THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE before the PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Docket No. DE 12-191

JOINT REQUEST OF NEW HAMPSHIRE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC. AND PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE TO ALTER THEIR FRANCHISE AREAS IN CHESTER IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc. (hereinafter "NHEC") and Public Service Company of New Hampshire (hereinafter "PSNH") jointly request that the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission (hereinafter the "Commission") issue an order approving a change in the franchise areas served by the two utilities in the town of Chester, New Hampshire so as to accommodate the request of Ryan Hazelton to have NHEC provide electric service to his home located at 42 Harantis Lake Road in Chester.

Mr. Hazelton initiated the instant docket by petition dated June 8, 2012. For the reasons set out below NHEC and PSNH jointly agreed that the public interest would best be served by the amendment of their respective franchise areas in the Harantis Lake Road area of Chester so as to permit NHEC to provide service to 42 Harantis Lake Road (hereinafter the "Site"). The requested relief is authorized under RSA 374:22 and RSA 374:26 (NHEC and PSNH note that RSA 374:22 does not apply to NHEC, pursuant to RSA 362:2). In support of this agreement and Mr. Hazelton's Petition, NHEC and PSNH state the following:

- 1. NHEC and PSNH each serve portions of Chester. The Site is located in what would otherwise be PSNH's service territory. However, NHEC's existing distribution facilities are located substantially closer to the Site than any existing PSNH facilities. Each of the parties recognizes that, due to the specific physical location of the Site, the extension of electric utility distribution services to the Site from NHEC's nearby facilities along Harantis Lake Road is substantially less costly than the construction of a longer extension which would be required if service were provided from PSNH's existing facilities along Derry Road. A satellite photograph of the relevant area, with the approximate location of the existing franchise line and the Site location, is attached. A copy of the Chester portion of NHEC's current franchise map is also attached.
- 2. It is uncertain where future development, if any, along the southeast portion of Harantis Lake Road might occur. In light of the specific circumstances described above, NHEC and PSNH agree to adjust their respective franchise areas in Chester in order to accommodate Mr. Hazelton's Petition and place the Site within NHEC's franchise area, without otherwise altering the border between their respective franchise areas in Chester. As has been done previously in similar circumstances, the Site will be identified on the franchise maps, with a notation that the address is to be served by NHEC.

3. PSNH and NHEC understand that Mr. Hazelton agrees with these arrangements. When all parties agree, the Commission may grant the permission requested without a hearing. RSA 374:26.

Respectfully submitted,

June//2013

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<u>2 /2/20/3</u> Date

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