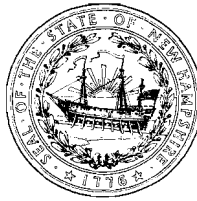


THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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 24, 2010

Gary Epler, Esq.
Attorney for Northern Utilities, Inc.
Unitil Service Corp.
6 Liberty Lane West
Hampton, NH 03842-1720

Re: DG 09-073 Northern Utilities
Request for Extension of One-Year Waiver of Puc 505.07

Dear Attorney Epler:

On July 12, 2010, you filed on behalf of Northern Utilities, Inc. (Northern, or the Company) a study produced in Docket No. DG 09-073 analyzing whether it would be more cost-effective for Northern to purchase meter testing equipment and facilities in New Hampshire than to contract out for testing services. The study was submitted pursuant to a July 22, 2009 secretarial letter which granted a one-year waiver of the meter testing requirements of N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 505.07 while the Company conducted the cost study. That waiver expired on July 22, 2010.

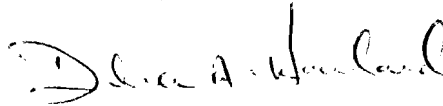
Based on the results of the study, Northern now requests a further waiver of Puc 505.07 for a period of five years or until such time as it determines that it is economical to establish its own testing facility, whichever occurs first. Northern proposes that the five-year waiver be renewable upon the Company's demonstration that such renewal serves the public interest and does not interfere with the orderly and efficient resolution of matters before the Commission. At the same time, Northern requests that the original one-year waiver of Puc 505.07 obligations be extended until a decision on the five-year waiver request is made.

Under N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 201.05, the Commission may waive Puc 505.07 if it finds a waiver serves the public interest and does not disrupt the orderly and efficient resolution of matters before the Commission. Determination of the public interest requires consideration of whether (1) compliance with the rule would be onerous given the circumstances of Northern; or (2) the purpose of the rule is satisfied by the alternative method proposed. The Commission has determined that the applicable standards are met for an extension of the one-year waiver until such time as a decision is made regarding Northern's

DG 09-073 Northern Utilities Request for Waiver
September 24, 2010
Page 2

request for a five-year waiver. The five-year waiver will be considered in Docket No. DG 10-245. Accordingly, a temporary waiver described above is granted.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Debra A. Howland". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D".

Debra A. Howland
Executive Director