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COMMISSIONERS Clifton C. Below Amy L. Ignatius

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND SECRETARY Debra A. Howland

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



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

June 24, 2011

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

> Re: Docket No. DG 11-069, Northern Utilities, Inc. Rate Case Proposed Procedural Schedule

Dear Ms. Howland:

Staff and the parties, including representatives of the intervenor United Steel Workers of America 12012-6, met in a technical session following the June 16, 2011 prehearing conference and propose the following procedural schedule for the Commission's consideration. (As a settlement in principle on temporary rates has been reached between the Office of the Consumer Advocate and the Company, with Staff's concurrence, no discovery or testimony on temporary rates will likely be required).

Hearing on Temporary Rates, at 10:00 a.m.

Commission Audit Begins 6/14/11-7/14/11 Rolling Data Requests to Company: Set 1 Begin 7/13/11 Company's Responses to Set 1 Data Requests Within 14 days of receipt Firm-Date Data Requests to Company: Set 2 8/17/11 Company's Responses to Set 2 Data Requests 9/7/11 Technical Sessions, at 9:00 a.m. 9/14/11 and 9/15/11 Rolling Data Requests to Company: Set 3 Through 9/21/11 Company's Responses to Set 3 Data Requests Within 14 days of receipt Final Company Responses to Set 3 Data Requests 10/5/11 Draft Audit Report Issued 10/14/11 Technical Session, at 9:00 a.m. 10/21/11 Final Audit Report Issued 10/28/11 Firm-Date Data Requests to Company re: Audit 11/9/11 Company's Responses to Audit Report D.R.'s 11/23/11 Technical Session, at 9:00 a.m. 12/14/11 Continued on Next Page

7/13/11

DG 11-069, Northern Utilities, Inc. Proposed Procedural Schedule June 24, 2011 Page 2

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| Staff/OCA/Intervenor Testimony | 1/23/12 |
|--|-------------------|
| Company's Data Requests on Testimony | 2/3/12 |
| Staff/OCA/Intervenor Responses to Co. DR's | 2/17/12 |
| Technical Session/Settlement Discussion, at 9 a.m. | 2/22/12 |
| Company's Rebuttal Testimony | 3/2/12 |
| Settlement Discussion Sessions, at 9:00 a.m. | 3/6/12 and 3/7/12 |
| Filing of Settlement, If Reached | 3/21/12 |
| | |

Hearings on the Merits, at 10:00 a.m. 3/28/12 and 3/29/12

Thank you in advance for the Commission's consideration of this proposed schedule; please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

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Alexander F. Speidel Staff Attorney

Cc: Service List (via electronic distribution)