

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE**

Docket No. 2015-04

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

May 5, 2017

ORDER ON MOTION TO POSTPONE TECHNICAL SESSION

Technical sessions with the Applicant's witnesses are scheduled in this docket on May 30, June 7, and June 12, 2017.

On April 18, 2017, the Town of Durham and the University of New Hampshire (Durham/UNH) filed a Partially Assented-to Motion to Postpone Technical Sessions. Durham/UNH requests rescheduling of the technical sessions with the Applicant's witnesses until after the final agency recommendations are submitted. Durham/UNH asserts that postponing the technical sessions will promote administrative efficiency and will not unduly delay the proceeding.

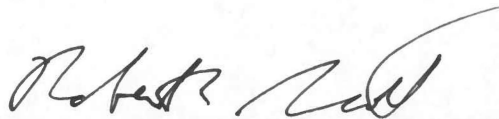
On April 26, 2017, the Department of Environmental Services requested an extension of the deadline for the issuance of permits and conditions to August 1, 2017. An order on the pending DES request is forthcoming.

The Applicant objected to Durham/UNH's request on April 25, 2017. The Applicants assert that the schedule for the technical sessions was mutually agreed to by the parties and that Durham/UNH waived its right to request postponement by agreeing to the proposed schedule. The Applicant also claimed that granting Durham/UNH's request will be prejudicial to the Applicant and will not comport with the customary procedural practice of the Committee.

Notwithstanding the pending DES request for an extension of time, postponing the

technical sessions for the Applicant's witnesses at this stage of the proceeding is not warranted. Technical sessions provide a form of informal discovery and avail the parties and their experts to engage in a dialog to better understand the pre-filed testimony and the reports that are filed. The Intervenor has already received sufficient documentation and information to enable them to conduct effective discovery and questioning of the Applicant's witnesses about their pre-filed testimony. Durham/UNH's Partially Assented-to Motion to Postpone Technical Sessions is denied. Technical sessions shall proceed as scheduled.

SO ORDERED this fifth day of May, 2017.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert R. Scott", is written over a horizontal line.

Robert R. Scott, Presiding Officer
Site Evaluation Committee