

New Hampshire Fish and Game Department

HEADQUARTERS: 11 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH 03301-6500 (603) 271-3421 FAX (603) 271-1438

www.WildNH.com e-mail: info@wildlife.nh.gov TDD Access: Relay NH 1-800-735-2964

March 6, 2015

New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee c/o David K. Wiesner, Staff Attorney N.H. Public Utilities Commission 21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10 Concord, NH 03301

Re: New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee Rulemaking, Docket No. 2014-04

Dear Mr. Wiesner:

As Executive Director of the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department, I respectfully submit the following comments with regard to the proposed amendments to Site 100, 201-204, and 300 (Notice 2015-11 and 2015-12).

The Fish and Game Department does not regulate or issue permits for any aspect of any proposed energy facility, and therefore, is not included in the list of agencies with "permitting or other regulatory authority" pursuant to RSA 162-H:7-a, I. However, because of the potential for significant adverse effects from the construction of these facilities on the wildlife resources of the state, the Fish and Game Department has often been involved in proceedings before the Site Evaluation Committee.

In order for the Department to be adequately informed of applications for certificates under RSA 162-H, the rules should specifically require a copy of each application be forwarded to the Department. Per RSA 162-H:7-a, III, the receipt of the application by the Department would start the 30 day window in which the Department would be required to inform the committee of its desire to participate. Timely receipt of the application would also allow the Department to decide whether to intervene, per RSA 162-H:7-a, VI, in a timely fashion.

A proposed amended version of Site301.10 (Filing) follows:

Proposed Site 301.01 Filing.

(a) Each applicant for a certificate for an energy facility shall file with the committee one original and <u>16</u> paper copies of its application and an electronic version of its application in PDF format, unless otherwise directed by the chairperson or the administrator.

(b) The committee or the administrator shall:

(1) Acknowledge receipt of an application filed under Site 301.01(a) in writing directed to

the applicant;

REGION 1 629B Main Street Lancaster, NH 03584-3612 (603) 788-3164 FAX (603) 788-4823 email: reg1@wildlife.nh.gov REGION 2 PO Box 417 New Hampton, NH 03256 (603) 744-5470 FAX (603) 744-6302 email: reg2@wildlife.nh.gov REGION 3 225 Main Street Durham, NH 03824-4732 (603) 868-1095 FAX (603) 868-3305 email: reg3@wildlife.nh.gov

REGION 4 15 Ash Brook Court Keene, NH 03431 (603) 352-9669 FAX (603) 352-8798 email: reg4@wildlife.nh.gov (2) Forward a copy of the application and acknowledgment to each member of the committee **and to the Fish and Game Department**; and

(3) Post a copy of each application on the committee's website.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Glenn Normandeau Executive Director