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December 18, 2009

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

Re: Docket No. DE 09-170
2010 Core Energy Efficiency Programs
Settlement Agreement



Dear Ms. Howland:

Pursuant to New Hampshire Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.20, Staff, on behalf of the Settling Parties, is hereby filing a Stipulation and Settlement Agreement with respect to the above captioned docket. The Staff respectfully requests that the Commission consider the approval of this Stipulation and Settlement Agreement at the hearing in this docket scheduled for December 22, 2009.

As you may know, on December 16, 2009, the Honorable John Lynch held a press conference where he announced the legislation had been introduced to change the allocation of the system benefits charge. The current charge for low income electric assistance is 1.5 mils, while the current charge for energy efficiency (the Core Programs) is 1.8 mils. The legislation would increase the low income assistance portion to 1.8 mils and reduce the energy efficiency portion to 1.5 mils, resulting in a reduction of approximately \$3.5 million in funding for the Core Programs. While the Settling Parties are aware of this development, the Settlement Agreement does not take into account the potential reduction in energy efficiency funds. We welcome your questions at hearing.

Thank you for your courtesy and please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Amidon
Staff Attorney

Service List