THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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Matthew J. Fossum, Esq. Senior Counsel Eversource Energy Service Company 780 North Commercial Street Manchester, NH 03101

Re: DE 16-308, Joint Petition of New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc., and Eversource

Energy to Alter Their Franchise Areas in Nottingham, NH

Approving Eversource Compliance Filing

Dear Mr. Fossum:

On March 12, 2018, Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (Eversource) filed a compliance proposal, as required by Order No. 25,941 (September 8, 2016), stating it had been informed that the remaining phases of the Maple Ridge subdivision in Nottingham, New Hampshire are ready for development and the developer is seeking to have electric service installed as soon as possible. That order directed Eversource to submit a proposal regarding service to customers in Phase II and/or Phase III of the subdivision prior to commencement of work related to service to customers within either of those two phases, so that the Commission could consider possible further changes to franchise boundaries at that time.

Eversource proposes to extend its facilities from Friar Tuck Lane southerly down Maple Ridge Road to the point of the wetlands buffer separating Phase I and Phase II of the subdivision. According to Eversource, the entirety of Phases II and III are located within its existing franchise area, so no franchise line adjustment is necessary, and the wetlands area creates a natural buffer between Phase I and Phases II and III. Eversource characterized Commission Staff's original concern that electric service to homes within the Maple Ridge subdivision by different utilities potentially would result in customer confusion as "unfounded in this case."

On March 28, 2018, Staff filed a memorandum recommending that, in the particular circumstances of the Maple Ridge subdivision development, the Commission approve the compliance proposal as submitted by Eversource. Staff noted it is common throughout the state to have adjacent or nearby homes served by different utilities. Staff also recognized that the existing wetlands buffer located between Phase I and Phases II and III provides a natural and reasonable point of demarcation between the homes in each of those phases to be served by separate electric utilities. Staff stated that the Eversource construction plan would minimize adverse impacts in that wetlands buffer area.

The Commission has reviewed Eversource's compliance filing and Staff's recommendation, and has determined that the Eversource construction and electric service proposal is reasonable and appropriate under the circumstances. Accordingly, the Eversource compliance proposal is approved and no further franchise line adjustment is required in connection with its implementation.

Sincerely,

Debra A. Howland Executive Director

cc: Docket File Service List