



ADAM M. DUMVILLE  
Direct Dial: 603.230.4414  
Email: adam.dumville@mcclane.com  
Admitted in NH and MA  
11 South Main Street, Suite 500  
Concord, NH 03301  
T 603.226.0400  
F 603.230.4448

**Via Electronic Mail**

January 20, 2017

New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee  
Pamela G. Monroe, Administrator  
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10  
Concord, NH 03301

**Re: SEC Docket No. 2015-04: Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a  
Eversource Energy for a New 115 kV Transmission Line from Madbury Substation  
to Portsmouth Substation  
Applicant's Uncontested Motion to Stay Procedural Schedule**

Dear Ms. Monroe:

Enclosed for filing in the above-captioned docket, please find the Applicant's Uncontested Motion to Stay Procedural Schedule.

Please contact me directly should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Adam Dumville".

Adam M. Dumville

AMD:slb  
Enclosure

cc: Distribution List

McLane Middleton, Professional Association  
Manchester, Concord, Portsmouth, NH | Woburn, Boston, MA

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**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE**

**SEC DOCKET NO. 2015-04**

**APPLICATION OF PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
D/B/A EVERSOURCE ENERGY  
FOR A CERTIFICATE OF SITE AND FACILITY**

**APPLICANT'S UNCONTESTED MOTION TO STAY PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE**

NOW COMES Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy ("PSNH") (the "Applicant"), by and through its attorneys, McLane Middleton, Professional Association, and respectfully requests that the Site Evaluation Committee ("SEC" or the "Committee") stay the procedural schedule as set forth in the Presiding Officer's Order of December 28, 2016 until such a time that the Applicant files an Amendment to its Application for a Certificate of Site and Facility.

1. On April 12, 2016, PSNH filed an Application for a Certificate of Site and Facility before the New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee ("SEC" or the Committee") to construct a new 12.9 mile 115 kV transmission line and associated facilities from the Madbury Substation in Madbury through the Towns of Durham and Newington to the Portsmouth Substation in Portsmouth (the "Project"). The Committee accepted the Application on June 13, 2016.

2. As part of the Application, the Applicant indicated that it was pursuing additional land rights to construct the Project underground in the Newington Center Historic District and in the Hannah Lane residential neighborhood. The Applicant further indicated that should PSNH obtain the necessary rights and approvals, it would submit an amendment to its Application. At

the time of the original filing, the Applicant had anticipated filing an Amendment prior to the commencement of discovery.

3. Since filing the Application, the Applicant has continued to work closely with the Town of Newington and Newington residents to obtain the necessary land rights and approvals. As noted in the Application, the Darius Frink Farm in Newington is subject to an agricultural conservation easement. To construct the Project underground across the Darius Frink Farm, PSNH was required to seek an amendment of this conservation easement by obtaining approvals from the Town of Newington, the Rockingham Conservation District, the United States Department of Agriculture, and the New Hampshire Department of Justice.

4. On December 28, 2016, the Committee issued a Revised Procedural Schedule and Order governing dates for discovery, technical sessions, and a timeframe for commencing the final adjudicative hearings. Included in the revised schedule was a deadline for the Applicant to file an amendment to its Application for the procedural schedule to proceed as outlined in the December 28 scheduling order.

5. To date, however, the Applicant has not yet received all necessary regulatory approvals to amend the conservation easement. As of January 20, 2017, the Applicant has successfully obtained the necessary land rights and received approval to amend the conservation easement from the underlying landowner, the Town of Newington, the Rockingham Conservation District, and the New Hampshire Department of Justice. The Applicant has further submitted a completed application package to the Natural Resources Conservation Service ("NRCS") (within the United States Department of Agriculture) seeking its approval to modify the conservation easement to construct the Project underground across the Newington Center Historic District. While the Applicant has not yet received a final determination from NRCS, the

Applicant currently believes that a decision from NRCS could be received in mid-February. Once a decision is made, the Applicant will subsequently notify the Committee and all parties of NRCS's decision to grant or deny the request to modify the conservation easement. Should NRCS grant the request to modify the conservation easement, as anticipated, the Applicant will be able to file its amendment to the Application thereafter. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully requests that the Committee temporarily suspend the procedural schedule until the Applicant files the Amendment.

6. The Applicant proposes that the SEC issue an Order regarding scheduling that includes the following components:

- a. Within one week after filing the Amendment, the Applicant, after consultation with other parties, will file a new proposed procedural schedule;
- b. If the Applicant and other parties cannot reach agreement on the schedule, other parties may file their own proposal;
- c. Exactly two weeks after the Applicant files its Amendment, Counsel for the Public and intervenors shall propound data requests upon the Applicant. The additional data requests shall relate only to the Amendment to the Application and to the Normandeau Report titled "Characterization of Sediment Quality Along Little Bay Crossing, submitted by the Applicant on December 1, 2016." The total number of data requests for any party shall not exceed 65; and
- d. The Applicant shall respond 10 days after receiving data requests from Counsel for the Public and intervenors.

7. The following parties have assented to the motion: Counsel for the Public, the Town of Durham and the University of New Hampshire as one party, the Town of Newington, the Conservation Law Foundation, and the Nature Conservancy. The following parties could not be reached despite a good faith effort to do so: the Durham Point Abutters, Helen H. Frink, Fat Dog Shellfish Company, and the Durham Historic Association.

WHEREFORE, the Applicant respectfully requests that the Committee:

- A. Grant the Applicant's request to stay the Committee's December 28, 2016 Procedural Order; and
- B. Grant such other further relief as is deemed just and appropriate.

Respectfully Submitted,

Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a  
Eversource Energy

By its attorneys,

McLANE MIDDLETON  
PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

Dated: January 20, 2017

By: Adam Dumville

Barry Needleman, Esq. Bar No. 9446  
Adam Dumville, Esq. Bar No. 20715  
11 South Main Street, Suite 500  
Concord, NH 03301  
(603) 226-0400  
barry.needleman@mclane.com  
adam.dumville@mclane.com

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2017, an electronic copy of this Motion was filed with the Site Evaluation Committee and an electronic copy was sent to the Distribution List.



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Adam Dumville