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THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



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

December 2, 2010

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

> Re: Docket No. DE 10-261
> Public Service Company of New Hampshire 2010 Least Cost Integrated Resource Plan (LCIRP)
> Report Following Prehearing Conference

Dear Ms. Howland:

The Commission held a prehearing conference in the above-captioned docket on November 18, 2010 pursuant to an Order of Notice issued on November 3, 2010. The Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA) filed a letter on November 4, 2010 stating that it would be participating in the docket on behalf of residential ratepayers pursuant to RSA 363:28. The following parties filed petitions to intervene: Freedom Logistics, LLC d/b/a Freedom Energy Logistics (Freedom); Granite Ridge Energy, LLC (Granite Ridge); TransCanada Power Marketing Ltd. and TransCanada Hydro Northeast, Inc. (together, TransCanada); New England Power Generators Association, Inc. (NEPGA); Conservation Law Foundation (CLF); New Hampshire Sierra Club (Sierra Club); and the State of New Hampshire Office and Energy and Planning (OEP). No objections were raised against the petitions to intervene. At the prehearing conference, Commissioner Ignatius stated that the Commission's ruling on the petitions to intervene would be taken under advisement.

Following the prehearing conference, representatives of Staff, OCA and all the parties seeking to intervene except Freedom met in a technical session to discuss (i) a recommended procedural schedule and (ii) their views regarding the scope of this docket, in order to respond to Commissioner Ignatius' request to explore a proposal on scope.

The proposed procedural schedule, developed through discussion at the technical session following the prehearing conference, and subsequent communications between Staff and the participants at the technical session, is as follows:

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First Round of Data Requests by Staff and Intervenors,	
Issued on a Rolling Basis:	Ending February 25, 2011
Last Day for PSNH Responses to First Round of	
Data Requests:	March 18, 2011
Technical Session, at 10:00 a.m.:	March 25, 2011
Second Round of Data Requests by Staff and Intervenors:	April 8, 2011
PSNH Responses to Second Round of Data Requests:	April 22, 2011
Prefiled Testimony by Staff and Intervenors:	May 20, 2011
First Round of Data Requests to Staff and Intervenors:	June 10, 2011
Staff and Intervenors' Response Due:	July 1, 2011
Second Round of Data Requests to Staff and Intervenors:	July 15, 2011
Staff and Intervenors' Response Due:	August 5, 2011
PSNH Rebuttal Testimony:	August 22, 2011
Settlement Conference, at 9:00 a.m.:	September 8, 2011
Third Round of Data Requests by Staff and Intervenors:	September 16, 2011
PSNH Responses to Third Round of Data Requests:	September 30, 2011
Hearing on the Merits (Two Days, at 10:00 a.m.):	October 5 and 6, 2011

The participants agreed that, for the first round of data requests by Staff and intervenors to PSNH, the parties may submit data requests at any time until February 25, 2011. PSNH has agreed to respond to first-round data requests on a rolling basis, within three weeks of receiving a data request. The remaining rounds of discovery will be conducted according to the schedule.

Staff reserves its right to propose modifications to the procedural schedule in the event that discovery disputes interfere with the orderly conduct of the proceeding.

Regarding the scope of the docket, the participants have not been able to agree on a proposal for establishing a precise delineation of scope. The participants nevertheless expect that PSNH's compliance with the Commission's directives set forth in Commission Order No. 24,945 (Order dated February 27, 2009) and the enumerated components of a least cost integrated resource plan set forth in RSA 378:38 would serve as general guides for the Commission's deliberations. The participants also understand that the Commission is not the agency with responsibility to impose or enforce environmental requirements applicable to PSNH. There is no agreement regarding PSNH's obligation, or the extent of any such obligation, to plan for compliance with environmental requirements imposed or established after the date of the LCIRP's initial filing. Debra A. Howland, Executive Director DE 10-261 December 2, 2010 Page 3

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Alexander J. Speidel

Alexander F. Speidel Staff Attorney

Cc: Service List

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