

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**Public Service Company of New Hampshire  
d/b/a Eversource Energy  
Reconciliation of Energy Service and Stranded Costs for  
Calendar Year 2014**

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF  
FREDERICK B. WHITE**

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**I. INTRODUCTION**

1 **Q. Please state your name.**

2 A. My name is Frederick B. White.

3 **Q. Mr. White, please provide your business address and title.**

4 A. My business address is 107 Selden St, Berlin, Connecticut. I am a Supervisor in the  
5 Electric Supply department of Eversource Energy.

6 **Q. Mr. White, please describe your responsibilities at Eversource Energy.**

7 A. I primarily supervise and provide analytical support required to fulfill the power supply  
8 requirement obligations of Public Service of New Hampshire (PSNH) and Connecticut  
9 Light and Power (CL&P), both d/b/a Eversource Energy. For PSNH, this includes the  
10 development of Energy Service rates, evaluation of the need to supplement PSNH's  
11 resources for the provision of Energy Service, and acquisition of Financial Transmission  
12 Rights to manage congestion. For CL&P, I assist in the design and execution of power  
13 supply sourcing associated with its version of energy service. I participate in ISO-NE  
14 stakeholder meetings and monitor ISO-NE, NEPOOL, and FERC activities to ensure that  
15 our operations are up to date. Henceforth in this testimony I will refer to Eversource  
16 Energy's operations in New Hampshire and PSNH as "Eversource."

17 **II. PURPOSE**

18 **Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?**

19 A. The purpose of my testimony is to report on how Eversource's generation resources and  
20 supplemental purchases were used to meet energy and capacity requirements during the

1 period January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014. As a load-serving entity, Eversource  
2 is responsible for having sufficient energy to meet the hourly needs of its customers and is  
3 also responsible for its share of the ISO-NE capacity requirement. Eversource is also the  
4 default provider of service to customers who for any reason are otherwise without a service  
5 provider. Eversource meets its requirements through its owned generation, PURPA-  
6 mandated purchases under short term rates and long term rate orders, and through  
7 supplemental purchases of energy and capacity from the market. I will also discuss  
8 Eversource's participation in the FTR auction process.

### 9 **III. ENERGY REQUIREMENTS**

10 **Q. Please summarize the generation resources that were available to meet Eversource's**  
11 **energy requirements during the period January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014.**

12 A. Attachment FBW-1 lists the resource portfolio Eversource used to meet its customers'  
13 energy requirements in 2014. As shown on that Attachment, available energy resource  
14 capacity during this time period was about 1,232 MW for the summer months. The  
15 portfolio is comprised of the following resource groups: hydroelectric (49 MW from nine  
16 stations), coal and biomass (576 MW from Merrimack and Schiller Stations), gas/oil (419  
17 MW from Newington and Wyman 4), combustion turbines (83 MW from five units),  
18 biomass (67.5 MW from Burgess Biopower), wind (2 MW from Lempster), and non-utility  
19 generation (25 MW from numerous PURPA-mandated purchases and 10 MW from one  
20 IPP buyout replacement contract).

21 **Q. Please summarize how Eversource's generation resources met energy requirements**  
22 **during 2014.**

23 A. Attachment FBW-2 summarizes how energy requirements were met and how  
24 Eversource's generation resources were utilized by month during peak and off-peak  
25 periods. During 2014, 59% of peak energy requirements and 61% of off-peak energy  
26 requirements were met with the generation resources listed on FBW-1. The remaining  
27 energy needs were met through bilateral or spot market energy purchases.

1 **Q. Was Eversource's generation sufficient to meet energy requirements in every month?**

2 A. No. Eversource does not own sufficient generating capability to meet its customers'  
3 energy requirements in all hours and, therefore, must purchase a portion of its customers'  
4 needs. The purchase requirement changes hourly and can range from zero to a significant  
5 portion, depending on the availability of resources, the level of demand, the migration of  
6 customers to competitive energy service options, and the relative economics of  
7 Eversource's generation versus purchase alternatives.

8 **Q. Please summarize how supplemental purchases were used to meet energy**  
9 **requirements.**

10 A. Attachment FBW-3 summarizes the purchases made to supplement Eversource's  
11 generating resources. Approximately 888 GWh of peak energy were purchased at an  
12 average cost of \$48.42 per MWh (a total expense of \$43.0 million). 379 GWh were  
13 purchased bilaterally at an average cost of \$45.29 per MWh (a total expense of \$17.2  
14 million). Of that, 156 GWh were procured via fixed-price monthly contracts to address  
15 forecasted supplemental requirements and planned unit outages, and 223 GWh were  
16 procured via fixed-price shorter term arrangements (e.g. daily, weekly) to address  
17 unplanned outages and higher load periods. The remaining 508 GWh of peak energy were  
18 procured via the ISO-NE hourly spot market at an average cost of \$50.76 per MWh (a total  
19 expense of \$25.8 million). (Figures may not add due to rounding.)

20 Approximately 773 GWh of off-peak energy were purchased at an average cost of \$38.48  
21 per MWh (a total expense of \$29.7 million). 155 GWh were purchased  
22 bilaterally at an average cost of \$36.58 per MWh (a total expense of \$5.7 million),  
23 procured via fixed-price shorter term arrangements (e.g. daily, weekly) to address  
24 unplanned outages and higher load periods. The remaining approximately 618 GWh of  
25 off-peak energy were procured via the ISO-NE hourly spot market at an average cost of  
26 \$38.95 per MWh (a total expense of \$24.1 million). The combined expense for all  
27 supplemental energy purchases was \$72.7 million. (Figures may not add due to rounding.)

1 **Q. Were there any hours in which Eversource's supply resources exceeded energy**  
2 **needs?**

3 A. Yes. Attachment FBW-3 also summarizes the hours in which supply resources, including  
4 supplemental bilateral purchases, exceeded energy requirements resulting in sales to the  
5 ISO-NE spot market. Approximately 147 GWh of peak energy were sold at an average  
6 price of \$196.36 per MWh (total revenues of \$28.8 million). In addition, approximately  
7 203 GWh of off-peak energy were sold at an average price of \$119.37 per MWh (total  
8 revenues of \$24.3 million). The combined revenue for all surplus energy sales was \$53.1  
9 million.

10 **Q. Please summarize how commodity prices (oil, natural gas, and energy) varied during**  
11 **2014.**

12 A. Attachment FBW-4 is a chart of the 2014 daily prices for crude oil (West Texas  
13 Intermediate), natural gas (delivered to Algonquin Gate), and bilateral energy (peak hours  
14 at the Mass. Hub). The chart shows the range of commodity and energy market prices in  
15 2014. The chart also shows the continuing correlation between natural gas prices and  
16 energy purchase prices in New England. Note also the dramatic natural gas price spikes  
17 during winter months, due to space heating demand and delivery constraints on the natural  
18 gas transportation pipeline system, with the price frequently exceeding the price of oil.

19 **Q. Please summarize the impact of commodity market volatility on the cost of serving**  
20 **Eversource's energy requirement.**

21 A. During 2014, 49% of energy requirements were met with coal, wood, and hydro resources.  
22 Newington is capable of operating on either residual fuel oil or natural gas, whichever is  
23 the more economic fuel. Because of the fuel diversity of

24 Eversource's supply portfolio, Eversource is largely insulated from volatility in the natural  
25 gas market. During periods of high and volatile natural gas prices Eversource's resource  
26 mix provides price stability, and during periods of low natural gas prices ES load can be  
27 served through low priced market purchases while Eversource's resources provide  
28 insurance against price increases.

1 **IV. CAPACITY REQUIREMENTS**

2 **Q. Please describe the cost impact to Eversource’s customers associated with the**  
3 **Forward Capacity Market during 2014.**

4 A. Attachment FBW-5 summarizes Eversource’s monthly capacity market activity. Over the  
5 course of the year capacity market revenues from generation resources (including owned  
6 assets, non-utility IPPs, and the Hydro-Quebec Interconnection Capacity Credits) exceeded  
7 capacity market expenses, resulting in a net revenue and credit to ES customers of \$1.7  
8 million.

9 **Q. Please summarize the ISO-NE capacity market rules that were in effect during 2014.**

10 A. The capacity market in New England is governed by the Forward Capacity Market (FCM)  
11 rules as administered by ISO-NE. ISO-NE conducts Forward Capacity Auctions (FCA),  
12 into which capacity resources offer MWs, to “procure” the lowest cost resources necessary  
13 to meet the ISO-NE Installed Capacity Requirement and to establish the market value of  
14 capacity. The capacity prices established for 2014 were \$2.95/kW-month for the January  
15 to May period, and \$3.21/kW-month for the June to December period. Additional  
16 components of the FCM which occur after the FCAs, including Reconfiguration Auctions  
17 and monthly Peak Energy Rent adjustments, result in adjustments to Capacity Supply  
18 Obligations, the overall rate

19 paid to capacity, and the rate paid by load for capacity. Resources are paid for providing  
20 capacity, and the total payments for capacity resources in each month are charged to ISO-  
21 NE load serving entities based on their relative share of the prior year’s peak demand.

22 **Q. Please summarize the supply resources that were used to meet Eversource’s capacity**  
23 **requirements.**

24 A. During 2014, a total of 405,813 MW-months of capacity qualified for credits in the ISO-  
25 NE capacity market (this equates to a monthly average of 33,818 MWs). Eversource was  
26 allocated 3.37% (13,681 MW-months) of this capacity obligation. Eversource’s supply  
27 resources had capacity supply obligations of 14,415 MW-months of capacity; comprised of  
28 owned generation (12,472 MW-months), non-utility IPPs (658 MW-months, including  
29 Burgess Biopower and Lempster Wind), and Hydro-Quebec Interconnection Capacity

1 Credits (1,285 MW-months). For 2014, Eversource had a net capacity surplus of 734  
2 MW-months. (Figures may not add due to rounding.) Attachment FBW-5 provides  
3 additional details.

4 **Q. Can you estimate the ES customers' capacity credit associated with Eversource's**  
5 **owned generation resources during 2014?**

6 A. Yes. As noted above, for 2014, owned resources provided 12,472 MW-months of capacity  
7 to ISO-NE. This created \$36.3 million in revenue credited to the Energy Service rate.

## 8 **V. FINANCIAL TRANSMISSION RIGHTS**

9 **Q. What is a Financial Transmission Right (FTR)?**

10 A. An FTR is a financial instrument available to participants seeking to manage congestion  
11 cost risk or those wishing to speculate on the difference in congestion costs between two  
12 locations. These instruments have been available since the introduction of the ISO-NE  
13 Standard Market Design. All FTRs are defined by a MW amount, a source location, and a  
14 sink location (e.g. a participant may own 100 MW of FTRs that are sourced at the  
15 Merrimack node and sink at the New Hampshire load zone). For each MW of FTR, the  
16 owner will receive a credit or a

17 charge from ISO-NE equal to the difference in the congestion component of the hourly  
18 LMP between the sink and the source. If the sink location congestion price exceeds the  
19 source location price, the FTR will have a positive value, i.e. - a credit to that participant's  
20 ISO-NE settlement in that hour. Similarly, if the sink location price is less than the source  
21 location price, the owner will be charged the difference.

22 **Q. Please summarize Eversource's participation in the ISO-NE FTR auction process.**

23 A. Eversource participated in these auctions as a method of hedging the congestion price  
24 differential between the major fossil stations (Merrimack, Schiller, and Newington) and the  
25 New Hampshire load zone for periods and in quantities according to forecasted unit  
26 operation. Eversource also procured FTRs to hedge the differential between the source  
27 location of bilateral purchases (e.g. the Massachusetts Hub and Burgess Biopower) and the  
28 New Hampshire load zone. Generation resources and bilateral purchases provide an

1 effective hedge against the energy component of the zonal LMP, but they do not guard  
2 against a congestion component differential. Therefore, even in an hour in which  
3 Eversource had sufficient resources to serve its energy requirement, it would be exposed to  
4 potential congestion charges. The purpose of acquiring FTRs is to convert the risk  
5 associated with a variable, unknown expense (i.e. the hour-by-hour difference in the  
6 applicable LMP congestion component), to a fixed, known expense (i.e. the cost of the  
7 FTR); however, not at any cost. The prices bid to acquire FTRs are evaluated against  
8 potential congestion cost exposure to achieve a balance between risk coverage and  
9 minimizing costs for ES customers. During 2014, Eversource acquired via auction 788  
10 GWh of FTRs for a net revenue of \$187,565. Settlement of the FTRs resulted in  
11 elimination of \$777,783 of congestion charges. Thus, managing a portion of congestion  
12 cost risk with FTRs resulted in an overall decrease in Energy Service expense of \$965,348.  
13 This result was due to significant and unusual congestion during February between  
14 generator nodes and the NH Load Zone.

15 **Q. Will Eversource continue to participate in the FTR auction process in order to hedge**  
16 **against unpredictable congestion costs?**

17 A. Yes. FTRs serve as an insurance policy against unanticipated congestion costs.  
18 Eversource procures FTRs primarily to provide cost certainty and thus reduce risk, rather  
19 than to achieve savings. If Eversource did not purchase FTRs and there was a problem on  
20 the system that resulted in congestion, the cost could be several times the cost of the FTR.  
21 Therefore, it makes sense to continue to purchase FTRs when able to do so at reasonable  
22 cost to manage the exposure to congestion costs.

23 **Q. Does that complete your testimony?**

24 A. Yes, it does.