, how long do you think you have? Because we're getting close to 4:30 and --

MR. PATCH: BOY, I've got a fair amount.

CMSR. HONIGBERG: So why don't
we get to -- or go to 4:30, come to a breaking point, and then we'll pick it up tomorrow morning.

MR. PATCH: Okay. Thank you.
A. I have it in front of me now, Mr. Patch.

BY MR. PATCH:
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Q. Okay. And I would ask you to look at Page 14 of that report.
A. Already there.
Q. Already there. Okay. And it talks on that page about "Sensitivity analyses were conducted to test the impact of changes to each of the key assumptions." Do you see that?
A. Yes. That's under III.D.
Q. And where does it say -- what does it list as "key assumptions"?
A. It says, "Sensitivity analyses were conducted to test the impact of changes to each of the key assumptions," and in parens, "capital cost, coal cost and equivalent CO2 allowance cost," close parens, "on the overall bus bar cost to Merrimack Station."
Q. I don't see any mention of natural gas prices in there, do you?
A. No.
Q. And then it goes on to say, "These sensitivity analyses indicated the economics of the Project are most sensitive to variations in the future price of coal and

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far less sensitive to variations in the capital cost or equivalent CO 2 allowance cost." Did I read that correctly?
A. Yes.
Q. I don't see anything there about the spread between the price of natural gas and coal, do you?
A. No.
Q. And in a response to TransCanada 1-13, we had asked you a question, whether you had any knowledge about whether PSNH had presented this kind of information to the Legislature. And your response was, that we had been provided with copies of documentation that PSNH provided to the Legislature. And you said at times they may have had discussions with the legislators. "If any of the referenced information was provided through any such discussions, I have no knowledge." So you don't have any knowledge that they ever presented any of that critical information, information that they themselves said was required to make the economics of the Project work, was ever

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presented to the Legislature, do you?
A. I think the response stands for itself. If any of the referenced information was provided through any such discussions, I don't have any knowledge of that.
(***check/fix)
MR. PATCH: May be a good stopping point.

CMSR. HONIGBERG: Fair enough. So we'll break now. We're scheduled to come back at 9:00 tomorrow morning; correct? All right.

MR. SHEEHAN: With the understanding that parties will be here at 8:30 to go through any technical issues or procedural issues.

CMSR. HONIGBERG: Okay. Good point. We'll be here at 9:00. You guys will be here at 8:30.

So, is there anything else we need to do right now? Yes, Ms. Chamberlin.

MS. CHAMBERLIN: May I clarify that it will be the OCA's witness that comes after Mr. Frantz, or are we doing somebody

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else?
MR. SHEEHAN: The Jacobs witnesses.

MS. CHAMBERLIN: Oh, Jacobs.
CMSR. HONIGBERG: Yeah, we
have Jacobs on the schedule. That's supposed to be in the morning after Mr. Frantz. I mean, we'll see how long it goes. I'm guessing, based on how we've gone today, that we'll be on the schedule that was published on October 10th. But we can always change if we need to. With that, anything else?
(No verbal response)
CMSR. HONIGBERG: All right.
We are adjourned. Thank you all.
(Whereupon the hearing was adjourned at 4:28 p.m., and the hearing to resume on October 15, 2014, commencing at 9:00 a.m.)

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[WITNESS: FRANTZ]

## C ERTIFICATE

I, Susan J. Robidas, a Licensed Shorthand Court Reporter and Notary Public of the State of New Hampshire, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate transcript of my stenographic notes of these proceedings taken at the place and on the date hereinbefore set forth, to the best of my skill and ability under the conditions present at the time.

I further certify that $I$ am neither attorney or counsel for, nor related to or employed by any of the parties to the action; and further, that $I$ am not a relative or employee of any attorney or counsel employed in this case, nor am I financially interested in this action.

susan J. Kobidas, LCR/RPR
Licensed Shorthand Court Reporter Registered Professional Reporter N.H. LCR No. 44 (RSA 310-A:173)

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