# STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE

October 17, 2016

Docket No. 2015-04

Application of Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy for Certificate of Site and Facility

### PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

#### Introduction

This Order establishes the procedural schedule for the balance of the adjudicative proceedings in this matter.

#### Background

On April 12, 2016, Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy filed an Application for a Certificate of Site and Facility (Application) with the Site Evaluation Committee (Committee). The Application seeks the issuance of a Certificate of Site and Facility approving the siting, construction, and operation of a new 115kV electric transmission line between existing substations in Madbury and Portsmouth (Project.) The new transmission line will be approximately 12.9 miles in length. The project is comprised of a combination of above ground, underground, and underwater segments. The Project will be located in the Towns of Madbury and Durham in Strafford County and the Town of Newington and the City of Portsmouth in Rockingham County.

On April 29, 2016, pursuant to RSA 162-H:4-a, the Chair of the Committee appointed a Subcommittee in this docket (Subcommittee). On June 13, 2016, the Subcommittee issued an Order finding that the Application contained sufficient information to carry out the purposes of

RSA 162-H. On August 31, 2016, the Subcommittee conducted a site visit.

Pursuant to the Procedural Order, a prehearing conference was held on September 7, 2016. At the pre-hearing conference, the parties agreed in principle to the terms of a pre-hearing process. This Procedural Order sets forth the pre-hearing process and schedule that will be utilized in this docket:

#### **Procedural Order**

The following procedural schedule shall apply for the balance of the adjudicative proceedings in this docket:

- 1. State agencies shall report progress, draft permits and draft conditions 150 days after acceptance of the application-on or before November 10, 2016;
- 2. Counsel for the Public and intervenors shall propound data requests upon the Applicants on or before November 16, 2016;
- 3. The Applicant shall respond to data requests propounded by Counsel for the Public and intervenors on or before December 9, 2016;
- 4. A technical session with Applicant's witnesses shall be conducted on December 19 and 21, 2016;
- 5. Counsel for the Public and intervenors shall disclose expert witnesses, if any, and shall provide pre-filed testimony on or before January 15, 2017;
- 6. State agencies shall issue final permits and conditions, if any, 240 days from acceptance of the Application -on or before February 8, 2017;
- 7. The Applicants shall propound data requests on Counsel for the Public and intervenors on or before February 8, 2017;
- 8. Counsel for the Public and intervenors shall respond to data requests on or before March 7, 2017;
- 9. A technical session with witnesses for Counsel for the Public and intervenors shall be conducted on March 21 and 22, 2017;

10. Supplemental pre-filed testimony shall be due from all parties on or before April 5, 2017;

11. The parties shall file statements of stipulated facts and any other stipulations on or before April 12, 2016;

12. The final pre-hearing conference shall be conducted on April 13, 2016; and

13. The final adjudicative hearing (estimated time needed for hearing is 5 days) shall commence on or about April 17, 2016.

Unless otherwise ordered, all technical sessions, prehearing conferences and adjudicative hearings in this docket shall be conducted at the offices of the Public Utilities Commission, 21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire.

A copy of this Procedural Order shall be provided to the Applicant and to all parties in accordance with the N. H. CODE OF ADMIN. RULES, Site 202.07.

## **Additional Discovery Requests**

In the event that an amendment to the Application is filed, Counsel for the Public and the Intervenors shall have 14 days from the date the amendment is filed to proffer additional discovery requests limited to the information provided in the amendment. Counsel for the Public and Intervenors may proffer up to 15 additional discovery requests. The Applicant will provide responses to the discovery requests within 14 days after the deadline for the discovery requests.

SO ORDERED this seventeenth day of October, 2016 by the Site Evaluation Committee.

Robert R. Scott, Presiding Officer

Site Evaluation Committee