

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**Public Service Company of New Hampshire  
d/b/a Eversource Energy  
Reconciliation of Energy Service and Stranded Costs for  
Calendar Year 2016**

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF  
FREDERICK B. WHITE**

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1 **I. INTRODUCTION**

2 **Q. Please state your name.**

3 A. My name is Frederick B. White.

4 **Q. Mr. White, please provide your business address and title.**

5 A. My business address is 107 Selden St, Berlin, Connecticut. I am a Supervisor in the  
6 Electric Supply department of Eversource Energy.

7 **Q. Mr. White, please describe your responsibilities at Eversource Energy.**

8 A. I primarily supervise and provide analytical support required to fulfill the power  
9 supply requirement obligations of Public Service of New Hampshire, d/b/a  
10 Eversource Energy (“Eversource”). This includes the development of default  
11 energy service rates, evaluation of the need to supplement Eversource’s resources  
12 for the provision of energy service, and acquisition of Financial Transmission  
13 Rights (“FTR”) to manage congestion. I participate in ISO-NE stakeholder  
14 meetings and monitor ISO-NE, NEPOOL, and FERC activities to ensure that our  
15 operations are up to date. I am also responsible for on-going activities associated  
16 with independent power producers and purchase power agreements.

17 **II. PURPOSE**

18 **Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?**

19 A. The purpose of my testimony is to report on how Eversource’s generation resources  
20 and supplemental purchases were used to meet energy and capacity requirements

1 during the period January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016. As a load-serving  
2 entity, Eversource is responsible for having sufficient energy to meet the hourly  
3 needs of its customers and is also responsible for its share of the ISO-NE capacity  
4 requirement. Eversource is also the default provider of service to customers who  
5 for any reason are otherwise without a service provider. Eversource meets its  
6 requirements through its owned generation, PURPA-mandated purchases under  
7 short term rates and long term rate orders, power purchase agreements, and through  
8 supplemental purchases of energy and capacity from the market. I will also discuss  
9 Eversource's participation in the FTR auction process.

10 **III. ENERGY REQUIREMENTS**

11 **Q. Please summarize the generation resources that were available to meet**  
12 **Eversource's energy requirements during the period January 1, 2016 through**  
13 **December 31, 2016.**

14 A. Attachment FBW-1 lists the resource portfolio Eversource used to meet its  
15 customers' energy requirements in 2016. As shown on that Attachment, available  
16 energy resource capacity during this time period was about 1,211 MW for the  
17 summer months. These values are based on ISO-NE seasonal claimed capability  
18 ratings. The portfolio is comprised of the following resource groups: hydroelectric  
19 (42 MW from nine stations), coal and biomass (576 MW from Merrimack and  
20 Schiller Stations), gas/oil (419 MW from Newington and Wyman 4), combustion  
21 turbines (83 MW from five units), biomass (67.5 MW from Burgess Biopower),  
22 wind (3 MW from Lempster), and non-utility generation (20.5 MW from numerous  
23 PURPA-mandated purchases).

24 **Q. Please summarize how Eversource's resources met energy requirements**  
25 **during 2016.**

26 A. Attachment FBW-2 summarizes how energy requirements were met and how  
27 Eversource's generation resources were utilized by month during peak and off-  
28 peak periods. During 2016, 47% of peak energy requirements and 50% of off-peak  
29 energy requirements were met with the generation resources listed on FBW-1. The  
30 remaining energy needs were met through bilateral or spot market energy  
31 purchases.

1 **Q. Were Eversource's must-take resources and economic generation sufficient to**  
2 **meet energy requirements in every month?**

3 A. No. Eversource's resources did not meet its customers' energy requirements in all  
4 hours and, therefore, Eversource purchased a portion of its customers' needs. The  
5 purchase requirement changed hourly and ranged from zero to a significant portion,  
6 depending on the availability of resources, the level of demand, the migration of  
7 customers to competitive energy service options, and the relative economics of  
8 Eversource's generation versus purchase alternatives.

9 **Q. Please summarize how supplemental purchases were used to meet energy**  
10 **requirements.**

11 A. Attachment FBW-3 summarizes the purchases made to supplement Eversource's  
12 generating resources. Approximately 1,045 GWh of peak energy were purchased at  
13 an average cost of \$35.39 per MWh (a total expense of \$37.0 million). 112 GWh  
14 were purchased bilaterally at an average cost of \$36.79 per MWh (a total expense of  
15 \$4.1 million). All 112 GWh were procured via fixed-price monthly contracts to  
16 address forecasted supplemental requirements and planned unit outages. The  
17 remaining 932 GWh of peak energy were procured via the ISO-NE hourly spot  
18 market at an average cost of \$35.22 per MWh (a total expense of \$32.8 million).  
19 (Figures may not add due to rounding.)

20 Approximately 907 GWh of off-peak energy were purchased at an average cost of  
21 \$26.28 per MWh (a total expense of \$23.8 million). None were purchased  
22 bilaterally. All GWh of off-peak energy were procured via the ISO-NE hourly spot  
23 market. The combined expense for all supplemental energy purchases was \$60.8  
24 million.

25 **Q. Were there any hours in which Eversource's supply resources exceeded energy**  
26 **needs?**

27 A. Yes. Attachment FBW-3 also summarizes the hours in which supply resources,  
28 including supplemental bilateral purchases, exceeded energy requirements resulting  
29 in sales to the ISO-NE spot market. Approximately 57 GWh of peak energy were  
30 sold at an average price of \$66.95 per MWh (total revenues of \$3.8 million). In

1 addition, approximately 30 GWh of off-peak energy were sold at an average price  
2 of \$52.95 per MWh (total revenues of \$1.6 million). The combined revenue for all  
3 surplus energy sales was \$5.4 million.

4 **Q. Please summarize how commodity prices (oil, natural gas, and energy) varied**  
5 **during 2016.**

6 A. Attachment FBW-4 is a chart of the 2016 daily prices for crude oil (West Texas  
7 Intermediate), natural gas (delivered to Algonquin Gate), and bilateral energy (peak  
8 hours at the Massachusetts Hub). The chart shows the range of commodity and  
9 energy market prices in 2016. The chart also shows the continuing correlation  
10 between natural gas prices and energy purchase prices in New England. Note the  
11 natural gas price spikes during winter months, due to space heating demand and  
12 delivery constraints on the natural gas transportation pipeline system.

13 **Q. Please summarize the impact of commodity market volatility on the cost of**  
14 **servicing Eversource's energy requirement.**

15 A. During 2016, 39% of energy requirements were met with coal, wood, and hydro  
16 resources. Newington is capable of operating on either residual fuel oil or natural  
17 gas, whichever is the more economic fuel. Because of the fuel diversity of  
18 Eversource's supply portfolio, Eversource is largely insulated from volatility in the  
19 natural gas market. During periods of high and volatile natural gas prices  
20 Eversource's resource mix provides price stability, and during periods of low  
21 natural gas prices load can be served through low priced market purchases while  
22 Eversource's resources provide insurance against price increases.

23 **Q. Were there differences in how load was served compared to recent years?**

24 A. Over the previous six years energy requirements met with coal resources ranged  
25 from a low of 889 GWh in 2015 to a high of over 2,900 GWh in 2010. As energy  
26 market prices have generally decreased, the amount of coal generation has  
27 decreased as well. In 2016, energy requirements met with coal generation were 370  
28 GWh.

1 **Q. How has this affected operations?**

2 A. Eversource has replaced coal generation with lower cost resources. At the same  
3 time the Company has worked through the logistics of resetting coal operations to  
4 expected lower levels. Many coordinated activities are undertaken regarding fuel  
5 supply for coal fired power plants and through the years Eversource had entered  
6 into complementary multi-year contracts with coal suppliers and transportation  
7 companies. No coal contracts are in place currently.

8 **Q. Were there particular events applicable to the instant docket which disrupted  
9 the normal operation of those contracts?**

10 A. Yes. In December, 2016 Eversource entered into a Settlement and Release  
11 Agreement with one of its shippers with whom it had contracted for deliveries of  
12 coal cargoes from South America. The shipping contract for 990,000 tons (22  
13 cargoes, 45,000 tons/cargo) was “back to back” with coal supply contracts from  
14 Venezuelan mines for similar quantities. The contracts were entered into in 2007,  
15 and the contracted quantities were consistent with then current and then foreseeable  
16 operations going forward.

17 **Q. Was there a financial impact included in 2016 costs?**

18 A. Yes. The settlement was for Eversource to pay \$3,421,424.88, and these costs are  
19 included in Eversource’s filing of 2016 costs.

20 **Q. How was this settlement reached?**

21 A. Of the 22 contracted cargoes, Eversource utilized ten prior to December, 2016 and  
22 scheduled one additional shipment in January, 2017. (Eversource had worked  
23 cooperatively with the shipper beyond the nominal 2012 contract termination date  
24 regarding utilization of the remaining cargoes.) That left eleven cargoes unused.  
25 The settlement reflects the shipper’s margins on nine shipments. In negotiations,  
26 two cargoes were forgiven.

27 **Q. Why were shipments not utilized?**

28 A. Interruptions and delays in shipments of coal under the contract were initially  
29 caused by the nationalization of the coal mines in Venezuela and the resulting

1 inability of the Company's supplier to receive allocations from the mine, and since  
2 dispatch of the Company's coal resources significantly decreased through time, the  
3 coal was not needed for generation as there was sufficient coal inventory already on  
4 site or contracted for from domestic sources which were moved by rail.

5 **Q. Was the settlement a better economic outcome for Eversource's customers  
6 than utilizing the shipments?**

7 A. Eversource believes it reached the best achievable outcome on customers' behalf.  
8 Negotiations occurred and were approved at the officer level. The settlement in  
9 \$/Ton is approximately \$6.90/Ton [\$3.4 million divided by eleven cargoes or  
10 495,000 tons]. Equivalent generation from one ton of coal is approximately 2.5  
11 MWh, therefore the settlement in \$/MWh is approximately \$2.75/MWh. Had  
12 Eversource burned coal for electric generation in the low priced environment  
13 experienced during 2016 to make room in coal yards for additional shipments losses  
14 would have exceeded \$2.75/MWh.

#### 15 **IV. CAPACITY REQUIREMENTS**

16 **Q. Please describe the net benefit to Eversource's customers associated with the  
17 Forward Capacity Market during 2016.**

18 A. Attachment FBW-5 summarizes Eversource's monthly capacity market activity.  
19 Over the course of the year capacity market revenues from generation resources  
20 (including owned assets, non-utility IPPs, and the Hydro-Quebec Interconnection  
21 Capacity Credits) exceeded capacity market expenses, resulting in a net revenue  
22 and credit to Energy Service customers of \$10.1 million.

23 **Q. Please summarize the ISO-NE capacity market rules that were in effect during  
24 2016.**

25 A. The capacity market in New England is governed by the Forward Capacity Market  
26 ("FCM") rules as administered by ISO-NE. ISO-NE conducts Forward Capacity  
27 Auctions ("FCA"), into which capacity resources offer MWs, to "procure" the  
28 lowest cost resources necessary to meet the ISO-NE Installed Capacity  
29 Requirement and to establish the market value of capacity. The capacity prices  
30 established for 2016 were \$3.43/kW-month for the January to May period, and

1 \$3.15/kW-month for the June to December period. Additional components of the  
2 FCM which occur after the FCAs, including Reconfiguration Auctions and monthly  
3 Peak Energy Rent adjustments, result in adjustments to Capacity Supply  
4 Obligations, the overall rate paid to capacity, and the rate paid by load for capacity.  
5 Generally, resources are paid for providing capacity, and the total payments for  
6 capacity resources in each month are charged to ISO-NE load serving entities based  
7 on their relative share of the prior year's peak demand.

8 **Q. Please summarize the supply resources that were used to meet Eversource's**  
9 **capacity requirements.**

10 A. During 2016, a total of 416,174 MW-months of capacity qualified for credits in the  
11 ISO-NE capacity market (this equates to a monthly average of 34,681 MWs).  
12 Eversource was allocated 3.12% (12,969 MW-months) of this capacity obligation.  
13 Eversource's supply resources had capacity supply obligations of 16,397 MW-  
14 months of capacity; comprised of owned generation (13,791 MW-months), non-  
15 utility IPPs (1,224 MW-months, including Burgess Biopower and Lempster Wind),  
16 and Hydro-Quebec Interconnection Capacity Credits (1,383 MW-months). For  
17 2016, Eversource had a net capacity surplus of 3,428 MW-months. (Figures may  
18 not add due to rounding.) Attachment FBW-5 provides additional details.

19 **Q. Can you estimate the Energy Service ("ES") customers' capacity credit**  
20 **associated with Eversource's owned generation resources during 2016?**

21 A. Yes. As noted above, for 2016, owned resources provided 13,791 MW-months of  
22 capacity to ISO-NE. This created \$42.1 million in revenue credited to the Energy  
23 Service rate.

## 24 **V. FINANCIAL TRANSMISSION RIGHTS**

25 **Q. What is a Financial Transmission Right?**

26 A. An FTR is a financial instrument available to participants seeking to manage  
27 congestion cost risk or those wishing to speculate on the difference in congestion  
28 costs between two locations. These instruments have been available since the  
29 introduction of the ISO-NE Standard Market Design. All FTRs are defined by a  
30 MW amount, a source location, and a sink location (e.g. a participant may own 100

1 MW of FTRs that are sourced at the Merrimack node and sink at the New  
2 Hampshire load zone). For each MW of FTR, the owner will receive a credit or a  
3 charge from ISO-NE equal to the difference in the congestion component of the  
4 hourly LMP between the sink and the source. If the sink location congestion price  
5 exceeds the source location price, the FTR will have a positive value, i.e. - a credit  
6 to that participant's ISO-NE settlement in that hour. Similarly, if the sink location  
7 price is less than the source location price, the owner will be charged the difference.

8 **Q. Please summarize Eversource's participation in the ISO-NE FTR auction**  
9 **process.**

10 A. Eversource participated in these auctions as a method of hedging the congestion  
11 price differential between the major fossil stations (Merrimack and Schiller) and the  
12 New Hampshire load zone for periods and in quantities according to forecasted unit  
13 operation. Eversource also procured FTRs to hedge the differential between the  
14 source location of bilateral purchases (e.g. the Massachusetts Hub and Burgess  
15 Biopower) and the New Hampshire load zone. Generation resources and bilateral  
16 purchases provide an effective hedge against the energy component of the zonal  
17 LMP, but they do not guard against a congestion component differential.  
18 Therefore, even in an hour in which Eversource had sufficient resources to serve its  
19 energy requirement, it would be exposed to potential congestion charges. The  
20 purpose of acquiring FTRs is to convert the risk associated with a variable,  
21 unknown expense (i.e. the hour-by-hour difference in the applicable LMP  
22 congestion component), to a fixed, known expense (i.e. the cost of the FTR);  
23 however, not at any cost. The prices bid to acquire FTRs are evaluated against  
24 potential congestion cost exposure to achieve a balance between risk coverage and  
25 minimizing costs for ES customers. During 2016, Eversource acquired via auction  
26 707 GWh of FTRs for a net cost of \$250,269. Settlement of the FTRs resulted in  
27 elimination of \$457,243 of congestion charges. Thus, managing a portion of  
28 congestion cost risk with FTRs resulted in an overall decrease in Energy Service  
29 expense of \$206,974.

1 **Q. Will Eversource continue to participate in the FTR auction process in order to**  
2 **hedge against unpredictable congestion costs?**

3 A. Yes. FTRs serve as an insurance policy against unanticipated congestion costs.  
4 Eversource procures FTRs primarily to provide cost certainty and thus reduce risk,  
5 rather than to achieve savings. If Eversource did not purchase FTRs and there was  
6 a problem on the system that resulted in congestion, the cost could be several times  
7 the cost of the FTR. Therefore, it makes sense to continue to purchase FTRs when  
8 able to do so at reasonable cost to manage the exposure to congestion costs.

9 **Q. Does that complete your testimony?**

10 A. Yes, it does.