

780 North Commercial Street Manchester, NH 03101

William J. Quinlan
President, N. Handid Operations

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May 5, 2017

Mr. Todd Selig Durham Town Administrator Town of Durham 8 Newmarket Road Durham, NH 03824

RE: Durham Historic Association's questions about SRP's Preliminary Site Work

Dear Mr. Selig:

In December, the town shared their concerns raised by the Durham Historic Association (DHA) regarding potential damage to cultural and natural resources within our right of way as a result of the soil boring work conducted for the Seacoast Reliability Project. In our letter dated December 23, 2016, we explained that we thoroughly reviewed the concerns raised by the DHA, noted that Eversource is committed to ensuring it is respectful of identified cultural and natural resources, and proposed a site walk with the regulatory agencies and the DHA to provide further assessment of the area.

I am pleased to inform you that we completed a site walk on Monday, April 10, 2017. Eversource facilitated the site walk and were joined by two representatives of the DHA, Mr. Karo and Mr. Sandberg, as well as officials from the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources (DHR), Mr. Boisvert and Ms. Feighner, and the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (DES), Mr. Price.

The site walk covered a stretch of right of way in Durham extending from Timber Brook Lane to LaRoche Brook. The assembled group reviewed each of the locations noted to be areas of concern by the DHA as described in the town's December letter to Eversource. A cordial and productive discussion occurred throughout the duration of the site walk. Upon completion of the site walk, Mr. Price of the DES stated that he did not observe any wetland violations as a result of the soil boring activity; however, he encouraged the DHA to report any concerns they might have to his office and he would certainly investigate. Mr. Boisvert and Ms. Feighner of the DHR also did not note any significant damage to cultural resources as a result of the soil boring activity; but likewise noted that they are always open to receiving and investigating concerns reported to their office. Eversource staff members echoed the sentiment of the agencies, noting that reported concerns will

be investigated in a timely and professional manner. In summary, the participants in the site walk did not identify the damage referenced in the town's December letter.

We hope this site walk reinforces the importance that Eversource places on protecting these sensitive resources. We are committed to addressing any concerns that may arise and, of course, will be employing protective measures to avoid any impacts. We will continue working with you, the DHA, the DHR and the DES to ensure preservation of these important resources.

Sincerely,

William J. Quinlan

President, NH Electric Operations

cc: Ms. Elizabeth Muzzey, State of NHDHR

Mr. Dave Keddell, US Army Corps of Engineers

Attorney Christopher Aslin, Assistant Attorney General, & Counsel for the Public

Ms. Pamela Monroe, Administrator, New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee

**Durham Town Council** 

Ms. Nancy Sandberg, Durham Historic Association

Mr. Peter Stanhope, Chair, Durham Heritage Commission

Ms. Martha Roy, Town Administrator, Town of Newington

Mr. Christopher Clement, VP for Finance & Administration, UNH

Attorney Douglas Patch, Orr & Reno, Attorneys at Law