

DECS-081

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The Northeast Utilities System

May 16, 2008

Debra A. Howland
Executive Director and Secretary
State of New Hampshire
Public Utilities Commission
21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, New Hampshire 03301-2429

Re: Proposed Changes in Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) with Competitive Suppliers

Dear Ms. Howland:

In Docket DR 96-150 (Electric Utility Industry Restructuring), a plan entitled "Consensus Plan for the Transmission of Electronic Data in New Hampshire's Retail Electric Market" dated April 2, 1998 was developed by the EDI Working Group for the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission to facilitate the transfer of data between regulated distribution companies and non-regulated competitive power suppliers. Since deregulation began in May 2001, PSNH has utilized the completion status codes as specified in Appendix B of the Consensus Plan. The completion status codes are utilized by the distribution companies to communicate the status of each detail record sent to the distribution company by a competitive power supplier. Specifically, the distribution company determines whether to accept or reject the detail record sent to them and, if rejected, provides the reasons for the rejection.

PSNH has received several requests from competitive power suppliers to modify the completion status codes used by PSNH so that the codes are consistent with the completion status codes utilized by other states in the Northeast. Many competitive power suppliers do business in several states and have indicated that consistent codes would result in greater efficiency. PSNH agrees that consistent codes would result in greater efficiency and has agreed to utilize the new codes in its new billing system.

In addition, PSNH is proposing to add a new service identifier in the Payment Order / Remittance Advice Transaction set. For customers with more than one location in PSNH's service territory, the service identifier further identifies the specific customer location for which a payment is applied. The service identifier will be used by PSNH to transmit customer payment information and adjustment details to competitive power suppliers that receive billing services from PSNH. As a result, competitive power suppliers will have the ability to track payments and adjustment information for each customer location. This service identifier was requested by competitive power suppliers during PSNH's review of its new billing system with the competitive power suppliers in 2007. As a result of this request, PSNH has built this capability into its EDI transaction coding within its new billing system.



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PSNH's new billing system is scheduled to be implemented in July 2008; therefore, this is the earliest date the new error codes and service identifier would be utilized by PSNH. Attached for the Commission's review and approval is an updated Appendix B of the Consensus Plan containing the proposed completion status codes and the new service identifier to be added to the Payment Order / Remittance Advice transaction set.

PSNH has sought the input of Unitil and National Grid and both concur with this request.

Please let us know if there are any questions concerning this request.

Very truly yours,

Gerald M. Eaton Senior Counsel

GME:RJB:kn Enclosures

cc: Meredith A. Hatfield, OCA Kathy George, National Grid Gary Matthews, Unitil



## Appendix B - Completion Status Codes

## Completion Status Code (C.S.C.)

11, 2nd & 3rd Character of C.S.C.		
, 2 do onardour or e.e.e.	008	Account Exists But is Not Active
	100	Successful Transaction
	A13	Other - (REF03 Required)
	A74	Invalid Supplier Account Number
	A76	Account Not Found – (Includes invalid account numbers)
	A77	Name Specified Does Not Match Account
	A83	Unauthorized or invalid action - (Invalid type of service
		indicator, REF*PRT))
	ABN	Duplicate Request Received
	ACI	Action Code Invalid – (ASI01)
	ANK	Invalid Source of Information
	ANL	Service Provider Not Licensed to Provide Requested Servi
	B30	Currently Enrolled
	B39	Already Dropped
	C11	Change Reason (REF*TD) Missing or Invalid
	FRB	Incorrect Billing Option (REF*BLT) Requested
	HUU	Historical Usage Unavailable
	I 1 J	Invalid Load Asset ID Number
	M1J	Missing Load Asset ID Number
	MNM	Invalid Service Identifier
	PCI	Price Code Invalid
	SSR	Secondary Service Rejected - Secondary service not
		performed because primary service was rejected
	TEI	Tax Exemption Percentage (AMT*DP) Invalid
	UND	Cannot Identify Supplier
	UNE	Cannot Identify LDC
	W05	Requested Rate not found or not in effect on the requested
		date – (Rate Ready Only)

## **NEW HAMPSHIRE EDI GUIDELINES**

Segment: REF Reference Identification – Service Identifier

Position: 170

Loop: RMR Optional

Level: Detail: Usage: Used Max Use: 1

Purpose: To specify identifying information

Notes: This segment is used to provide additional information, other than the invoice number or end use customer account number. This segment is to be used to further identify the service identification for the

account to which the cash payment is to be applied, as sent in RMR02.

Example: REF\*MG\*D123456789~

			Data Element Summary	
	Ref. <u>Des.</u>	Data <u>Element</u>	Name_	<u>Attributes</u>
Must Use	REF01	128	Reference Identification Qualifier  MG Meter Number  identifies a specific service	M ID 2/3
Must Use	REF02	127	Reference Identification Service Identifier Maximum Field Size: 10	C AN 1/30