In Re: Petition of New England Power Company d/b/a National Grid for Licenses to Construct and Maintain Electric Lines Over and Across Public Waters in the Towns of Walpole and Surry, New Hampshire

EXHIBIT B

I-135N CONNECTICUT RIVER CROSSING

1. Statement of Need

In order to improve the reliability of NEP's electric transmission system in southwestern New Hampshire, NEP proposes to reconductor the approximately 80 year old I-135N line. The I-135N reconductoring is a high priority project because it eliminates low voltage and thermal capacity limitations identified in the ISO-NE Regional System Plan. Presently, a low voltage situation occurs as the result of a double circuit tower outage on the I-135S and J-136S lines on the system between the Flagg Road Substation and Pratts Junction. Currently, the low voltage problem is managed by load shedding. Voltage and thermal issues can also develop as the result of the loss of Vermont Yankee 345/115kV transformer, the 115kV K-186 line or the 355kV 340 line. At this time, the J-136N line will continue to be operated as currently configured.

2. National Electric Safety Code

NEP's engineers have designed the crossing to be in compliance with the 2007 Edition of the National Electrical Safety Code, (NESC) C2-2007.

3. Specific Electrical and Physical Description

Voltage: 115kV, 3-phase, 60 Hertz Conductor: 795 kcmil ACSR, 26/7

Structures: Reuse existing double circuit lattice steel towers with the conductors

in a horizontal configuration

Shieldwires: Located above the conductors consist of one Fiber Optic Shield

Wire, 36 fiber optic strands, equivalent to 3/8" EHS Galvanized steel.

Horizontal Distance between conductors: 12 feet

Vertical Distance at the tower between the conductors and the shieldwire: 10

feet

4. Elevation of Water Level

The water surface elevation of the Connecticut River, used for design, at the crossing was 227.0 feet (August 20, 2003) above MSL based on NGVD of 1929.

The 100-year flood elevation, at the same location is 257.0 based on FERM Maps dated May 23, 2006.

5. Rounding

All elevations have been rounded to the nearest one-tenth of a foot.

6. Applicable Area of Water Body

The applicable water crossing area is not suitable for sailboats because it is upstream of the tailrace and downstream of the Bridge Street Bridge.

7. Maximum Sag and Clearance (each span)

The governing case is maximum sag and clearance to both water and land with phase conductors at maximum operating temperature.

8. <u>Condition Producing Minimum Clearance for Phase Conductors – expected</u> and NESC clearance

The governing case is maximum sag and clearance to both water and land with phase conductors at maximum operating temperature.

With the conductor at maximum sag, which occurs at the maximum operating temperature of 284°F, the NESC clearance requirement to the water is 18.6 feet, based on water areas not suitable for sailboating or where sailboating is prohibited.

The minimum clearance at the crossing is designed to be 40.0 feet at 284°F.

9. <u>Conductor Producing Minimum Clearance for Neutral/Static Conductors – expected and NESC clearance</u>

- a. Expected Clearance: 40.0 feet at maximum conductor sag
- b. NESC Clearance Requirement: 18.6 feet at maximum conductor sag
 Based on the NESC clearance requirement to the water areas not suitable
 for sailboating or where sailboating is prohibited.

10: Combinations of Conditions Between Phase and Neutral/Static Conductors

Governing condition: Shieldwire at NESC Heavy, and conductor at 0F bare.

- Expected clearance: 30.0 feet
- NESC clearance requirement: 4.8 feet
 Based on the NESC clearance for span wires parallel to the line

11. Minimum Clearance for Phase Conductors to Both Water and Land

The minimum clearance at the crossing is designed to be 40 feet at 284°F.

12. Permits and Approvals

All necessary permit applications have been filed or will be filed including wetland applications.

13. Maintenance and Operation of Crossing

The Crossing will be maintained and operated in compliance with NESC at all times.

14. Easement Rights

The line is located within an existing easement.

15. Public Rights on Public Water or Lands

The public's use and enjoyment of the Connecticut River will not be diminished in any material respect as the result of the I-135 reconductoring and the crossings subject to this Petition.

16. Plan Requirements

Please see attached Plan of I-135N Connecticut River Crossing.

