

March 19, 2012

## BY OVERNIGHT MAIL AND E-MAIL

Debra A. Howland, Executive Director and Secretary New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission 21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10 Concord, NH 03301-2429

RE: DG 11-196

Request for Suspension of Filing Date

Dear Director Howland:

On January 31, 2012 the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") issued a Secretarial Letter moving the hearing in this matter to March 27, 2012. On Thursday, March 15, 2012, Northern Utilities, Inc. and the Commission Staff met in an attempt to settle or narrow the issues in this docket, and have agreed to continue those discussions. Accordingly, Northern and Staff request a suspension, without prejudice, of the hearing date. During the period of the suspension the parties will advise the Executive Director of their progress towards a settlement. The Office of Consumer Advocate consents to this request. Northern submits that this suspension will not adversely or unduly delay the administration of this matter nor harm or prejudice any party.

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Gary Epler

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