

780 N. Commercial Street, Manchester, NH 03101

Public Service Company of New Hampshire P. O. Box 330 Manchester, NH 03105-0330 (603) 634-2961 Fax (603) 634-2438

Robert.bersak@nu.com

The Northeast Utilities System

Robert A. Bersak Associate General Counsel

July 24, 2012

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

Re: **DE 12-137**

Joint Petition for Adjustment to Service Territory Boundaries

Dear Ms. Howland:

As directed by the Commission's Order Nisi dated July 17, 2012 Public Service Company of New Hampshire has caused to be published a legal notice relative to the above-captioned docket. The legal notice appeared in <u>The Union Leader</u> on July 20, 2012.

Enclosed is the required affidavit of publication with a copy of the legal notice attached.

Very truly yours

Robert A. Bersak

Associate General Counsel

RAB/mlp Enclosure

Cc: Robert E. Dunn, Jr.

UNION LEADER CORPORATION

P O BOX 9513 **MANCHESTER, NH 03108**

> 0000057491 **PUBLIC SERVICE - LEGALS ATTN ANNETTE MAYO PO BOX 330 MANCHESTER NH 03105**

I hereby certify that the legal notice: (0000132700) DE 12–137 was published in the New Hampshire Union Leader printed at Manchester, NH by the Union Leader Corp. Ön:

07/20/2012.

State of New Hampshire Hillsborough County

Subscribed and sworn to before me this

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Notary Public

Legal Notice

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION DE 12-137

NEW HAMPSHIRE ELECTRIC COOP-ERATIVE, INC. and PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE Joint Petition for Adjustment to Service Territory Boundaries in Conway, New Hampshire

Order NisiGranting Joint Petition ORDERNO.25,392 July 17, 2012

On May 22, 2012, the New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc. (NHEC) and Public Service Company of New Hampshire (PSNH) (collectively, the Joint Petitioner) Electric Control of the Petitioner (PSNH) (collectively, the Joint Petitioner) Electric Control of the Petitioner (PSNH) (collectively, the Joint Petitioner) titioners) filed a petition requesting an adjustment to their respective franchise area boundaries in the Town of Conway, area boundaries in the Town of Conway, New Hampshire. The petition included a description of the proposed boundary iternations and a map of the adjoining exice territories including the proposed missions. The petition and subsequent content filings, other than any information

hich confidential treatment is re-Is no l of or granted by the Commission, and of the Commission's website /www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/ Docketbk/2012/12-137.html.

According to the joint petition, under existing franchise boundaries, PSNH serves most of Conway while NHEC serves the North Conway area, including Cranmore Mountain Resort, a ski area located in North Conway. The Joint Petitioners stated that the Cranmore Mountain Resort and NHEC would like to extend electric service equipment, to be owned by NHEC, to the summit of the mountain along the Cranmore Mountain Resort service road to provide electric service to one or more communication towers located or to be located at the summit of Cranmore Mountain. According to the Joint Petitioners, although the summit of Cranmore Mountain is currently located in PSNH's service territory, PSNH has no existing facilities that would allow it to serve the summit of the mountain.

As stated in the petition, the Joint Petitioners proposed to adjust the franchise border to include the summit of Cranmore Mountain in the NHEC franchise territory, consistent with the following description:

The eastern border of the PSNH/NHEC franchise territories in North Conway runs roughly in a north-south direction and crosses Cranmore Mountain approximately halfway up the main chairlift line. PSNH and NHEC would adjust the franchise border as follows:

Approximately one mile south of the junction of the eastern franchise border with the Bartlett town line, the franchise border would turn roughly ninety degrees (900)to the east and run for three eighths (3/8) of a mile. The border would then turn roughly ninety degrees (900)to the south, running parallel to the existing franchise border, for five eighths (5/8) of a mile. The border would then turn roughly ninety degrees (900) to the west for three eighths (3/8) of a mile until it

joins the existing franchise border.

The Joint Petitioners represented that the Cranmore Mountain Resort, the customer affected by the franchise boundary adjustment, is in agreement with the pro-

posed arrangements.
On June 8, 2012, Staff filed a memorandum with the Commission recom-mending that the Commission approve the joint petition based on its review of the petition and the accompanying information. Staff said that because PSNH has no electric facilities in close proximity to Cranmore Mountain, extension of service by PSNH would appear to be cost prohibitive. Further, because Cranmore Mountain Resort is currently a NHEC customer, Staff concluded that it is more logical for the Resort to be served by a single electric distribution utility, particularly given the circumstances described in the joint petition. Staff said that, in accordance with RSA 374:26, the Commission may grant permission for a utility to

engage in business in a particular area without hearing when all interested par-ties are in agreement, and recommended that the Commission approve the adjust-ment to the service territories of NHEC and PSNH via order nisi.

Pursuant to RSA 374:22 and RSA 374:26 and based on the information contained in the filing, Staff's recommendation, and the concurrence of the customer, Cranmore Mountain Resort, we approve the petition as in the public good on a nisi basis in order to provide any interested party the opportunity to submit

comments or to request a hearing.

Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby ORDERED MISI, that subject to the effective date below, the joint petition of Public Service Company of New Hampshire and the New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc. to adjust their franchise territories in the Town of North Conway as described in the petition is hereby GRANTED: and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that the Joint Petitioners shall cause a copy of this Order Nisi to be published once in a statewide newspaper of general circulation or of circulation in those portions of the state where operations are conducted. such publication to be no later than July 27, 2012 and to be documented by affidavit filed with this office on or before August 17, 2012; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that all persons interested in responding to this Order Nisi be notified that they may submit their comments or file a written request for a hearing which states the reason and basis for a hearing no later than August 3, 2012 for the Commission's consider-

ation; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that any party interested in responding to such com-ments or request for hearing shall do so no later than August 10, 2012; and it is **FURTHER ORDERED**, that this Order

Nisi shall be effective August 17, 2012, unless the Petitioner fails to satisfy the publication obligation set forth above or the Commission provides otherwise in a supplemental order issued prior to the effective date; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that the Petitioner shall file a compliance tariff with the Commission on or before August 31, 2012, in accordance with N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 1603.02(b).

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this seventeenth day of July, 2012.

Amy L. Ignatius Chairman Michael D. Harrington Commissioner Robert R. Scott Commissioner Attested by: Debra A Howland
Executive Director
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