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**From:** M Learner <mzlearner@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 29, 2016 1:39 PM  
**To:** Carmody, Jody  
**Subject:** Comment for Docket DE 16-241

Re: DE 16-241, Eversource Petition for Tariff

Dear Ms Howland,

I am writing to express my opposition to the Eversource petition in DE 16-241 which would commit NH electric rate payers to pay for a 20 year natural gas capacity contract. Committing the public to assume the risks for a long term gas capacity contract is unacceptable on its own and sets a dangerous precedent.

Eversource represents this contract as being in the best interests of the public, yet many specific facts about this deal are deemed "confidential." All information should be immediately opened for inspection by the public. Corporations should not be permitted to conceal relevant information from public view, while simultaneously requesting that the public be required to fund deals predicated on same concealed information. At best this practice creates the perception of wrongdoing.

Additionally, it is curious that Eversource does not seek to have its own shareholders shoulder the risk of a 20 year capacity contract, as they would be the real potential beneficiaries to their company's business proposal. Instead the Eversource petition attempts to shift the risk onto a huge pool of ratepayers. This is not how NH's deregulated energy market should work.

New large capacity natural gas infrastructure and long term capacity contracts are a poor bridge to our future electricity generating needs, as they commit us to long term fossil fuel use or will be abandoned and become stranded costs. As a rate payer I believe expanded use of natural gas as a bridge fuel is bad policy and I am opposed to either scenario. NH and NE need diverse sources of energy. As a state and region we should enact smart, forward looking policies: maintain and fix what we have, expand gas only as absolutely necessary to meet short term needs, work to incentivize, expand and increase efficiency, and promote renewables as they become cost effective.

Please remember that public shareholders rely on your judgment and advocacy; deny this petition.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Marilyn Learner  
Hollis NH

Sent from my iPhone