CHAIRMAN Thomas B. Getz

COMMISSIONERS Clifton C. Below Amy L. Ignatius

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND SECRETARY Debra A. Howland

## THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION 21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10 Concord, N.H. 03301-2429

December 28, 2010

FAX (603) 271-3878		
TDD Access: Relay NH 1-800-735-2964		
Website: www.puc.nh.gov ORIGINAL		
N.H.P.U.C. Case No. DE 10-261		
Exhibit No. TransCanada #2		
Witness Panel#2		
DO NOT REMOVE FROM FILE		

Tel. (603) 271-2431

Re: DE 10-261, Public Service Company of New Hampshire 2010 Least Cost Integrated Resource Plan Procedural Schedule

To the Parties:

On November 18, 2010, a duly noticed prehearing conference was held in the above referenced proceeding. Appearances were entered by representatives of Public Service Company of New Hampshire, Granite Ridge Energy, LLC, Conservation Law Foundation, TransCanada Power Marketing, Ltd. and TransCanada Hydro Northeast, Inc., New Hampshire Sierra Club, the Office of Energy and Planning, Freedom Logistics, LLC d/b/a Freedom Energy Logistics, New England Power Generators Association, Inc., the Office of the Consumer Advocate, and Commission Staff.

Following the prehearing conference, the parties and Staff met in a technical session and agreed upon the following schedule which was submitted to the Commission by letter from Staff dated December 2, 2010:

1 <sup>st</sup> Round of Rolling Data Requests from Staff/Intervence	ors Ending 02/25/11
Data Responses to 1 <sup>st</sup> Round of Rolling Data Requests	03/18/11
Technical Session	03/25/11 at 10:00 a.m.
2 <sup>nd</sup> Round of Data Requests from Staff/Intervenors	04/08/11
Data Responses to 2 <sup>nd</sup> Round of Data Requests	04/22/11
Staff/Intervenor Testimony	05/20/11
1 <sup>st</sup> Round of Data Requests to Staff/Intervenors	06/10/11
Data Responses to 1 <sup>st</sup> Round of Data Requests	07/01/11
2 <sup>nd</sup> Round of Data Requests to Staff/Intervenors	07/15/11
Data Responses to 2 <sup>nd</sup> Round of Data Requests	08/05/11
Rebuttal Testimony	08/22/11
Settlement Conference	09/08/11 at 9:00 a.m.
3 <sup>rd</sup> Round of Data Requests from Staff/Intervenors	09/16/11
Data Responses to 3 <sup>rd</sup> Round of Data Requests	09/30/11
Hearing on the Merits	10/05/-10/6/11 at 10:00 a.m.

December 28, 2010 Page two

The Commission has determined that the proposed schedule is in the public interest and therefore has approved it. In addition, all pending motions to intervene have been granted.

The December 2, 2010 Staff letter identified the following issues that the Parties and Staff agreed are within the scope of the docket: PSNH's compliance with directives of Order No. 24,945 entered in DE 07-108 on February 27, 2009, and the statutory requirements of RSA 378:38. The letter also noted that the parties and Staff recognize that the Commission is not the agency with responsibility to impose or enforce environmental requirements applicable to PSNH.

As to their inability to agree on the extent of PSNH's obligation, if any, "to plan for compliance with environmental requirements imposed or established after the date of the LCIRP's initial filing," the Commission notes as a general matter that a sound planning process should consider reasonably foreseeable regulatory changes, recognizing that the threshold at which a potential change in regulatory standards becomes too remote or speculative for a utility to consider will depend on the particular facts and circumstances of the regulatory matter at issue.

For administrative efficiency, the Commission has elected to issue this Secretarial Letter as its prehearing order in this proceeding.

Sincerely,

Jule A. Woulad

Debra A. Howland Executive Director

cc: Docket File