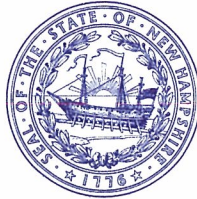


THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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February 8, 2016

NHPUC 9FEB16AM9:09

Re: DE 11-250, Public Service Company of New Hampshire
Investigation of Scrubber Cost and Recovery

DE 14-238, Determination Regarding Public Service Company of New Hampshire's
Generation Assets
Designation of Staff Advocates

To the Parties:

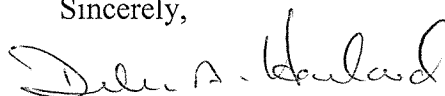
On March 12, 2015, F. Anne Ross, Esq. and Thomas C. Frantz requested that they be designated as Staff Advocates in the referenced dockets pursuant to RSA 363:32, II. Their request was based on their commitment to support the 2015 Settlement Agreement before the Commission. On March 23, 2015, the Commission designated Attorney Ross and Mr. Frantz as Staff Advocates, noting that, pursuant to the statutes governing such designation "no commission employee designated as a Staff Advocate 'may advise the commission, its presiding officer, individual commissioners, or any decisional employee designated as such in the same proceeding, with respect to matters at issue in the contested case.'" The Commission determined that those limitations would apply to Attorney Ross and Mr. Frantz for the remainder of these proceedings.

On January 26, 2016, a number of parties to the 2015 Settlement Agreement and Non-Advocate Staff filed a motion seeking to lift the designation of Attorney Ross and Mr. Frantz to "provide the parties an opportunity to begin work on an auction process in a preliminary and non-binding manner." The Movants noted that both the 2015 Settlement Agreement and Litigation Settlement contemplate that the Commission will open a separate docket to "deal with auction process matters." No party has objected to lifting the designation.

Although the Movants' request is premature in that the Commission has made no decision regarding the merits of the 2015 Settlement Agreement, the Commission determined that, even if it were to approve the 2015 Settlement Agreement, it would not designate Attorney Ross or Mr. Frantz as Advocate Staff in any resulting auction process. Accordingly, the Commission lifts the designation of Attorney Ross and Mr. Frantz solely for purpose of conducting preliminary preparations to hire an auction manager. Although they may coordinate with other members of Staff, Attorney Ross and Mr. Frantz may not retain an auction manager or make recommendations to the Commission regarding the same unless and until the Commission approves the relevant parts of the 2015 Settlement Agreement. For all other purposes, the designation shall remain in place until Dockets DE 11-250 and DE 14-238 are closed.

For administrative efficiency, the Commission has elected to issue this Secretarial Letter as its order on the motion filed January 26, 2016.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Debra A. Howland".

Debra A. Howland
Executive Director

cc: Docket File/Service List (Electronically)

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