

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

CHAIRMAN
Thomas B. Getz

COMMISSIONERS
Clifton C. Below
Amy L. Ignatius

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
AND SECRETARY
Debra A. Howland



PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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

Tel. (603) 271-2431

FAX (603) 271-3878

TDD Access: Relay NH
1-800-735-2964

Website:
www.puc.nh.gov

September 9, 2011

His Excellency, Governor John H. Lynch
Office of the Governor
State of New Hampshire
107 North Main Street
State House—Room 208
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

Re: New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
Docket No. DE 11-184, Public Service Company of New Hampshire
Petition for Approval of Purchase Power Agreements
Application for Special Commissioner

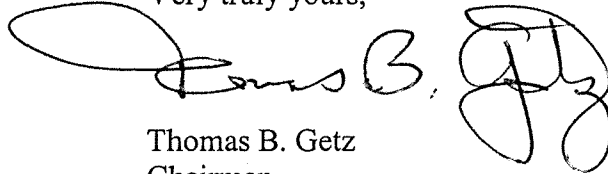
Dear Governor Lynch:

On August 23, 2011, Public Service Company of New Hampshire, along with five independent wood-fired power producers, namely Bridgewater Power, Pinetree Power, Pinetree Power-Tamworth, Whitefield Power & Light, and Indeck-Alexandria, (together the Wood IPPs), the New Hampshire Department of Resources and Economic Development and certain members of Commission Staff that have been designated as advocates for this proceeding, filed a joint petition for approval of five power purchase agreements between PSNH and each of the Wood IPPs. On August 25, 2011, the Commission issued an Order of Notice setting a pre-hearing conference for September 9, 2011, and, among other things, pointing out that Commissioner Amy Ignatius disqualified herself from participating in the proceeding.

At the September 9, 2011 pre-hearing conference, we approved petitions to intervene filed by the Business and Industry Association and the Granite State Hydropower Association, as well as a joint petition filed by Freedom Logistics, Freedom Energy, Halifax-American Energy and PNE Energy Supply. In addition, the Wood IPPs proposed a procedural that would culminate in a hearing the week of November 28, 2011, which was not opposed by any party. The hearings could occur the week of November 14, 2011, if the petitioners were to waive the opportunity to file rebuttal testimony or if there were a settlement.

RSA 363:20 provides that the Commission may make application to the Governor for appointment of a special commissioner if a commissioner is disqualified and that the Governor, with the consent of the Executive Council, may appoint such a special commissioner. In light of the disqualification of Commissioner Ignatius and the impending departure of Commissioner Clifton Below, I will be the only commissioner in a position to participate in the above-captioned proceeding pending the confirmation of Commissioner Below's successor. Pursuant to RSA 363:16, a hearing may be conducted by a single commissioner but a quorum of the Commission, consisting of a majority of two, is required to issue an order. Consequently, the Commission hereby makes application for the appointment of a special commissioner to act in Commissioner Ignatius's place in Docket No. DE 11-184. As he noted at the prehearing conference, Commissioner Below joins me in approving this application.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas B. Getz", followed by a large, stylized circular flourish.

Thomas B. Getz
Chairman