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PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION 21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10 Concord, N.H. 03301-2429

October 30, 2017

Re: 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 Denial of Motion for Leave to File Additional Data Requests

To the Parties:

On June 8, 2017, the Commission issued a Secretarial Letter providing for two rounds of discovery on Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (Eversource) ending no later than August 11, 2017. On September 18, 2017, Commission Staff filed an appraisal report prepared by Shenehon Company on behalf of Staff. On September 21, the Commission issued a Secretarial Letter extending the time to propound discovery on Staff to September 26.

On September 29, 2017, Kevin Spencer and Mark Lagasse d/b/a Lagaspence Realty LLC requested leave to propound a data request "upon Applicants" regarding the Shenehon Company's appraisal report. In particular, Lagaspence Realty asked for "information for each and every acquisition of property for the construction of Northern Pass from Dummer, New Hampshire, to the Canadian border." Lagaspence Realty argued that its request was proper because the appraisal report was filed after the August 11 deadline propounding discovery on Eversource.

Staff filed an objection on October 3, arguing that both the data request and the motion for leave were filed out of time, citing N.H. Admin. Code Rules Puc 202.04(a) (extensions of time must be requested "before the expiration of the period originally prescribed.") Staff also argued that Lagaspence Realty's motion fails to demonstrate sufficient grounds for extension under Puc 202.04(c) and that the proposed data request is burdensome and would delay this case. Eversource filed an objection on October 4, 2017, arguing that the requested discovery is not properly directed at Eversource, because the motion refers to the appraisal report, and the appraisal report was prepared on behalf of Staff. Eversource argued that Lagaspence Realty was required to ask its data request of Staff by September 26. In the alternative, if Lagaspence Realty's request were properly asked of Eversource, Eversource argued that Lagaspence had

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ample opportunity to propound its request or prepare its own report, as Eversource's expert appraisal report has been available for nearly two years.

The Commission has determined that Lagaspence Realty's request for extension is untimely under Puc 202.04(a) and that Lagaspence Realty's motion fails to demonstrate sufficient grounds for extension under Puc 202.04(c). The particular data request proposed by Lagaspence Realty, which asks for information regarding the acquisition of property rights, could have been asked of Eversource by August 11, before Staff filed the Shenehon Company's report. To the extent that the request even relates to the Shenehon Report, Lagaspence Realty should have propounded the request or sought an extension of time by September 26. Accordingly, the Commission denied Lagaspence Realty's motion for leave to file additional data requests.

Sincerely,

Dule- A. Ho-land

Debra A. Howland Executive Director

cc: Service List/Docket file

Pursuant to N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.11 (a) (1): Serve an electronic copy on each person identified on the service list.

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FILING INSTRUCTIONS:

a) Pursuant to N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.02 (a), with the exception of Discovery, file 7 copies, as well as an electronic copy, of all documents including cover letter with: DEBRAAHOWLAND EXEC DIRECTOR

NHPUC 21 S. FRUIT ST, SUITE 10 CONCORD NH 03301-2429

- b) Serve an electronic copy with each person identified on the Commission's service list and with the Office of Consumer Advocate.
- c) Serve a written copy on each person on the service list not able to receive electronic mail.