

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE**

**Application of New England Power Company d/b/a National Grid for
Certificate of Site and Facility for Construction of a New 230kV Tap Line in Littleton,
New Hampshire**

Docket Number 2014-02

April 25, 2014

**ORDER ACCEPTING APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF SITE
AND FACILITY**

Background

On February 10, 2014, New England Power Company d/b/a National Grid (Applicant) filed an Application for a Certificate of Site and Facility (Application). The Applicant petitions the Site Evaluation Committee (Committee) for a Certificate of Site and Facility (Certificate) in order to site, construct and operate a new 230kV tap transmission line (Facility) in the Town of Littleton in Grafton County. The Applicant proposes to construct a new 230kV tap transmission line off of the Applicant's existing C-203 transmission line to a substation in Littleton located at 266 Foster Hill Road and owned by Public Service Company of New Hampshire (PSNH).

The site where the Facility is proposed to be constructed is primarily zoned as rural and the northern most portion of the site is zoned as Commercial III. The site comprises forested land located immediately to the west of an existing right-of-way that is currently occupied by three other transmission lines. The existing right-of-way is approximately 450 feet wide and would be widened through tree clearing by approximately 135 feet to accommodate the new tap line and to insure proper clearances from falling trees. The new C-203 tap line is proposed to be a 230kV line spanning from the existing C-203 line to a proposed bus structure inside the Littleton substation. The tap line will be approximately 1,160 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 end structure, 2 H-Frame suspension structures at 70 and 80 feet tall, respectively, and one guyed 80 foot H-Frame dead end structure. The spacing and height of the structures will be similar to the spacing and height of the structures on the adjacent D-204 tap line. The conductor (795ACSR “Drake” Model) will span the structures in three phases beginning with the 3-pole terminal dead end structure and ending at the bus. Two 3/8 inch 7-strand extra-high strength (“EHS”) steel shield wires will begin at the second tap structure and will terminate at the substation bus. The Applicant has filed project plans which are included in the Application as Appendix K.

The Applicant represents that the purpose of this Facility is to provide power to a second autotransformer that PSNH will install in the Littleton substation in order to address the reliability needs for the New Hampshire and Vermont areas that have been identified by ISO-NE.

Copies of the Application have been made available to each state agency appearing to have jurisdiction under state or federal law to regulate the construction or operation of the proposed Facility pursuant to RSA 162-H:7, IV. On February 17, 2014, the Committee, through counsel, advised those state agencies of the Application by letter. In his letter, counsel requested that agencies with jurisdiction over portions of the Application advise the Committee if the Application contained sufficient information for the exercise of that agency’s jurisdiction. Additionally, counsel also wrote to the Town of Littleton, the Selectboards of the surrounding towns, and the regional planning commission, North Country Council. Counsel advised each of the municipal authorities and the planning agency of the process available to make their views about the proposed project known to the Committee.

State Agency Review

To date, the Committee has not received information from any state agency suggesting that the Application does not contain sufficient information to carry out the purposes of RSA 162-H or to permit the review required by any state agency.

On February 27, 2014, the Department of Transportation responded to counsel's letter indicating that, other than overweight vehicle permits, there does not appear to be any aspect of the construction of the project that will be subject to the jurisdiction of the Department of Transportation. Overweight vehicle permits cannot be obtained until such time as the project is to be constructed.

On March 5, 2014, the Division of Historical Resources reported that they have made a determination in this matter that there is no potential to cause effects.

On March 25, 2014, the Water Division of the Department of Environmental Services responded to counsel's letter and indicated that the information provided in support of the wetlands application and the Section 401 water quality certification application is sufficient for review.


Sufficiency and Acceptance of Application

A comprehensive review of the Application reveals that the Application has provided all information required by RSA 162-H and by the Site Evaluation Committee rules codified at NEW HAMPSHIRE CODE OF ADMINISTRATIVE RULES, Site 301. Based upon the preliminary review of the Application by the Committee as required by RSA 162-H: 7, IV, the Committee finds that the Application contains sufficient information to carry out the purposes of RSA 162-H. The Application is hereby accepted and deemed to seek the issuance of a Certificate of Site and Facility for an energy facility as defined in RSA 162-H:2, VII.

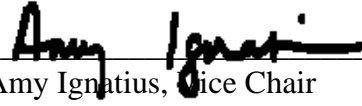
On April 7, 2014, at a duly noticed public meeting, the Committee voted to accept the Application.

Therefore, the Application is hereby accepted and this matter shall proceed in accordance with the procedures set forth at RSA 162-H and NEW HAMPSHIRE CODE OF ADMINISTRATIVE RULES, Site 200 *et seq.*

So ordered:



Thomas S. Burack, Chairman
Department of Environmental Services



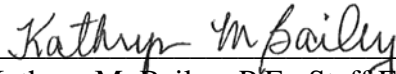
Amy Ignatius, Vice Chair
Public Utilities Commission



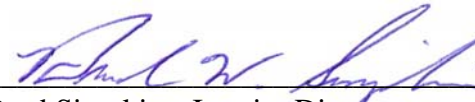
Robert Scott, Commissioner
Public Utilities Commission



Martin Honigberg, Commissioner
Public Utilities Commission



Kathryn M. Bailey, P.E., Staff Engineer
Public Utilities Commission



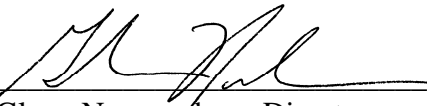
Brad Simpkins, Interim Director
Dept. of Resources & Economic Dev.
Division of Forests & Lands



Philip Bryce, Director
Dept. of Resources & Economic Dev.
Division of Parks & Recreation



Jeffrey Rose, Commissioner
Dept. of Resources & Economic Dev.



Glenn Normandeau, Director
Fish & Game Department



Meredith A. Hatfield, Director
Office of Energy and Planning