

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



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August 7, 2014

NHPUC 7AUG14AM10:58

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

Re: DE 11-250, Public Service Company of New Hampshire
Investigation of Scrubber Costs and Cost Recovery
Staff Recommendation

Dear Ms. Howland:

On August 4, 2014, Public Service Company of New Hampshire (PSNH) filed objections to a number of data requests directed at PSNH's rebuttal testimony. Pursuant to Puc 203.09(i)(2)), intervenors have until August 29, 2014, to file motions to compel and PSNH would have until September 8, 2014, to object. It is uncertain when the Commission would rule on such motions. The Commission also established an August 22, 2014, deadline for pre-hearing motions and set a prehearing conference for September 17, 2014.

With the above schedule in mind, and given that the Commission has indicated it prefers to hold the hearing as scheduled in October, Staff suggests that the Commission appoint a hearings examiner to hold a meeting during the week of August 11, 2014. The purpose of the meeting would be to review efforts of the parties to informally resolve discovery disputes, to review the discovery standards previously established by the Commission, and to propose a schedule to expedite the Commission's rulings on motions to compel. Staff also suggests that the Commission consider changing the deadline for pre-hearing motions from August 22 to a later date. Staff does not recommend changing the prehearing conference date.

Staff has not consulted with the parties concerning this recommendation. Staff believes, however, that the orderly conduct of this proceeding would be advanced by addressing these issues now.

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Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M Sheehan", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michael Sheehan
Staff Attorney

cc: Service List (Electronically)

SERVICE LIST - EMAIL ADDRESSES - DOCKET RELATED

Pursuant to N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.11 (a) (1): Serve an electronic copy on each person identified on the service list.

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Docket #: 11-250-1 Printed: August 07, 2014

FILING INSTRUCTIONS:

- a) Pursuant to N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.02 (a), with the exception of Discovery, file 7 copies, as well as an electronic copy, of all documents including cover letter with:

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
NHPUC
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- b) Serve an electronic copy with each person identified on the Commission's service list and with the Office of Consumer Advocate.
- c) Serve a written copy on each person on the service list not able to receive electronic mail.