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February 17, 2014

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**Re: Application of New England Power d/b/a National Grid for a Certificate of Site and Facility for Construction of a New 230 kV Tap Line in Littleton, N.H.**

Ladies and Gentlemen:

On February 10, 2013, New England Power Company d/b/a National Grid (Applicant) filed an Application for a Certificate of Site and Facility (Application) for a new 230 kV electric transmission line to be located in Littleton, New Hampshire. The Application seeks review and approval for the siting, construction and operation of a 230 kV tap line (Facility) that would extend from the Applicant's existing C203 transmission line to the Public Service of New Hampshire (PSNH) substation located at 266 Foster Hill Road in Littleton, Grafton County, New Hampshire. The Facility is proposed to be located entirely in the Town of Littleton.

The Facility lies within an area that is primarily zoned rural, with the northern most portion zoned as Commercial III. The Facility site comprises forested land located immediately to the west of an existing right-of-way that is currently occupied by 3 other transmission lines. The existing right-of-way is approximately 400 feet wide and would be widened by approximately 135 feet to accommodate the new C203 tap line and to insure proper clearances from falling trees.

The Facility is an energy facility as that term is defined by RSA 162-H:2, VII (e). This matter has been docketed as Site Evaluation Committee number 2014-02.

It is my understanding that the Applicant has filed a copy or a portion of the Application with your agency or one was provided by the secretary of the Site Evaluation Committee. If you do not have a copy of the Application, please contact me immediately. For immediate reference, the Application is available on the Site Evaluation Committee's website at [www.nhsec.nh.gov](http://www.nhsec.nh.gov).

Pursuant to RSA 162-H:7, IV, I would ask that you conduct a preliminary review of the Application and respond in writing to me, as counsel for the Committee, prior to March 31, 2014. Please advise as to whether or not the Application contains sufficient information for your agency to review the Application and consider the issuance of permits, conditions or licenses, if any, under the jurisdiction of your agency pursuant to either state or federal law. If the Application does not contain sufficient information for this purpose, I would respectfully request that you advise me in writing as to what additional information is necessary. For your convenience, I have attached Pages 10-11 from the Application. On these pages, the Applicant lists the permits and licenses that it asserts are required for the proposed project. If your agency is listed thereon, please let me know if the permit application filed with your agency is not administratively complete and what information is missing. If you believe that the Application requires a permit, certificate or other type of license from your agency that is not included on this list, please contact me as soon as possible.

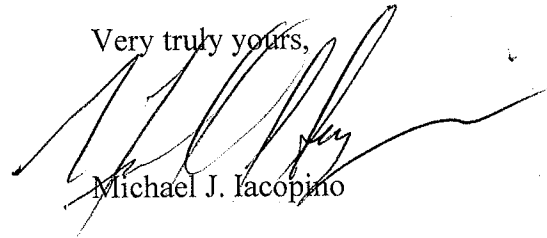
The Chairman of the Site Evaluation Committee, Thomas S. Burack, will determine whether the Application contains sufficient information to carry out the purposes of RSA 162-H. If Chairman Burack finds the Application to be complete, this matter will be scheduled for a public informational hearing and further proceedings consistent with the time frames set forth for energy facilities and RSA 162-H:7.

Finally, if the requests contained in this letter is better directed to another person within your agency, please forward this correspondence to that person and ask that he or she contact me.

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I look forward to your prompt response. If you have questions, please feel free to contact me.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael J. Iacopino", written over a horizontal line.

Michael J. Iacopino

MJI/tm

cc: Jane Murray, Secretary, NHSEC  
Barry Needleman, Esquire

(d) **INFORMATION ABOUT OTHER REQUIRED PERMITS AND APPLICATIONS**

(1) **Identification of all other federal and state government agencies having jurisdiction, under state or federal law, to regulate any aspect of the construction or operation of the proposed facility.**

The following federal and state agencies have jurisdiction over the construction or operation of the proposed Project:

- NHDES, Water Division, Wetlands Bureau (NH RSA 482-A, relative to dredge and fill in wetlands);
- NHDES, Water Division, Watershed Management Bureau (Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, related to state certification that the USACE wetlands permit complies with state water quality standards);
- NHDHR (Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and NH RSA 227-C regarding cultural resource protection);
- NHNHBB (authority under RSA 217-A, the NH Native Plant Protection Act, to review Project impacts to state-listed threatened and endangered plant species);
- NHF&G (authority under RSA 212-A, the NH Endangered Species Conservation Act, to review impacts to state-listed threatened and endangered wildlife species);
- USACE (Section 404 of the Clean Water Act relative to wetland protection);
- USFWS (Endangered Species Act of 1973 relative to protection of federally-listed threatened and endangered species); and
- New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission (“PUC”) (general regulatory jurisdiction over the operation (but not construction) of transmission facilities under RSA 362:2 and RSA 374:3).

(2) **Documentation that demonstrates compliance with the application requirements of such agencies.**

Information satisfying the application requirements of such agencies with jurisdiction has been included within the agency application forms contained in the Appendices listed in the following Section d.(3).

In addition, NEP concluded that the Project did not require a determination of “no hazard” to air navigation from the Federal Aviation Administration in part because the Project will not exceed 200 feet in height above ground level. See 14 CFR § 77.9.

The New Hampshire Department of Transportation (“NHDOT”) has regulatory authority over highway safety, including the transportation of oversized loads. NEP and its contractors have not yet determined whether any aspect of Project construction will be subject to NHDOT jurisdiction, but if so, NEP and/or its construction contractors will obtain the requisite permits or provide the requisite notice.

**(3) A copy of the completed application forms for each such agency.**

Appendix D: Joint NHDES/USACE Standard Dredge and Fill Permit Application

Appendix J: NHDES Section 401 Water Quality Certification Request

Appendix G: NHDHR Request for Project Review

**(4) Identification of any requests for waivers from the information requirements of any state agency or department whether represented on the committee or not.**

The Applicant has not requested waivers from any state agency or department and does not intend to do so.

**(e) ENERGY FACILITY REQUIREMENTS**

The proposed C203 Tap Line is an “energy facility” as that term is defined under RSA 162-H:2, VII(e) because it is “[a] new electric transmission line of design rating in excess of 200 kilovolts.”

**(1) The type of facility being proposed**

The facility is a new 230 kV transmission Tap Line approximately 0.2 miles long that will connect NEP’s existing C203 line to the Littleton Substation owned by PSNH.

**(2) A description of the process to extract, produce, manufacture, transport, or refine the source of energy**

N/A

**(3) The facility’s size and configuration**

The new C203 Tap Line is a 230kV line spanning from the existing C203 line to the proposed bus structure inside Littleton Substation. The Tap Line will be approximately 1160 feet (0.2 miles) in length and will consist of four wood pole transmission structures. These structures include a 35-foot, 3-pole terminal dead