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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
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January 18, 2023

Daniel C. Goldner, Chairman
Public Utilities Commission
21 S. Fruit Street
Concord, NH 03301-2429

Re: DE 20-161 Eversource Energy 2020 Least Cost Integrated Resource Plan, *DOE Exhibit 20 and Notice of Intent to Seek Waiver of Late Filing at Hearing*

Dear Chairman Goldner:

On behalf of the Department of Energy (DOE), enclosed please find DOE Exhibit 20 for the hearing in this docket scheduled for January 24 and 25. This exhibit is the *Technical Statement of Jay E. Dudley and Ronald W. Willoughby Regarding PSNH's 2020 LCIRP and 2020 LCIRP Supplement* (January 17, 2023). This exhibit is being filed one day after the filing deadline, and therefore at hearing DOE will ask the Commission to grant DOE's oral motion for waiver for late filing.

While mindful that the *Hearing Guidelines* (June 28, 2023) in this docket require filing five business days in advance of hearing, DOE's technical statement was not in final form until a few hours after yesterday's deadline passed. Therefore, as of the filing deadline, it was impossible for DOE to file the document. The technical statement also addresses matters that occurred well after August 26, 2022 when DOE filed its pre-filed testimony. Finally, the Commission issued a procedural order on January 17, 2023 that invited the parties to provide a status update "regarding the likelihood of a settlement agreement being filed or updates regarding their positions or any other matters of interest." Although DOE's proposed Exhibit 20 does not constitute DOE's response to that procedural order, proposed Exhibit 20 is among the types of updates the Commission sought. This is another reason to allow DOE to introduce the technical statement at hearing. *See Commission Procedural Order Re: Status Update.*

Waiver is in the public interest because the additional exhibit sheds light on important docket matters and may expedite the hearing scheduled for January 24 and January 25. In addition, it is reasonable that DOE could not file what it did not yet possess as of yesterday's deadline. Waiving the hearing guideline's January 17, 2023 filing deadline will not unduly delay the proceeding or adversely affect the rights of any

party. Excluding the exhibit would cause DOE undue hardship. Accordingly, the Commission should waive DOE's late filing, and accept Exhibit 20 for identification.

Consistent with the Commission's current policy, this letter is being filed solely in electronic form. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Mary E. Schwarzer

Mary.E. Schwarzer
Staff Attorney/Hearings Examiner
Department of Energy

Cc: Docket (electronic service)
Enclosures