

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Inter-Department Communication

DATE: July 25, 2013
AT (OFFICE): NHPUC

FROM: Grant W. Siwinski
Utility Analyst III



NHPUC 25JUL'13PM4:26

SUBJECT: DA 13-091, Extension of Mutual Assistance Agreement-New England Power Company/New England Hydro-Transmission Corporation/New England Electric Transmission Corporation

TO: Debra A. Howland, Executive Director

On March 28, 2013, National Grid filed an agreement to extend the current National Grid Mutual Assistance Agreement through March 21, 2014. The agreement was filed pursuant to RSA 366:3, which requires utilities to file copies of agreements between a public utility and an affiliate where the value of the transaction exceeds \$500.

The National Grid Mutual Assistance Agreement signatories include 15 affiliate companies, among them National Grid's electric and gas company subsidiaries in Massachusetts and Rhode Island, New England Power Company, New England Electric Transmission Corporation, and New England Hydro-Transmission Corporation.

As this is simply an extension of the 2008 Mutual Assistance Agreement, the services provided and the terms of payment are unchanged. However, as Staff noted in last year's filing, Docket No. DA 12-074, with the acquisition of Granite State Electric Company and EnergyNorth Natural Gas, Inc. by Liberty Energy Utilities, the mutual assistance services that were formerly provided to these two companies will now be provided in accordance with the terms of Transition Services Agreements that are in place between Liberty and National Grid. Staff further noted that the Mutual Assistance Agreement remained in effect for New England Power Company, New England Electric Transmission Corporation and New England Hydro Transmission Corporation.

Staff has reviewed the extension and the underlying contract and, at this point, does not recommend that the Commission take any further action pursuant to RSA 366. Because any issues that may arise related to the Mutual Assistance Agreement can be addressed in other proceedings, Staff recommends that this docket be closed without opening a formal investigation.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

c: Steve Mullen
Suzanne Amidon