

Northern Utilities, Inc.

DG 15-21

Request for Hearing on Notices of Violations PS1501NU and PS1502NU

Joint Statement of Stipulated Facts

New Hampshire Avenue Regulator Station

1. On June 25, 2014, at Staff's request, Northern separately simulated the failure of two worker regulators at the Portsmouth Intermediate Pressure (IP) System (the tests).
2. At the time of the tests, Northern had established the MAOP for the Portsmouth IP System at 56 psig.
3. At the time of the tests, Northern had set one worker regulator at 52 psig, the other worker regulator at 50 psig, and both monitor regulators at 55 psig.
4. At the time of the tests, Northern knew that when a monitor regulator assumes control over the system pressure there is an expected build-up of pressure that temporarily causes pressure to rise above the monitor regulator's set point.
5. As a result of the tests, the system pressure exceeded 56 psig on both occasions, as measured at a gauge located within the regulator station, approximately six feet downstream of the regulators.
6. The first test resulted in a pressure reading of 56.9 psig before that test was stopped.
7. The second test resulted in a pressure reading of 57.2 psig for approximately 1-2 minutes. The monitor regulator then assumed control over pressure and the pressure at the pressure gauge stabilized at the monitor's set point of 55 psig.
8. At the time of each test, the regulators being tested were connected to the downstream system.