

Public Service of New Hampshire PSNH Energy Park 780 North Commercial Street, Manchester, NH 03101

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The Northeast Utilities System

December 13, 2007

Ms. Debra A. Howland Executive Director and Secretary New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission 21 South Fruit Street, Suite 6 Concord, New Hampshire 03301-2429



RE: <u>Docket No. DE 07-070</u> <u>Public Service Company of New Hampshire</u> <u>Motion to Amend Finance Order to Increase Authorized Credit Spread</u>

Dear Ms. Howland,

Enclosed for filing with the Commission is an original and eight (8) copies of Public Service Company of New Hampshire's ("PSNH") "Motion to Amend Finance Order to Increase Authorized Credit Spread" and the supporting "Supplemental Testimony of Patricia C. Cosgel" in the above captioned matter. With respect to the \$200 million long-term financing authority granted in Docket No. DE 07-070 by Order No. 24,781, PSNH requests authority for a coupon rate consistent with market rates for an instrument of similar maturity and risk, with a credit spread over the Treasury rate not exceeding 300 basis points (3.0 percent). The Commission previously authorized a coupon rate consistent with market rates for an instrument of similar maturity and risk, with a credit spread above the Treasury rate not exceeding 200 basis points (2.0 percent). No other amendment or modification of the finance authority granted by Order No. 24,781 is requested.

During the third and fourth quarters of 2007 the fixed income markets have experienced extreme volatility, driven primarily by the impact to the general economy related to the sub-prime mortgage crisis. This has led to significant credit tightening along with higher than anticipated credit spreads required by investors to purchase long-term debt in all sectors, including utilities. The requested maximum credit spread of 3% in this petition is higher than the current market spreads, but allows for any additional widening of credit spreads between now and the time of issuance. The debt will be issued at prevailing market rates and credit spreads, which are determined by investors in a competitive marketplace at the time of issuance.

The Commission Staff, the only party to the original docket, has been advised of this Motion.

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PSNH respectfully requests that the Commission notice and schedule a hearing in accordance with RSA 365:28 in January, 2008 to allow sufficient time for an order to be issued and for the thirty day rehearing period to run prior to PSNH's currently scheduled March, 2008 debt issuance.

If you have any questions regarding the above, please let me know. I can be reached directly at (603) 634-2326.

Very truly yours,

Very truly yours, Much M later (for)

Catherine E. Shively Senior Counsel

cc: Service List

Service List Docket DE 07-070

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