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NHPUC 7JAW14PH12:36

January 7, 2014

Debra A. Howland Executive Director New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission 21 South Fruit Street Suite 10 Concord, New Hampshire 03301

> Re: Docket No. DE 13-063 Granite State Electric Company d/b/a Liberty Utilities Notice of Intent to File for Permanent Rates Change to Procedural Schedule

Dear Ms. Howland:

The purpose of this letter is to inform the Commission that Staff and Granite State Electric Company d/b/a Liberty Utilities (Granite State) have reached a settlement agreement in principle to resolve the contested issues in the distribution rate case captioned above. Currently, neither Mary Hitchcock Memorial Hospital/Dartmouth-Hitchcock, an intervenor in this docket, nor the Office of Consumer Advocate has taken a position on the settlement.

At present, settlement discussions are being conducted over the phone, and Staff and the parties agree that the settlement meeting scheduled for Wednesday, January 8, 2014 should be canceled. Depending on how discussions proceed, we may cancel the session scheduled for January 9, 2014 but we want to hold that date in case we need to meet. Staff requests that the Commission modify the procedural schedule by canceling the session for Wednesday. I'll let you know as soon as possible whether the Thursday session should be canceled as well.

I certify that a copy of this letter will be served electronically on the parties named on the service list when the letter is filed with the Commission.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Suzanne G. Amidon Staff Attorney

Service (electronic copy only)