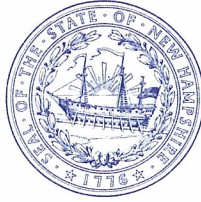


THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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March 18, 2011

Debra A. Howland
Executive Director and Secretary
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, New Hampshire 03301-7319

**RE: DG 11-040 National Grid, et al.
Transfer Ownership to Liberty Energy Utilities Co.
OCA's Response to Motion for Protective Order and Confidential Treatment**

Dear Ms. Howland:

On March 14, 2011 the Office of the Consumer Advocate ("OCA") filed a letter regarding National Grid's Motion for Protective Order and Confidential Treatment ("Motion") in the above-captioned docket. In that letter, the OCA requested additional time to discuss issues with the Motion with the Company. This letter provides the OCA's response.

Generally, the Company's Motion asked the Commission to grant confidential treatment to certain information provided to the Commission in connection with the Joint Petition for Authority to Transfer Ownership of Granite State Electric Company and EnergyNorth Natural Gas, Inc. to Liberty Energy Utilities (New Hampshire) Corp. We have had productive discussions with the Company, which resulted in the resolution of several issues. However, there is one outstanding issue where there is not agreement between the Company and the OCA, which we address below.

In response to the OCA's concerns about the breadth of certain redactions, the Company has agreed to provide new versions of certain materials. Specifically, the Company agreed to narrow the redactions to schedules relating to employees and environmental matters, in order to disclose more information to the public. We are pleased that the Company has agreed to these changes.

The OCA and the Company also discussed the documents filed with the Motion, which were all stamped "Confidential" despite the fact that many of the pages are provided in the

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public version of the filing. The OCA and the Company were unable to reach agreement as to whether these documents should contain markers denoting when confidential information begins and ends. The OCA believes that the "Confidential" attachment to the Motion should include markers such as "<<<**BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL**>>>" and "<<<**END CONFIDENTIAL**>>>" around the information that the Company proposes to protect from disclosure to the public. The Company disagrees. Due to the impasse, the OCA respectfully requests that the Commission determine whether or not the "Confidential" attachment to the Motion should be re-filed with the confidential information designated as proposed by the OCA.

Specifically, the OCA respectfully requests that the Commission require the Company to refile its "Confidential Attachment" with confidential markers like those in the preceding paragraph. These markers are used routinely in other cases and enable the parties and the Commission to efficiently and accurately identify information that should not be disclosed to the public. Without such markers one must review both versions side by side at all times in order to avoid inadvertently disclosing confidential information. Taking such steps is burdensome to the parties, and we believe to the Commission, and may make preparing discovery, testimony and participating in hearings more difficult. Finally, the OCA believes that such marking of confidential materials could also avoid the marking of every page in a document as confidential when the entire page is not. This can easily be addressed by the Company, and we request that the Commission require it to do so. Our understanding is that the Company does not agree.

Thank you for your assistance.

Respectfully,



Meredith A. Hatfield
Consumer Advocate

cc: Service List via electronic mail