

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

DE 16-241

EVERSOURCE ENERGY

Petition for Approval of Gas Infrastructure Contract with

Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC

Order on Interventions and Procedural Issues

ORDER NO. 25,886

April 22, 2016

In this order, we grant intervention requests, establish a deadline for responding to the Eversource and Algonquin motions for confidential treatment, and schedule a technical session.

I. PROCEDURAL HISTORY

On February 18, 2016, Public Service of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (Eversource) filed a Petition for Approval of Gas Infrastructure Contract between Eversource and Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC (Algonquin), which among other things provides for the release of contracted capacity to New England gas-fired electric generators. With the Petition, Eversource filed testimony of James G. Daly, James M. Stephens, Kevin R. Petak, Tilak Subrahmanian, Christopher J. Goulding, and Lois B. Jones and attachments, as well as a motion for confidential treatment.

The Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA) filed a letter noting its participation in this docket pursuant to RSA 363:28. On February 29, 2016, the OCA objected to the Eversource motion for confidential treatment.

On March 24, 2016, the Commission issued an Order of Notice scheduling a Prehearing Conference on April 13, requiring requests for intervention on or before April 11, and allowing

the filing of legal memoranda on the legality of the proposed contract on April 28 with responses to be filed by May 12.

The following parties requested intervention in this docket:

Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC (Algonquin)

Coalition to Lower Energy Costs (CLEC)

Conservation Law Foundation (CLF)

ENGIE Gas & LNG LLC (ENGIE)

Exelon Generation Company, LLC (Exelon)

New Hampshire Municipal Pipeline Coalition (Municipal Coalition)

NextEra Energy Resources, LLC (NextEra)

Office of Energy and Planning (OEP)

Pipeline Awareness Network of the Northeast, Inc. (PLAN)

Portland Natural Gas Transmission System (PNGTS)

Repsol Energy North America (Repsol)

Richard M. Husband (Husband)

Sunrun, Inc. (Sunrun)

Tennessee Gas Pipeline, LLC (Tennessee)

TransCanada Pipelines (TransCanada)

Eversource objected to the interventions by Sunrun, CLEC, PLAN and CLF.

II. COMMISSION ANALYSIS

In considering requests to intervene, we are guided by RSA 541-A:32 and N.H. Code of Admin. Rules Puc 203.17. We grant intervention to parties demonstrating that their rights, duties, privileges, immunities or other substantial interests may be affected by the proceeding. In some cases we also grant intervenor status on a discretionary basis pursuant to RSA 541-A:32,

II, if the intervention would be in the interest of justice and would not impair the orderly and prompt conduct of the proceedings.

PLAN and CLEC each assert that they represent customers of Eversource. The Municipal Coalition is made up of towns that are themselves customers of Eversource and who seek to represent their citizens who are ratepayers as well. Husband is an Eversource customer. As a result, those parties are granted intervenor status, but their participation in this proceeding must reflect the interests of residential, commercial and industrial customers, as applicable. We define those interests to be any impacts of the rates or services provided to customers as a result of the contract under consideration.

We grant intervenor status to Algonquin pursuant to RSA 541-A:32, I as a result of its status as a party to the contract under consideration in this docket.

TransCanada, PNGTS, Tennessee, Repsol, and ENGIE were all competitive bidders in the contract solicitation and we grant them discretionary intervenor status pursuant to RSA 541-A:32, II, to assist us in examining the solicitation, evaluation and selection processes.

NextEra and Exelon are both suppliers of generation services in the ISO-New England wholesale markets and thus are likely to be affected by the proposed gas infrastructure contract. We grant them discretionary intervention pursuant to RSA 541-A:32, II, to assist us in understanding wholesale market impacts of the contract under consideration.

Sunrun is a supplier of rooftop solar facilities to retail customers in New Hampshire and throughout the region. We grant Sunrun discretionary intervention pursuant to RSA 541-A:32, II, to assist us in understanding whether Eversource appropriately considered non-gas resource alternatives to the contract under consideration.

CLF is a national non-profit with an interest in environmental and climate impacts of energy policy and OEP is a sister State Agency tasked with guiding New Hampshire's energy

policy and we grant them both discretionary intervenor status pursuant to RSA 541-A:32, II, to assist us in the areas of their technical and policy expertise. Although Eversource objected to CLF's full participation in this docket, we note that Eversource's filing touts the environmental benefits of the proposal, clearly implicating CLF's area of interest.

Any parties wishing to file objections to the motions for confidential treatment filed by Eversource and Algonquin must do so on or before May 12, 2016. The parties and Commission Staff shall meet in a technical session at the Commission's offices on May 4, 2016, beginning at 10:00 a.m. The purpose of the technical session shall be to discuss a procedural schedule and discovery issues.


Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby

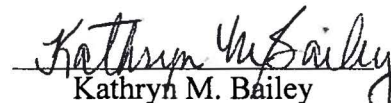
ORDERED, that the requested interventions are granted as discussed above; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that the Parties and Staff shall convene a technical session at the Commission's offices at 21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire on May 4, 2016, beginning at 10:00 a.m.; and it is


FURTHER ORDERED, that any party wishing to file an objection to pending motions for confidential treatment shall do so by 4:30 p.m. on May 12, 2016.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this twenty-second day of April, 2016.


 Martin P. Honigberg
 Chairman


 Kathryn M. Bailey
 Commissioner

Attested by:


 Debra A. Howland
 Executive Director