

ORIGINAL N.H.P.U.C. Case No. DG 11-1910 Exhibit No. April 23, 2012 NOT REMOVE FROM FILE

APR 23 2012

NH PUBLIC

UTILITIES COMMISSION

## By E-Mail and Hand-Delivery

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

RE:

**Settlement Agreement** Docket No. DG 11-196

Dear Director Howland:

On behalf of Northern Utilities, Inc. (the "Company"), and the Staff of the Public Utilities Commission ("Staff"), enclosed is a Settlement Agreement resolving all outstanding issues in this docket.

The Company and Staff request that the Commission waive the requirement of Puc 203.20(e) and accept the attached Agreement pursuant to Puc 203.20(f). In support of their request, the Company and Staff believe that acceptance of the Agreement at this time prior to the scheduled hearing will promote the orderly and efficient conduct of the proceeding and will not impair the rights of any party to the proceeding.

Please note that the Settlement Agreement has been circulated to the Office of Consumer Advocate and the United Steelworkers of America, Local 12012 ("Union"). The Union takes no position on the Agreement. As of the time of filing the OCA had not indicated its position as to the Agreement. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Attorney for Northern Utilities, Inc.

Gary Epler Chief Regulatory Counsel

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