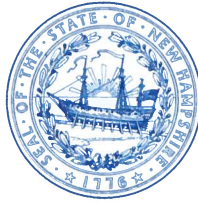


STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

CONSUMER ADVOCATE
D. Maurice Kreis

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Concord, NH 03301-2441

9 OCT '17 PM 3:24

October 9, 2017

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

Re: Docket No. DE 15-464
Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy
Petition for Approval of Lease Agreement with Northern Pass Transmission LLC

Dear Ms. Howland:

As you know, on October 4, 2017 the Commission by secretarial letter suspended the procedural schedule in the above-referenced proceeding so that responses to certain pending data requests are now due on October 11, 2017. The purpose of the extension was to facilitate settlement discussions that have been ongoing among petitioner Eversource Energy, intervenor Northern Pass Transmission LLC (NPT), the Office of the Consumer Advocate (OCA), and Commission Staff.

The settlement discussions are continuing and I believe there is a substantial possibility of achieving an agreement. However, it does not appear that we will be able to sign a settlement agreement without additional time for negotiations. Accordingly, I am writing to request that the Commission suspend the October 11, 2017 deadline for responses to data requests. Likewise, I request that the Commission cancel the technical session presently scheduled for October 11, 2017. I am authorized to state that Eversource Energy, NPT and Staff assent to the granting of this request.

We do not expect the settlement discussions to continue for a protracted period. Should the Commission grant the above requests, Staff and/or the OCA will promptly advise the Commission if the settlement discussions are concluded unsuccessfully, at which time we would

propose a suitable time frame for the conclusion of discovery so that the docket can proceed to its merits hearing as presently scheduled on November 28 and 29.

Please feel free to contact me if there are any questions or concerns about the foregoing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'D. Maurice Kreis', written in a cursive style.

D. Maurice Kreis
Consumer Advocate

cc: Service list, via e-mail