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January 19, 2023

Daniel C. Goldner, Chairman
Public Utilities Commission
21 S. Fruit Street
Concord, NH 03301-2429Re: DE 20-161 Eversource Energy 2020 Least Cost Integrated Resource
Plan, *DOE's Response to the Commission's January 17, 2023
Procedural Order re: Status Update*

Dear Chairman Goldner:

On January 17, 2023, the Commission issued a procedural order asking the Department of Energy ("DOE" or "the Department") and Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy ("PSNH" or "the Company") to file a "status update" with the Commission regarding "the likelihood of a settlement agreement being filed or updates regarding their positions or any other matters of interest." *See* Procedural Order (January 17, 2023).

In response to the Commission's request, DOE states as follows: DOE does not anticipate filing a settlement agreement in this docket. Subject to DOE's recommendation that in the next two years PSNH investigate a nonwires alternatives (NWA) threshold of \$1 million for New Hampshire project(s), and further subject to DOE's position that DOE's approval of the application of N-1 criteria for DER interconnections must be contingent upon the outcome of DOE Docket No. IP 2022-001, DOE recommends that the Commission approve PSNH's 2020 LCIRP and 2020 LCIRP Supplement as consistent with RSA 378:38 and :39 requirements. *See* RSA 378:38, :39 (and common law prior to August 8, 2022); proposed Exhibit 16 (*Revised Joint Testimony of Dudley and Willoughby* filed August 26, 2022), proposed Exhibit 17 (Confidential version of Exhibit 16) and proposed Exhibit 20 (*Technical Statement of Dudley and Willoughby Regarding PSNH's 2020 LCIRP and 2020 LCIRP Supplement* filed January 17, 2023).

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 EnergyCc: Docket (electronic service)
Enclosures