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March 20, 2017

Debra Howland, Executive Director and Secretary  
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission  
21 S. Fruit St. Suite 10  
Concord, NH 03301-2429

Re: IR 15-296, Investigation into Grid Modernization

Dear Secretary Howland,

As the facilitator/mediator for the New Hampshire Grid Modernization Working Group, it gives me great pleasure to convey to the Commission the Working Group's Final Report.

The Working Group met for nine day-long meetings between April 2016 and March 2017, with many additional sub-group meetings and assignments between meetings. Over the course of this process the Working Group members had detailed discussions about a wide-range of grid modernization related topics including desired outcomes and capabilities; grid modernization planning; customer engagement (including rate design, customer and utility data, and customer education); and utility cost recovery and incentive frameworks.

The Report includes recommendations on all of these topics, as well as recommendations regarding potential next steps for the Commission. All of the recommendations in the Report are by consensus of the Working Group (i.e., unanimity of all members), except on approximately a dozen specific issues where consensus was not reached. On those issues, two alternatives are generally presented along with the Working Group members who supported each alternative recommendation.

Tim Woolf of Synapse Energy Economics, who served as the Commission's consultant on the project, and I are available to discuss with the Commission any aspect of this Final Report or the process itself.

Thank you for undertaking this important process, and we hope that you have what you need to move productively forward with grid modernization in New Hampshire.

Dr. Jonathan Raab  
Facilitator/Mediator  
New Hampshire Grid Modernization Working Group

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