**Public Service** of New Hampshire

ORIGINAL A Northeast Utilities Company C. Cas-Exhibit No .\_

September 28, 2012

Debra A. Howland **Executive Director** New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10 Concord NH 03301

Proposed Default Energy Service Rate for 2013 – Docket No. DE 12-XXX Re:

Dear Ms. Howland:

Enclosed for filing please find an original and six copies of the testimony and attachments of Robert A. Baumann containing an estimate and supporting documentation for a Default Energy Service rate applicable to customers taking service from Public Service of New Hampshire (PSNH) under its Default Energy Service Rate DE on and after January 1, 2013. Pursuant to RSA 369-B:3, IV(b)(1)(A), customers taking Default Energy Service from PSNH will be billed a default energy service rate equal to PSNH's actual, prudent and reasonable costs of providing power, as approved by the Commission. Based upon the information contained in this filing, PSNH estimates that the rate for effect on January 1, 2013, absent scrubber-related costs, will be 7.99 cents per kilowatt-hour, an increase of 0.88 cents per kilowatt-hour over the previously effective rate. The estimated overall rate, including scrubber-related costs, will be 8.97 cents per kilowatt-hour. Contemporaneous with this filing, PSNH is submitting a petition to adjust its average stranded cost recovery charge to 0.79 cents per kilowatt-hour, a decrease of 1.09 cents per kilowatt-hour from the currently effective average rate.

PSNH anticipates that the estimated rate in this filing will be revised during the course of the proceeding to incorporate the most up-to-date estimates of fuel and energy prices. PSNH's requested rate will be based upon the revised estimates and relevant supporting documentation filed prior to the hearing on the merits and reflecting any estimated over or under recovery from 2012. PSNH requests that the Commission open a docket on this matter and schedule a prehearing conference so that a procedural schedule may be established that will provide for an order in sufficient time to permit PSNH to institute the new rate for January 1, 2013.

Very truly yours,

Matthew J. Fossum

Counsel

DE12-292

PSNH Energy Park 780 No. Commercial Street, Manchester, NH 03101

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Matthew J. Fossum

Counsel



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