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February 12, 2010

Matthew Fossum, Staff Attorney New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission 21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10 Concord, NH 03301

RE: DRM 10-014: Comments on Proposed Changes to Puc ch. 2000

Dear Mr. Fossum,

Granite State Electric Company and EnergyNorth Natural Gas, Inc. (collectively, "National Grid") are providing additional comments on N.H. Code of Administrative Rules Puc ch. 2000 following the technical session on February 5, 2010. Specifically, National Grid requests that the Commission staff consider the following comments and revisions to the current proposed draft:

- 1. In its initial set of comments, National Grid requested that draft rule Puc 2003.01(c)(10) be amended to require the inclusion of zip codes in which an applicant intends to operate in registration applications governed by Puc 2003.01(a). TransCanada Power Marketing Ltd. ("TransCanada") objects to this amendment as being overly burdensome and not necessary in New Hampshire. National Grid respectfully disagrees with TransCanada. As National Grid explained in its initial set of comments, there can be multiple zip codes within a particular town or region and frequently applicants do not plan to operate throughout a utility's service territory. By requiring the inclusion of zip codes in a registrant's application, the Commission and utilities will know with greater precision the areas in which a CEPS intends to operate.
- 2. TransCanada suggests limiting the application of draft rule Puc 2004.06(b), which states that "[n]othing shall prevent a CEPS from requesting an off-cycle meter reading," to requests related to customer accounts with "time of use meters." While National Grid welcomes such a limitation in the scope of the rule, it remains concerned that without further clarification a utility may be required to respond to off-cycle meter reading requests by competitive suppliers without limitation or compensation. It therefore

requests that Puc 2004.06(b) be modified to either state that it imposes no obligation upon any utility, or:

- a. State that a utility may deny such requests if certain reasonable prerequisites are not met;
- b. Require a CEPS requesting an off-cycle meter reading to provide at least five business days' notice of the request; and
- c. Permit the utility to impose a reasonable charge for the service. National Grid notes that Granite State Electric Company's tariff (N.H.P.U.C. 17 Electric) allows the utility to charge customers for off cycle meter reads. A copy of the relevant tariff page is attached hereto as Attachment A.
- 3. At the February 5, 2010 technical session, there was discussion as to whether Puc ch. 2000 applies to electricity "brokers" operating in the state of New Hampshire. The Commission staff indicated that Puc ch. 2000 as it is currently written does not apply to such brokers. National Grid believes that amending the rules to define and apply to electricity brokers will benefit consumers in New Hampshire and therefore National Grid encourages such an amendment.

National Grid appreciates the opportunity to provide these comments to the Commission staff. National Grid intends to participate in technical sessions and other aspects of the rulemaking process as it progresses, and therefore may supplement these comments during the course of that process. Thank you for your assistance in this matter, and please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have.

Very truly yours, Patrick H. Taylor

cc: Debra Howland Steven V. Camerino Sarah B. Knowlton Juliana Griffiths