## THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE before the PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Docket No. DE

## JOINT PETITION OF NEW HAMPSHIRE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC. AND PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE TO ALTER THEIR FRANCHISE AREAS IN CHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE

New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc. (hereinafter "NHEC") and Public Service Company of New Hampshire (hereinafter "PSNH") jointly request that the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission (hereinafter the "Commission") issue an order approving a change in the franchise areas served by the two utilities in the town of Chester, New Hampshire so as to accommodate the request of Mr. Michael Oleson to have NHEC provide electric service to a four lots on Gladys Nicole Lane off Orcutt Drive in Chester.

For the reasons set out below NHEC and PSNH jointly agreed that the public interest would best be served by the amendment of their respective franchise areas in the Orcutt Drive area of Chester so as to permit NHEC to provide service to lots abutting Trillium Lane, Orcutt Drive and to four lots on Gladys Nicole Lane, (hereinafter the "Site"). The requested relief is authorized under RSA 374:22 and RSA 374:26 (NHEC and PSNH note that RSA 374:22 does not apply to NHEC, pursuant to RSA 362:2). In support of this Petition, NHEC and PSNH state the following:

1. NHEC and PSNH each serve portions of Chester. A portion of the Site is located in what would otherwise be PSNH's service territory. However, NHEC's existing distribution facilities are located substantially closer to the Site than any existing PSNH facilities. Each of the parties recognizes that, due to the specific physical location of the Site, the extension of electric utility distribution services to the Site from NHEC's nearby facilities along Orcutt Drive is substantially less costly than the construction of a longer extension which would be required if service were provided from PSNH's existing facilities along Route 121 / Chester Street. A color map of the relevant area, with the approximate location of the existing franchise line and the Site location with a proposed realignment in red, is attached as Exhibit A.

2. It is uncertain where future development, if any, along the southern portion of Orcutt Drive might occur. In light of the specific circumstances described above, NHEC and PSNH agree to adjust their respective franchise areas in Chester in order to accommodate Mr. Oleson's request and place the Site within NHEC's franchise area, without otherwise altering the border between their respective franchise areas in Chester. As has been done previously in similar circumstances, the Site will be identified on the franchise maps, with a notation that the subdivision is to be served by NHEC. 3. PSNH and NHEC understand that Mr. Oleson agrees with these arrangements. When all parties agree, the Commission may grant the permission requested without a hearing. RSA 374:26.

Respectfully submitted,

June 3, 2014

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Public Service Company of New Hampshire

June **3**, 2014

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