

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
DE 08-139
PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY
OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
Petition for Authority to Serve a
Single Customer in Lempster
Order Nisi Approving Petition
ORDER NO. 24,933
January 16, 2009**

On October 29, 2008, Public Service Company of New Hampshire (PSNH) filed a petition pursuant to RSA 374:22 and 26 for permission to serve a single customer, Lempster Wind LLC (Lempster Wind), within the New Hampshire Electric Cooperative's (NHEC) franchise area in the Town of Lempster. Lempster Wind is a 24 megawatt wind-powered generation source. PSNH's petition states that, during start-up, Lempster Wind's turbines require power at a voltage that NHEC cannot provide without upgrades to its system. Further, PSNH will provide Lempster Wind with start-up power and NHEC will provide the customary electric service to the Lempster Wind site for its project office, area lighting, maintenance buildings, as well as any other load that can be served through NHEC existing facilities.

As described in the petition, Lempster Wind needs electric service at a higher auxiliary voltage than the service provided by NHEC to provide the electromagnetic induction to begin generating electricity from the wind turbines in two instances: 1) during the initial start-up of the first wind generator and 2) in the restarting of the wind turbines after they have been shut down due to excess wind or lack of wind. PSNH stated that, following these shut down periods, when the wind speeds return to acceptable levels for generating, the turbine blades will spin with the wind; however, a current of electricity at an appropriate voltage must be delivered to the generator in order to induce a magnetic field to produce electrical energy. Because PSNH is interconnecting the wind project to receive the power generated by the project, PSNH can supply this auxiliary power directly at the required 34.5 kilovolt (kV) level. PSNH also stated that it will not have to install any additional facilities to supply service because the metering installed to record generation by Lempster Wind will also record any usage by Lempster Wind. PSNH noted that, if NHEC were to supply the requisite auxiliary power, NHEC would need to extend its current 12 kV circuit as well as upgrade the line to three-phase and step up the voltage at the site to 34.5 kV.

PSNH noted that the location of Lempster Wind's generators is not contiguous to the small franchise territory that PSNH currently serves within the Town of Lempster. If its petition is granted, PSNH suggested that there is no need to redraw the franchise boundary between PSNH and NHEC because only one portion of the service is provided to a single customer, Lempster Wind. PSNH attested that Lempster Wind and NHEC concur with its petition and, pursuant to RSA 374:26, when all parties are in agreement, the Commission may grant the permission requested without a hearing.

Staff filed its recommendation on January 12, 2009. Staff indicated that PSNH

provide service to Lempster Wind un-
der General Delivery Service Rate G. PSNH
explained that Rate G is appropriate based
on its estimate that the station service will
be below 100 kilowatts, on average, over
a twelve month period. PSNH said it will
review Lempster Wind's usage after twelve
months of billing. If it turns out that Lemp-
ster Wind's usage consistently exceeds
100 kilowatts, PSNH stated that Lempster
Wind would no longer qualify for Rate G
but would instead qualify for service under
Primary General Delivery Service Rate GV.
PSNH explained that customers who, except
for their own generation, would otherwise
be eligible to receive service under Rate GV
(customers whose loads do not exceed 1,000
kilowatts) or Rate LG (customers whose
loads are in excess of 1,000 kilowatts) must
take service under PSNH's Backup Service
Rate B. If Lempster Wind's load reaches
the point where it would qualify to receive
service under Rate GV, PSNH said it would
provide electric service to Lempster Wind in
accordance with the terms of Rate B. Staff
concluded by saying it had reviewed the fil-
ing and concurred with PSNH that the Com-
mission should approve the petition.

Pursuant to RSA 374:22 and RSA 374:26
and based on the information contained in
the filing, Staff's recommendation, and the
concurrence of Lempster Wind and NHEC
with the petition, we approve the petition as
in the public good on a nisi basis in order
to provide any interested party the oppor-
tunity to submit comments or to request a
hearing. We also agree with PSNH and Staff
that PSNH's provision of limited service to
a single customer (Lempster Wind) in NH-
EC's territory does not require the franchise
boundary to be redrawn.

**Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby
ORDERED NISI**, that subject to the effec-
tive date below, Public Service Company of
New Hampshire's petition to serve a single
customer, Lempster Wind LLC, in the Town
of Lempster in the franchise territory of the
New Hampshire Electric Cooperative as de-
scribed in its petition is hereby GRANTED;
and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that the Petition-
er shall cause a copy of this Order Nisi to be
published once in a statewide newspaper of
general circulation or of circulation in those
portions of the state where operations are
conducted, such publication to be no later
than January 26, 2009 and to be docu-
mented by affidavit filed with this office on
or before February 16, 2009; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that all persons
interested in responding to this Order Nisi
be notified that they may submit their com-
ments or file a written request for a hear-
ing which states the reason and basis for a
hearing no later than February 2, 2009 for
the Commission's consideration; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that any party in-
terested in responding to such comments or
request for hearing shall do so no later than
February 9, 2009; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that this Order
Nisi shall be effective February 16, 2009,
unless the Petitioner fails to satisfy the
publication obligation set forth above or
the Commission provides otherwise in a
supplemental order issued prior to the ef-
fective date.

By order of the Public Utilities Commis-
sion of New Hampshire this sixteenth day of
January, 2009.

Thomas B. Getz
Chairman
Graham J. Morrison
Commissioner
Clifton C. Below
Commissioner
Attested by:
Debra A. Howland
Executive Director