STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE

November 28, 2018 - 9:05 A.M. 49 Donovan Street Concord, New Hampshire
\{Electronically filed with SEC 12/13/18\}
IN RE: 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.
(SEC Deliberations)

PRESENT FOR SUBCOMMITTEE/SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE:

Patricia Weathersby (Presiding Officer)

David Shulock, Esq. Elizabeth Muzzey, Dir.
Charles Schmidt, Admin. Christopher Way, Dep.Dir. Michael Fitzgerald, Dir. Susan Duprey

ALSO PRESENT FOR THE SEC:
Michael J. Iacopino, Esq., Counsel for SEC Iryna Dore, Esq.
(Brennan, Lenehan, Iacopino \& Hickey)
Pamela G. Monroe, SEC Administrator
(No Appearances Taken)
COURT REPORTER: Susan J. Robidas, LCR No. 44
\{SEC 2015-04\} [DELIBERATIONS - DAY 1 MORNING ONLY] \{11-28-18\}

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resources, fish habitat; coordination with its waste management division. And there were many conditions concerning Little Bay crossing. It also required the Applicant to pay $\$ 349,834.26$ to the Aquatic Resource Mitigation Fund and execute a conservation easement on 10 acres of land in Newington. We also have further correspondence from DES regarding this permit dated August 31, 2018. It contains text corrections and some modifications to permit conditions that it agreed to. DES also amended its suggestion regarding a jet plow trial run and proposed that the Applicant undertake the trial run 21 days before the cable installation.

We then received correspondence
from DES on October 29, 2018, entitled
"Revised Final Decision," containing the permit terms and conditions as amended by the letter received from DES on August 31, 2018. The Revised Final Decision and the Annotated Revised Final Decision do not provide information, but incorporate information that was previously provided by DES into one
single document. Later on in these proceedings we will decide how to handle these last documents from New Hampshire DES. There is also a Shoreland Protection Permit issued from New Hampshire DES. This was needed because the Applicant intends to perform construction, trenching and tree-cutting activities within the 250-foot shoreline buffer in order to bury the transmission cables that will cross Little Bay and to expand the existing transmission line corridor as necessary.

On May 12th, 2016, DES Water Division issued three Shoreline Impact Permits for gundalow Landing in Newington, Main Street in Durham and Durham Point Road in Durham. These permits also contained numerous project-specific conditions. The August 31 and October 30 correspondence from DES also addressed those permits. There was an Alteration of Terrain Permit from DES, Section 401 Water Quality Certificate. On February 28, 2018, DES issued a final decision recommending approval
of the Alteration of Terrain Application, subject to a number of project-specific conditions. And as $I$ understand it, since construction of the Project will involve the discharge of dredge or fill material into the surface waters of the United States, it also required Federal Clean Water Act, Section 404, Permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. On February 28, 2018, DES issued a final decision stating that the Army Corps of Engineers indicated that the Section 404 General Permit, the New Hampshire Programmatic General Permit, applies to this project. DES further advised the Subcommittee that it has determined that compliance with the 401 Quality Water Certification for the current Programmatic General Permit and the conditions for the Alteration of Terrain Permit and the Wetlands Permit provide reasonable assurance that construction and operation of the Project will not violate surface-water quality standards.

While not set forth as conditions
to the environmental permits, New Hampshire DES has also recommended that the Subcommittee consider having the Applicant conduct a more thorough evaluation of the horizontal directional drilling method for installing cable under Little Bay and conduct a jet plow trial run without the cable in Little Bay.

Next state agency is New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources. On August 1, 2017, DHR submitted its final report for this project. DHR confirms its determination of no effect on archeological sites and confirms its determination of adverse effect on four above-ground historic resources, those being: Alfred Pickering Farm, Durham Point Historic District, Little Bay Underwater Cable Terminal Houses and the Newmarket and Bennett Road Farms Historic District in Durham. DHR also advises the Subcommittee that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers determined that the Project will have an adverse effect on the Little Bay Underwater Cable Terminal Houses Historic

District.
The Applicant entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with DHR and a Memorandum of Agreement with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, where the Applicant agreed to minimize the visual impact of the Project on the Alfred Pickering Farm by using a weathering steel $H$-frame structure and publishing a publicly-oriented booklet that will provide a brief history of agriculture in Newington from its founding to the present.

The Applicant agreed to minimize the Project's impact on stone walls located within Durham Point and the Newmarket and Bennett Roads Farms Historic Districts by not traversing the walls, traversing the walls through existing breaches, traversing the walls using timber matting, or placing work pads on top of timber matting to elevate the work pad above the walls. DHR then requested certain conditions, should we decide to issue the certificate, including compliance with such memorandums.

We've also heard from the state fire marshal. The Applicant filed an e-mail from the Assistant Director/Deputy State Marshal, dated February 9, 2015, where the Department of Safety Office of the Fire Marshal determined there's no need for it to be involved in the planning of this project.

Department of Transportation. The Applicant requested DOT authorize seven aerial crossings over state highways; requested DOT grant the Use and Occupancy Agreements required for limited access right-of-way crossings; an excavation permit for the disturbance of pavement, shoulders and slopes on the north side of Route 4 in Durham and a Turnpike Encroachment Permit application for a temporary encroachment agreement in the area near Exit 1 off the Spaulding Turnpike. DOT has not yet filed its final decision/report/recommendation. The last we have from DOT is a November 21, 2017 progress report. That report contains two general comments and eight site-specific comments regarding concerns or lack thereof
for certain road crossings.
The Public Utilities Commission. On March 10, 2017, PUC issued an Order Nisi granting the applications to construct and maintain electric lines, neutral wire and fiber optic cable over and across the Oyster River and under Little Bay in the Town of Durham, over Pickering Brook and under Little Bay in the town of Newington with certain conditions. That order became final on April 10, 2018. Then, on January 29, 2018, PUC advised the Subcommittee that the Applicant revised the Project's design as it relates to Little Bay public water crossing that was previously approved by the PUC. But it determined there was no need to revise its order.

On June 14, 2018, the PUC issued another order granting the Applicant's petition for seven licenses to construct and maintain electric lines, neutral wire, fiber optic cable over and across public lands owned by the State of New Hampshire in Durham. That Order became effective on

July 14, 2018.
Last, on October 5, 2018, the PUC determined that two additional crossings of parcels located in Newington that are maintained by DOT are within licensing jurisdiction of DOT under New Hampshire RSA 231:161.

There's been a question raised as to whether the Applicant needs to advise the PUC of its intent to use concrete mattresses so that the PUC can confirm that its license to cross Little Bay remains valid. Maybe we could discuss that. It's my understanding that the PUC license requires compliance with the National Electric Safety Code, which requires protective mechanical support, which the Applicant did indicate that such support would be used.

Would anyone on the Committee like to comment further concerning this question as to whether the Applicant needs to go back to the PUC concerning its intent to use concrete mattresses? Mr. Shulock?

MR. SHULOCK: I don't see any reason
for the Applicant to go back to the PUC if the Applicant informed the PUC that it would be using mechanical devices to protect the line.

PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Does anyone else on the Committee feel differently or would like to add anything?
[No verbal response]
PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Okay. I'll move on then. Oh, Chris. I'm sorry. Mr. Way.

MR. WAY: I just wanted to say that I agree with Mr. Shulock. I don't think it has to go back to the PUC for that matter.

PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY:
Director Muzzey.
DIR. MUZZEY: I would also note that we will be talking about the concrete mattresses probably under the other categories we'll be considering. So at that time we'll address the concrete mattresses as they relate to some other criteria that we'll be looking at. But $I$ agree as well with the comments about the licensing issue and the PUC.

PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: SO
there's also been another question raised concerning the PUC permits, licenses. There's a question as to whether Governor and Council approval is needed to install the Project in Little Bay through state waters. Would anyone care to comment on whether they believe Governor and Council approval is necessary? Mr. Way.

MR. WAY: The way $I$ understand it, this is not an easement. But this is a license, and the license permits a crossing. This is not something, for example, that would be the disposition of state lands or modification of state lands. It's not something that I think would come up, for example, before the Council on Regional Development. That would then be the precursor to going to the $G$ and C. It's a crossing. And my understanding is that, for utilities, this is a very common occurrence. But this isn't something I think would rise to the level of having to go to $G$ and $C$. I think the license that is provided by PUC is sufficient for this matter.

PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Mr. Schmidt.

MR. SCHMIDT: I just wanted to state I agree with Mr. Way. This is a permission to be under the bay, not a property right. So I do believe the PUC license is appropriate.

PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Ms. Duprey.

MS. DUPREY: I also agree with that. That doesn't mean that the Applicant couldn't have sought an easement. But it wasn't looking for one. It was looking for a license, which is routinely by PUC, which PUC has the authority to grant. So I don't see a reason to send them to the Governor and Council. Thank you.

PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: I
guess I would also point out that it's a license that can be revoked. It's not necessarily permanent. And even things like the concrete mattresses, the cables themselves, can be required to be removed. Probably something we should take up in decommissioning if and when that occurs and should be in the 015-04\} [DELIBERATIONS - DAY 1 MORNING ONLY] \{11-28-18\}
plan. But $I$ agree that it's a license and not any grant of a property right which would require going for further approval with Governor and Council required by the statute. So I think we can move on from there.

I think that's all of the permits and licenses, so now we'll move more into the meat of the evidence.

First topic we're going to take up is the financial capability of the Applicant to assure that construction and operation of the Project is adequate, and then we'll move into managerial and technical capability of the Applicant to construct and maintain this project. This is me again. You'll hear a lot of my voice here for the next bit.

So, the relevant statutes and rules we need to be thinking of are RSA 162-H:16, which requires us to find that the Applicant has adequate financial, technical and managerial capability to assure construction and operation of the facility in continuing compliance with the terms and conditions of the Certificate.

And then regarding our rules, Site 301.04, which requires the Applicant to include certain kinds of financial information, and then also further in the statute, technical and managerial information. And as it goes to our analysis, the rule is 301.13 . For financial capability, when we determine whether or not the Applicant has the financial capability to construct and operate the Project, we are to consider the Applicant's experience in securing financing to construct and operate energy facilities, similar to the proposed facility; the experience and expertise of the Applicant and its advisors; the Applicant's statement of current and pro forma assets and liabilities; and financial commitments the Applicant has obtained or made in support of the construction and operation of the facility. And there is a stipulation by the Applicant and Counsel for the Public that the Applicant has experience in securing funding for financing the construction and operation and maintenance of similar transmission line
projects. Counsel for the Public generally believes they have met these requirements, and there's been no intervenors suggesting that the Applicant does not have the financial capability to construct and operate the proposed facility. The Applicant, of course, believes it has proved its financial capability. It said it's based on its financial strength and not of its parent, Eversource, and Eversource's experience financing, constructing and operating similar projects.

The Applicant estimates that the
Seacoast Reliability Project is going to cost $\$ 84$ million to construct, plus or minus 25 percent. In addition, the Applicant will have smaller expenses, much smaller expenses in promises to the towns, financial guaranties for road damage, contractors, police detail, et cetera. But I think we can use $\$ 84$ million as its cost estimate. Of course, if this Committee requires the Applicant to do full HDD, or even partial HDD, that will increase the cost of this
project significantly. If it's fully HDD rather than jet plow, that will be an additional $\$ 132$ million over the $\$ 84$ million, so a total $\$ 216$ million.

The Applicant's primary witness regarding financial capability was Aaron Cullen. Mr. Cullen is the manager of Middle Office and Credit for Eversource in Connecticut. He adopted the testimony of Michael Auseré, who was a vice-president of Energy Planning and Economics.

The Applicant intends to finance construction of the Project with its own cash and some short-term borrowings from its parent, Eversource. The short-term debt will be refinanced with long-term debt issued in the credit markets. The parent company, Eversource, may also provide capital contributions. Once the line is built, if it's built, but once the line built, it's expected that FERC will allow the Applicant to establish transmission service rates to recover its annual costs associated from the Project from its ratepayers. Of course, if
we do require $H D D$, those costs -- there's a risk that those costs may not be regionalized but borne by New Hampshire ratepayers. We can discuss that later on.

There are updated financial
statements, corporate structure charts, et cetera, in the Applicant's Application. There's balance sheets showing liabilities and capitalization of three and a half billion dollars, roughly, in 2015. That's Exhibit 47. And Exhibit 49 is a December 31, 2015 balance sheet, assuming the Seacoast Reliability Project is in effect and costs 78 million, about 3.6 billion. Exhibit 194, assuming Seacoast Reliability Project is in effect, it'll cost 84.3; it's pro forma total liability and capitalization of 3.68 billion. There is an organizational chart in the record as well showing its structure. Its parent, of course, is Eversource. And from 2012 to 2015, Eversource has invested 750 million in new energy infrastructure. Its corporate credit rating is A, Baa1, and BBB+ from Standard \& Poor's, Moody's and

Fitch rating services respectively.
Eversource was listed as No. 367 on the 2015 Fortune 500 list of the largest U.S. companies with an equity market capitalization of approximately 16 billion. Its stock trades on the New York Stock Exchange. The Applicant declares that it's the highest-ranked U.S. utility holding company by Standard and Poor's.

I should note that in the Merrimack Valley project, not a binding precedent, but this Committee -- or a different

Subcommittee, but the SEC found that
Eversource had the financial capability to construct and operate that project, which of course was much smaller. In the more recent Northern Pass, no final decision was made on this point, but the members were polled, and the result was the Committee members believed that Eversource had the financial capability to construct and operate that much larger project.

They do have insurance. PSNH and
its construction contractors will carry
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adequate insurance to provide coverage against liability and damage resulting from construction or operation of the Project. It's comparable to other projects of the same size and character. All those premiums and other costs of liability and property insurance, et cetera, will be able to be recovered under rates approved by FERC.

So that's kind of my summary on the financial capability of the Applicant. Is there any discussion concerning this? Mr. Way.

MR. WAY: Thank you for the good overview. I think you've said pretty much everything. I think where I'm coming from, my thought has been in the very last piece that you mentioned about some of the previous findings. The Merrimack Valley Reliability and Northern Pass -- once again, even though that maybe didn't go to fruition -- my recollection was that the financial capability was not a significant issue. When you look at the size of a project like that, $I$ think that finding the financial capability was there I think is
convincing to me. So I think the financial piece of this is relatively secure. I think we'll have to keep that in mind as we talk about maybe some of the other pieces that you mentioned that might add significant costs that may not be recoverable. But I think, from my part, I think we have the financial capability to meet this requirement.

PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Anyone else who would like to speak? Ms. Duprey.

MS. DUPREY: Yes, Madam Chair. I don't recall there being a lot of issue on the financial capability and wondered if in your review you found much in the cross-examination. I didn't. And I just wanted to check with you about that. I didn't find that this was an area that there was a lot of dispute over. And I know that Counsel for the Public has reached a stipulation with the Applicant on it, which is important as well.

PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: This wasn't an area of great controversy at all. No intervenors raised it as an issue, so Counsel for the Public has agreed that the financial
capability is there.
MS. DUPREY: Thank you.
PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Is there anyone who disagrees with anything that I've stated? And if not, should we adopt those as findings of fact? Go ahead, Director Muzzey.

DIR. MUZZEY: Question: Are you looking at just now the financial capability or the technical and the managerial as well?

PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Just financial.

DIR. MUZZEY: Thank you. No concerns.

PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Okay. So we're going to do a poll as to how people feel and whether the Applicant has the financial -- get my words right -- financial capability to construct and operate the Seacoast Reliability Project. If you feel as though they do, say "Yes"; if you feel as though they do not, say "No."

Mr. Fitzgerald.
MR. FITZGERALD: Yes.

PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Ms. Duprey.

MS. DUPREY: Yes.
PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Mr. Way.

MR. WAY: Yes.
PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Mr. Schmidt.

MR. SCHMIDT: Yes.
PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Mr. Shulock.

MR. SHULOCK: Yes.
PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY:
Director Muzzey.
DIR. MUZZEY: Yes.
PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: And I believe so as well.

Okay. So I think we'll move on then to technical and managerial. We tend to take these together because they're kind of meshed together, shall we say.

So, again, I'll start with what the relevant statute and law is. The statute is 162-H:16 which I referenced before, where we 015-04\} [DELIBERATIONS - DAY 1 MORNING ONLY] \{11-28-18\}
must find that they have -- the Applicant has adequate financial, technical and managerial capability to construct the Project. And then there's Rule 301.04 , which is what the Applicant must provide us, what information the Applicant must provide so we can make these determinations, and then 301.13 , which is the criteria that we are to review.

Concerning technical capability, we are to consider the Applicant's experience in designing, constructing and operating energy facilities similar to the proposed facility, and the experience and expertise of any contractors or consultants engaged or to be engaged by the Applicant to provide technical support for the construction and operation of the proposed facility known at the time.

And concerning managerial
capability, we are to consider the Applicant's experience in managing the construction and operation of energy facilities similar to the proposed facility and the experience and expertise of any contractors or consultants engaged or to be
engaged by the Applicant to provide managerial support for the construction and operation of the proposed facility, if known at the time.

We do have some stipulations between Counsel for the Public and the Applicant on technical and managerial Capability. First one was No. 8 of the Stipulation. The Applicant has constructed and currently operates thousands of miles of high-voltage transmission lines. Eversource and its subsidiaries serve approximately 3.6 million customers across three states. Specifically in New Hampshire, Eversource is responsible for operating 780 circuit miles of 115 kV , 8 miles of 230 kV , and 252 miles of 345 kV transmission lines, and about 204 active transmission and distribution substations.

And Stipulation No. 9, examples of transmission projects completed by Eversource include the Merrimack Valley Reliability Project, the Y138 transmission line project, the J125 transmission line project, the Y170
transmission line project, the Long Island Replacement Cable project and the Falmouth to Martha's Vineyard cable project.

And then Stipulation 10, the Applicant and its selected contractors have experience in designing, constructing, operating and maintaining similar transmission facilities throughout New England.

Counsel for the Public, in its brief, indicates that he believes PSNH has met its burden. Counsel for the Public does ask for a condition to ensure that the Applicant follows Best Management Practices, including independent monitoring and strong enforcement powers.

The intervenors' position on this:
Durham Historic Association also requests independent monitors for Best Management Practices and asks that the monitor answer to an entity other than the Applicant, and the choice of the independent monitor responsible for historic resources should be approved by the SEC, the towns and New Hampshire DHR.

Mr. Fitch states his position that the Applicant has hired consultants to assist and advise with the jet plow, and that to him suggests they don't have the technical capability.

Dr. Miller questions why there's still so many unanswered questions concerning Little Bay, the mattresses, jet plow effects, et cetera.

Jeff and Vivian Miller believe the technical and managerial capabilities are lacking because of 16 different reasons, including that alternate routes were not sufficiently explained; the project didn't Consider impact to Little Bay prior to the ISO decision; number of incomplete testing concerning Little Bay. There's a number of them that are laid out. I won't read them all unless someone would like me to. But they're in Mr. and Mrs. Miller's testimony, and they're summarized in their brief.

Durham and UNH assert that there's
a lingering question as to whether
the Applicant has the requisite technical and 015-04\} [DELIBERATIONS - DAY 1 MORNING ONLY] \{11-28-18\}
managerial capabilities, given that jet plowing has never been done in New Hampshire. The Applicant, not surprisingly, states that it has sufficient technical and managerial capability to construct and operate the Project in compliance with the certificate. Its parent, Eversource, operates one of the largest utility systems with 3.6 million Customers in New England. And they're an Edison Award recipient for transmission ownership and providing services. They specifically point to the recent completion of the 9.8 Merrimack Valley Reliability Project as further and recent proof of its capability to construct and operate this project.

The Applicant has retained various experts to assist with the Seacoast Reliability Project. And as I said, under the rules we are to consider the experience and expertise of contractors or consultants engaged by the Applicant to provide the mechanical or technical support. They've engaged Power Engineering to provide 015-04\} [DELIBERATIONS - DAY 1 MORNING ONLY] \{11-28-18\}
technical support for the design and construction of the Project. Power Engineering has, according to the Applicant, they've got extensive experience in design and construction of high-voltage lines. They, too, are an Edison award winner. They also have substantial experience in design and construction of underground transmission lines.

Leidos Engineering, L-E-I-D-O-S, is a contractor for upgrades and additions that will be required for two substations. They have extensive experience in engineering and designing substations, including work on over 300 substation, distribution and transmission lines projects.

LS Cable America, they're going to be responsible for manufacturing and installing the underwater portion of the Project to cross Little Bay. They have extensive experience installing and maintaining underwater electric transmission lines. I think we heard testimony about installation of the 32 kilometer transmission
cable system in the waters between Block Island and mainland Rhode Island as part of the Block Island Wind Farm Project. And another one, they were installing an underwater cable system for the New York Power Authority.

Once the Project is completed, it will become part of the interconnected transmission network operated by ISO-New England. It's not believed that there will be a lot of maintenance on the Project once built. Routine maintenance, such as replacing damaged insulator discs, damaged wires; patrolling; typical, routine maintenance; vegetation management.

For the cables under Little Bay, the Applicant has represented that typically little to no maintenance is required on buried submarine cables. If a break occurs, the cable would be cut, raised to the surface, a section of the cable spliced in, laid on the sea floor or diver-buried and covered with articulated concrete mattresses. We heard some testimony about all that from 015-04\} [DELIBERATIONS - DAY 1 MORNING ONLY] \{11-28-18\}
the construction crew.
That's kind of my summary on
technical and managerial capability. Anyone have any thoughts or comments concerning all this? Mr. Schmidt.

MR. SCHMIDT: Yes. Can you just go back to the second intervenor you listed? I wasn't sure who that was. But also, they indicated certain conditions.

PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Durham Historic Association? So there's been a few suggested conditions. CFP has asked for conditions to ensure that the Applicant follows Best Management Practices, including independent monitoring and strong enforcement powers. Durham Historic Association also wants that. They asked that the monitor answer to somebody other than the Applicant. I'm not sure if they're thinking SEC or -- but they're saying answer to someone other than the Applicant, and that whoever is the independent monitor, they'd like that person to be selected -- I'm sorry. It can be selected by Eversource, but it has to be approved by the

SEC, the towns affected and New Hampshire DHR. So those were the conditions suggested by the intervenors and Counsel for the Public.

MR. WAY: Can I ask a quick question for clarification on that?

PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Yes.
MR. WAY: With that in front of you, is that for historic resources alone, there be an independent monitor for historic resources?

PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Yes.
The DHR -- sorry. Durham Historic Association was that the independent monitor responsible for historic resources be approved by the SEC, the towns and New Hampshire DHR. Sorry I wasn't clear.

MR. WAY: The one question $I$ have is, and maybe others can chime in on this, how that works. When we assign things to the SEC to do following these proceedings, and maybe we get into a procedural legal issue. But if we're to approve, if we're to choose, how does that work?

MS. DUPREY: I'm not sure that we're
choosing --

MR. WAY: Well, in other words, if we have to be involved in the selection process for an independent monitor, if we're getting something that comes back to us that requires a decision on our part -- and maybe this all is Pam, you know, it falls under her. But when we say the SEC, after everything is done --

PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: I don't know if it would be Pam or whether the Committee would have to meet. I guess we could -- I don't know if we can delegate to the Administrator. I mean, I think it's kind of dangerous to have the SEC appointing monitors, I think, personally. Maybe if they want us to tell them who they are or get towns to sign off or DHR -- whoever they choose will hopefully be qualified. But if we want to check on it, that's fine. I'm leery of having the SEC choose or even approve an independent monitor.

But would that be Pam? If we delegate, if we were to go that route, do we delegate to Pam, or would we need to meet and approve the monitor?

MR. IACOPINO: Yes, you do delegate
that authority to the Administrator or to any state agency.

MS. DUPREY: Madam Chair, could you just quickly recite the specific request again? I'm sorry. I wasn't focused enough on it.

PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: I may be paraphrasing slightly. I'd have to go back and sift the words that they really chose, but as I understand it, Counsel for the Public wants a condition that, for the construction and operation of the Seacoast Reliability Project, that the Applicant will follow Best Management Practices, including independent monitoring and strong enforcement of powers. I think those are probably typical conditions that we would put in anyway. And then Durham Historic Association says, with regard to the independent monitor responsible for historic resources, that that person should be approved by the SEC and also by the towns, presumably Newington and Durham, and by New Hampshire Division of Historic Resources. They want -- I think they want to be sure that whoever is being chosen as the independent monitor
responsible for historic resources, that person is highly qualified.

MS. DUPREY: And independent. And Attorney Iacopino, can we delegate that ability to choose the monitor to DHR if we wanted to? MR. IACOPINO: Yes.

MS. DUPREY: And someone said it is common for us in our decisions to require independent monitoring -- is that the case -for construction, for Best Management Practices in construction?

PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Yes. MS. DUPREY: Okay.

PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY:
Director Muzzey.
DIR. MUZZEY: I have a number of thoughts about this type of thing. I think there's a difference between having a state agency choose an independent monitor as opposed to review and approve the choices made by the Applicant. I hesitate to assign any state agency the responsibility of going through the process of choosing an independent monitor because it's a lot of work. I don't think most
state agencies would be interested in taking on that type of responsibility. However, the responsibility of reviewing the process, the criteria, as well as the way the independent monitor will function and the monitor qualifications, I think that's the type of thing that state agencies are more used to doing and have done in previous SEC proceedings. So I think our words should be very careful if we choose this type of condition and very cognizant of the resources available to state agencies to do this type of work.

MR. WAY: And Director Muzzey, in your experience, is this necessary? Is there a value to it? Or can -- in your experience, is it necessary?

DIR. MUZZEY: In my experience with SEC proceedings, as well as with the regulatory responsibilities of my agency, the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources, there's not been emphasis on the idea of independent monitoring to the degree that there has been with this project. There seems to be,
unfortunately, a level of distrust between the Applicant and local advocates for the resources within their communities. And if having an independent monitor serves to rebuild that trust, $I$ think there is value in it.

MR. FITZGERALD: May I ask a
question? When we say "independent monitor," to me "independent" means they don't -- they're not beholding to the Applicant. Does that include financially? I mean, I think there's -- I'd at least like to understand the difference between the Applicant hiring someone to monitor its project or someone else hiring, you know, someone else selecting a monitor that the Applicant pays for. I don't know if I'm clear here or not. But it seems to me that independence has -- you know, how is a monitor considered to be independent if they report to the Applicant?

DIR. MUZZEY: I agree that that is very difficult to define. And as I -- in talking with Mr. Way, it has not been done before. And so we would have to -- if we choose to go this route, we would have to very
carefully define how that process would work and --

MR. FITZGERALD: It seems to me that to be independent, the monitor would have to be selected by someone other than the Applicant. You know, payment is another -- contracting and payment is another situation. But $I$ just think we're getting into kind of some difficult territory here if we start, you know, if we decide that they have to be independent. What truly is "independent"?

PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: I
think I may have misspoken earlier when I said that this is routine, independent -- the monitoring by an entity other than the Applicant is routine. But using, you know, Normandeau Associates, for example, for environmental monitoring, you know, who's going to sweep the line and all that stuff, you know, that's someone engaged by the Applicant to perform these tasks. I guess maybe they're not independent, you know, independent, qualified, et cetera. But I think in the past, at least the projects I've worked on, it's been somebody
selected by the Applicant, paid for by the Applicant, who works in concert with the state agency -- you know, DES or DHR, DOT -- to fulfill the requirements of the certificate. I hope that helps.

Director Muzzey.
DIR. MUZZEY: And I also wanted to note that within Counsel for the Public's post-hearing brief there's a paragraph about, notwithstanding the evidence of the Applicant's ability to manage large, complex construction projects, including evidence that the Applicant has contracted with experienced contractors and engineering consultants, there's always a risk that the Applicant or its contractors will fail to implement or follow Best Management Practices during construction or maintenance work. If the Subcommittee issues a certificate to the Applicant, the Subcommittee should include conditions to ensure the implementation of appropriate Best Management Practices and sufficient independent monitoring with strong enforcement powers to ensure compliance and to deter non-compliance.

So this is a request for independent monitoring over all aspects of construction and maintenance. This is a long-term suggestion as it covers maintenance as well. It covers all the areas that could be affected, not just the wishes of the Durham Historic Association to do historical independent monitoring. And it also addresses strong enforcement powers to deter non-compliance. So that brings into, for me, the question of who enforces and how. So this is a rather large request that hits a lot of areas and does raise some questions that I don't know if the SEC has grappled with in the past.

PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: I'm going to throw something out there. I don't know if this is the time to be getting in the weeds on this. It almost seems like when we review impacts on historical resources that we decide is an independent monitor -- what are the dangers there, and is the independent monitor necessary or not. Environmentally, you know, there's a lot of environmental issues
here. Should we take up the conditions for each type of impact at the time that that's addressed, or do we want to try and solve this now? I almost think it's -- not to just punt it down the road, but $I$ almost think it's better to deal with then. Right now we're deciding whether the Applicant has the capability to construct -- managerial and technical to construct and operate the facility. If people feel as though they do not, unless there is independent oversight, that would be why we would want to deal with it now. If people feel as though they have the technical capability to construct and operate and we want to talk about specific conditions later, that would be the way to do it.

Mr. Way.
MR. WAY: Yeah, I'm a little torn. I believe they have the managerial and technical capability to do this. I'm sensitive, though, to what's being said, the concern that maybe an independent monitor is needed. But before I buy into that, I think I would want a lot more discussion because I think, you know, 015-04\} [DELIBERATIONS - DAY 1 MORNING ONLY] \{11-28-18\}
particularly if it's just by the historic association, let's look at them. That opens the door for other independent monitors in other different places. If we take Counsel for the Public's request, Director Muzzey says that that's a big issue, and it has a lot of different weeds to it. And so I'd be fine with putting that off until another point. But I'm okay with the managerial and technical at this point, and maybe we have a discussion later.
(Discussion off the record between Presiding Officer and SEC Counsel.)

PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: SO I'm reminded that the standard is whether they have the technical and managerial capability to construct and operate the proposed facility, paraphrasing, in compliance with all the conditions in the certificate. So this can be addressed later on. Because, you know, if we impose an independent monitor, you know, do they have the technical and managerial capability to work with an independent monitor? I think my answer in my mind is yes.

So the issue is: Do they have the
technical and managerial capability to construct and operate the proposed facility in compliance and conformance with the conditions that we may impose upon them?

MS. DUPREY: Even that seems
premature to me because that's encompassing the conditions that we don't -- haven't set yet.

But I just wanted to go back to my previous question to you, so that as I listen to the testimony -- or I listen to our deliberation, rather, $I$ have this in mind, because I'm hearing some concern about the monitoring side of things. And I'm wondering if what we've routinely done in the past is require that someone build to Best Management Practices, or is it that there's an independent monitor overseeing it, and what process have we used.
(Discussion off the record between Presiding Officer and SEC Counsel.)

PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: SO I'm told that it happens both ways. But I'm also reminded that a number of Best Management Practices have been agreed to between Counsel
for the Public and the Applicant in Exhibit 193 --

MR. IACOPINO: Beginning at Paragraph 8.

PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY:
Beginning at Paragraph 8. There's been a number of them agreed to between the Applicant and the Counsel for the Public.

MS. DUPREY: Right. And do we normally require independent monitoring of them?

PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: I'm not sure it's "normally," but I understand it has been done. Attorney Iacopino has more longevity --

MR. IACOPINO: Purely from a historical viewpoint, independent monitors have been required by condition generally in the environmental area. I'm not sure I remember a case where we had an independent monitor for historic resources.

MS. DUPREY: Or for general construction, I assume.

MR. IACOPINO: Yeah, I don't -- to
the extent -- I don't recall any such conditions in the past with respect to the general issues of construction.

MS. DUPREY: Okay. Thank you. Madam
Chair, I just wanted to note that in the record, as I recall it, there was a lot of cross-examination of -- and forgive me, I'm not going to remember of the name of the cable company right at this moment -- of their capability to construct across the Little Bay, jet plowing, laying the cable. And I just thought we should touch on that before we get to a point of making any kind of a decision.

And I just wanted to note for myself that, while $I$ did not find the gentleman who was testifying for them to be a particularly good witness or skilled witness, I did think that the Company itself had a lot of background in this. And I felt confident in their ability, reading the materials that were supplied to us about this company, while noting that he didn't necessarily do as much justice to the company as someone else may have. Thank you.

PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: So we had two witnesses. I think we had Mr. Wall and then we had Mr. Dodeman.

MS. DUPREY: Mr. Dodeman I thought was very strong and inspired a lot of confidence in his ability. I do note that both of them had a great deal of experience in the jet plowing field. But I thought it was important to get out there that in cross-examination there was skepticism about their ability to do this. I didn't share it after reviewing everything, but $I$ just thought it was important to note.

PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Mr. Fitzgerald.

MR. FITZGERALD: I agree with that statement, and I think the issue needs to be discussed. But I wanted to go back to the independent monitor. I wanted to clarify. Did you say this was a request of the DHA, that Counsel for the Public had at least indicated that they agreed that the independent monitor might be necessary, or did I get two things mixed up there?

PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: SO, Director Muzzey, could you read that language again that Counsel for the Public is specifically requesting?

DIR. MUZZEY: So in the post-hearing brief for Counsel for the Public, bottom of Page 8, "If the Subcommittee issues a certificate to the Applicant, the Committee should include conditions to ensure the implementation of appropriate Best Management Practices and sufficient independent monitoring with strong enforcement powers to ensure compliance and to deter non-compliance."

So, although in my interpretation DHA had specific concerns in regard to historical resources within the town of Durham, the Counsel for the Public had a more broad concern and request as it was described in what $I$ just read.

MR. FITZGERALD: So I would tend to agree that, while this discussion is better had in terms of the individual evaluations of water quality and historic and stuff, it seems to me that this seems to -- what we seem to be being 015-04\} [DELIBERATIONS - DAY 1 MORNING
told here is there's a certain feeling that the Company does not have the technical and managerial capabilities, and therefore it's asserted that an independent monitor is necessary. I'm not sure that I agree with that. But it seems to me that we ought to determine whether they have -- whether we feel they have the appropriate technical and managerial capabilities. And I think there are nuances with that, especially relative to Great Bay -- Little Bay. But I'm not sure that resolving this question -- the question of whether they have the technical and managerial capability $I$ think comes first.

PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: SO I'm going to point out that in the stipulated proposed conditions by Eversource and Counsel for the Public, Eversource does agree to use independent environmental monitors for environmental issues, including overseeing the work at Little Bay. It's No. 25, Exhibit 193. I can read it.
"Further Ordered that, the
Applicant shall use independent environmental
monitors to oversee the construction of the Project and to work with contractors to implement appropriate Best Management Practices to avoid and minimize environmental impact. The Applicant shall also use independent DES-approved environmental monitors to oversee work in Little Bay." MR. FITZGERALD: Well, it's certainly going to be one of my thoughts was that state agency involvement should be limited to approval, review and approval, as opposed to selection and -- I certainly agree with Director Muzzey on that issue. But I guess I still have the concern that, you know, is this necessary is a separate question from do they have the technical capabilities.

PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY:
Director Muzzey.
DIR. MUZZEY: In my opinion, there are two other factors which feed into this discussion, and one of those is the nature of the Project area itself. We have a project that's traversing seven historic districts, as well as a project that's crossing Little Bay, 015-04\} [DELIBERATIONS - DAY 1 MORNING ONLY] \{11-28-18\}
which also has national significance from a natural resource perspective. So where the question of the Applicant's managerial abilities may feed into this, it's also the very, in my opinion, the very sensitive nature of the area this project is traversing.

Another factor which I think feeds into this, particularly as it relates to historical resources, is within the proceeding itself we saw a number of mapping issues that were resulting from the use of dated data sources, a lack of integration of report findings among the consultant team -the current consultant teams working on the project. And that lead to a host of confusion among intervenors, as well as the Applicant and their testimony and questions from this Committee. So, for me, those are the two factors which may also be contributing to the need for an independent monitor. And I'm sure as we get into each of the subject matters we can address specific conditions that are responsive. But it's the nature of the Project area, as well as the
some of the confusion that existed in regard to mapping during this proceeding.

PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Ms.
Duprey.
MS. DUPREY: On a slightly different topic, but related to construction, I would just raise the fact that several of the intervenors, in my recollection, raised questions about the, I'm going to use the word "capability," they might use the word "trustworthiness" of the Applicant to do the work that is necessary around their particular properties. And while, again, I have confidence in the Applicant to do what they're authorized to do by our permit, were we to grant one, $I$ do want to raise the fact that there was a lack of confidence expressed by a number of intervenors in their briefs and in their cross-examination. And I just think it bears our notation of that concern. And perhaps if other people have comments they want to make -- but particularly with the Millers with their driveway, Ms. Heald with various matters related to her property, whether she
will in fact have water and what the conditions of having water would be, moving her plants -there are other issues around that, that we don't need to get into. But $I$ just think it's important since we are talking about their technical ability, I think were they here and speaking, they would say they question their technical ability to do this right, let me put it that way.

PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: So are
you then suggesting an independent monitor or monitors --

MS. DUPREY: No, not suggesting anything. Just want to be sure that as we summarize the totality of the comments that were made to us, which you did an excellent job of, $I$ just think it's worth noting that not everyone shares my comfort that the Applicant has the ability to construct this project, and I just think it should be part of our deliberation.

PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Mr.
Way.
MR. WAY: I think those are good
comments. You know, as I look at this, we're looking at three things: We're looking at technical ability, then we're looking at maybe faith and trust that what is going to be -what is said will be done will be done. So when you look at a lot of the comments from the intervenors, they may not have the faith that the vegetation that would be replanted will be sufficient to address the views. There may not be the faith that the road will be rebuilt to a spec as good or better than the road that was disturbed. So I think we have to make sure that we're separating things out, particularly, you know, if there's areas of trust. I keep thinking about what Director Muzzey said, you know, that there's a little bit of distrust. There has to be something behind that beyond just concern. And so when I look at the technical capability and I look at some of the testimony that came up of, well, what exactly are the concerns with their technical capability versus what is your faith that they'll be able to implement it, they were two different things. I don't have an issue --
well, I shouldn't say I don't have an issue. But I'm fairly comfortable with the technical capability of the Company. I looked at the subcontractors. I think personally, particularly in tune to LS Cable and they're able to do the crossing, $I$ was interested in their prior experience. Obviously they had some experience in Rhode Island. Less concerned about the fact that they haven't done it here in New Hampshire. I think their experience in other areas is adequate to the task.

I think in terms of the
Construction Panel, I feel comfortable. I find Mr. Bowes to be persuasive in his ability to describe the construction. So I think from a technical capability, I feel comfortable.

In terms of faith and trust, I think that's part of our job maybe to look at some of the conditions that help to put that in place. I'm hesitant to go the independent monitor route just because we're addressing this trust. I'd like to think that we can
somehow put something in place in the BMPs that might be in the conditions that helps to restore that trust. But $I$ think we have to acknowledge that and that that is a concern from the intervenors. But I'd like to think we can sort of suss that out with the process.

PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: I
think, too, that there is a level of distrust. And there are a number -- the Applicant needs to be accountable in some way to deliver on everything they're delivering, they said they would deliver on -- you know, Frink Farm having soils put back that will match so that the grass or the hay will be the same to reflect that landscape. And we can go on with a number of hundred of examples. So I personally think independent monitors are appropriate for environmental issues such as that and for all of the issues regarding Little Bay and the wetlands. These are some really important resources. Probably for historic as well. But as far as whether a tree they planted didn't grow, they didn't give me enough water, those
sort of things I think don't need to involve an independent monitor.

Eversource has a complaint process. They've got somebody manning the phone that's going to address these issues that come in. They're keeping people informed as to when they're in the area, making sure there's access to people's houses. I think there's an alternative process for sort of the access and vegetation type of issues. But I think that some of the others they're almost at a different level. Not to minimize by any means someone not being able to get in driveway. That's a huge inconvenience. There could be an emergency issue. So I don't mean to minimize that. But there are other effects that have much broader, I guess, implications.

MR. WAY: And I guess maybe I didn't -- I wasn't as clear as I wanted to be. But in terms of the environmental monitor, I do agree with that. I think it's just when you branch out into all the other areas. I'm not sold on the historic piece yet, but obviously
can be convinced. But I do agree with the condition, and I think both sides agree to that as well. So $I$ just want to make that clarification.

MR. FITZGERALD: Madam Chair.
PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Mr.
Fitzgerald.
MR. FITZGERALD: I'd like to assert that I heard nothing during the proceedings that would suggest that the Company doesn't have the strongest intent to operate in good faith and address issues that arise during construction, nor was anything brought to my attention that suggested that previously they had not done so. You know, I think any project of this size there are issues. I think there's something inherent in individuals trying to deal with a large corporate entity that is doing a massive project and trying to navigate a government process such as this, that there's a natural level of, you know, distrust sometimes. But I want to be careful that we -you know, $I$ heard a number of issues raised.

But constantly during whatever it's called,
re-cross, I heard rebuttal to those issues and testimony that the Company had tried to connect with people, tried to make good-faith efforts. I will say I'm not sure that their communication and outreach was the best in terms of, you know, actually meeting and dealing with people as opposed to e-mails and so on. But it seems to me that they -- again, I'd like to have some discussion on Little Bay, that they have the technical and managerial capability here. And we can have a discussion on the sides, you know, on independent monitoring and so on and what role it might play. But it also seems to me we ought to recognize there are enforcement procedures and that, if someone has a problem, A, they have a dispute resolution process; $B$, someone can always come to the SEC and file a complaint, you know, if something hasn't been done properly and so on and have it investigated. And, you know, I mean, I know that's happened on prior projects. There have been buildings built where they weren't supposed to be built and so on. So I think we have to understand
that, you know, that's the reason for enforcement, for compliance and enforcement efforts, is that we don't -- we can never guarantee that everything will be done perfectly. But if it's not, there is a procedure to ensure that it is done in compliance. So I think we need to keep that in mind.

PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Ms.
Duprey.
MS. DUPREY: I think that's a great
point. And I would just add that I was reviewing the dispute resolution process, which is Applicant's Exhibit 268, just now. And I don't know that we could do this, but one thing we might be able to do would be to add a Paragraph 5 under B that allows people to come in and complain about the tree died or the tree didn't get planted, whatever the promise was that the Applicant made that didn't happen, that that might help to take care of things in a different way than a lot of independent monitors. So, just a thought. Not anything we need to discuss now. I don't know if we have
the power to do that. That's something perhaps our counsel could consider over the course of deliberations. But it's just a thought.

MR. IACOPINO: There have been other instances where the Site Evaluation Committee has required the Applicant to appoint an ombudsman for just those types of concerns. MS. DUPREY: Create another way of handling it. Okay. Thanks.

PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY:
Attorney Iacopino, could you remind us of the enforcement mechanisms that are in our rules if someone has an issue.

MR. IACOPINO: Sure. Enforcement is obviously covered in the statute. But our rule is a little more specific. "Whenever the Committee or the Administrator as designee determines on its own or in response to a complaint that any term or condition of an issued certificate is being violated, it shall give written notice to the person holding the certificate of the specific violation and order the person to immediately terminate the violation." And then there's a process that
goes on after that if there's not compliance, or ultimately there would be a hearing before a subcommittee of the Site Evaluation Committee and a determination made if there's in fact a violation; and if there is, what should be done about it. And if there is still intransigence on the part of the certificate holder, they can be fined in the superior -- the case can be brought to the superior court and they can be fined I think up to $\$ 10,000$ per day. So there is an enforcement mechanism, and it can be generated as a result of a complaint from anybody.

MR. FITZGERALD: And do individual agencies have enforcement with proceeding -capabilities relative to their permits and -MR. IACOPINO: If it's in their permit. When you adopt the permit, you're adopting the conditions of that permit, and they may have enforcement capabilities therein. Typically they're not entitled to enforce the certificate, but you can delegate to them to require -- you can delegate to a state agency to require an Applicant to do certain things.

And if there is then a violation, the state agency reports to the Committee. If they can't resolve it with the Applicant, they report it to the Committee for enforcement.

MR. FITZGERALD: Well, I guess that's what I'm asking. Suppose there was a shoreland or wetlands violation that was discovered by someone, reported it to the DES. Would --

MR. IACOPINO: Experience is that DES talks to the Applicant and it gets resolved. That's the experience. And if it doesn't --

MR. FITZGERALD: I mean, there's --
(Court Reporter interrupts.)
MR. IACOPINO: And if it doesn't,
then it would be reported to the Site Evaluation Committee and it could begin an enforcement process.

MR. FITZGERALD: You know, we have several mechanisms, you know, administrative or by consent, you know, and so on. So would those routine -- it seems to me what I'm hearing is the Committee's only ability is to say the violation occurred and impose -(Court Reporter interrupts.)

MR. FITZGERALD: Seek a -- impose some sort of fine. I think I heard you just refer to a certain amount per day or something like that.

MR. IACOPINO: I'm sorry. I didn't mean to limit it to that. You can also suspend the certificate.

MR. FITZGERALD: Right. But I'm just saying does the agency have the ability to enforce its own permit in the way that it normally would?

MR. IACOPINO: I can't give advice to the state agencies in terms of what they should do. But I would recommend state agencies always follow their own policies.

MS. DUPREY: I don't think that he's asking for advice. I think the question is: Does the state agency have the power to enforce its permit, or is that vested in the SEC?

MR. IACOPINO: Ultimately it's vested in the SEC. If you look at the statute, RSA 162-H:12 provides enforcement authority to the Site Evaluation Committee. But enforcement of the certificate is not something that the Site 015-04\} [DELIBERATIONS - DAY 1 MORNING ONLY] \{11-28-18\}

Evaluation Committee can delegate.
MR. FITZGERALD: Mike, I'm looking at RSA 162-H:12 Paragraph V -- IV.
"Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, each of the other state agencies having permitting or other regulatory authority shall retain all of its powers and duties of enforcement." I think that --

MR. IACOPINO: Right. That's correct. But they can't suspend the certificate --

MR. FITZGERALD: No.
MR. IACOPINO: All right. So we're on the same page.

MR. FITZGERALD: Yeah. My question was we can address a shoreline violation that wasn't restored correctly through our normal enforcement procedures.

MR. IACOPINO: Right, but you can't suspend the certificate or --

MR. FITZGERALD: Right. Right,
that's... that's very clarifying. And I think that, as I said, I really think we need in this discussion on monitoring, we need to consider 015-04\} [DELIBERATIONS - DAY 1 MORNING ONLY] \{11-28-18\}
the fact that there is reason for compliance and enforcement efforts by the agencies. So...

MR. IACOPINO: I'm sorry. I misunderstood what you were asking.

MR. FITZGERALD: Yeah, thank you.
And I misunderstood what you were answering.
PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: I
think we need to resolve this one way or another. The issue before us is whether the Applicant has adequate technical and managerial capability to assure the construction and operation of the facility and continuing compliance with the terms and conditions of the certificate. If we are to impose whatever terms and conditions you can think of, do you think that the Applicant has the managerial and technical capability to comply. We could vote on that now. Or we can try to work out some certificate conditions regarding monitoring and then poll everyone. I mean, I think if we assume any conditions we can think of, including an independent monitor, do people have concerns about the Applicant's financial -- sorry -- managerial and technical 015-04\} [DELIBERATIONS - DAY 1 MORNING ONLY] \{11-28-18\}
capability to construct this project, construct and maintain this project?

Mr. Fitzgerald.
MR. FITZGERALD: So, for me, the question is completely resolved in terms of their capabilities, other than the Little Bay crossing. And I tend to agree with Mr. Way. We can look at LS Cable's capabilities and so on. And I felt pretty comfortable. It wasn't clear to me, and I don't know if anyone -- has Eversource ever -- Eversource is the ultimate manager of this project. They're hiring the subcontractor. The subcontractor seems to have the requisite qualifications. But was there any information provided in the Application that Eversource itself had previously managed this type of a project? Whether it's in New Hampshire or not, I don't think that's relevant.

PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY:
Concerning submarine --
MR. FITZGERALD: Submarine cable installation.

PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: There
was the one that went from the Cape to Martha's Vineyard.

MR. FITZGERALD: That was an
Eversource project.
PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY:
Eversource project.
MR. FITZGERALD: Okay. So that's --
PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: I
think one in Long Island.
MR. FITZGERALD: Okay. That's what I was just -- for me, the only issue was is Eversource experienced in managing any submarine contractor -- submarine subcontractor. And so my opinion is that they have the technical and managerial capabilities.

PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Mr.
Schmidt.
MR. SCHMIDT: Yeah, I believe they
have the technical and managerial. I think in the areas where they may have less experience --
(Court Reporter interrupts.)
MR. SCHMIDT: I think they have the ability to hire the experts, like LK [sic]

Cables. So I do think they have the technical and the managerial as stipulated in our rules. So I agree.
(Court Reporter interrupts.)
MR. SCHMIDT: Sorry about that.
PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Do we want to do a poll and see how people feel about this? Or we can come back. We can do kind of a straw poll and come back later if we want to.

Mr. Way.
MR. WAY: I was going to suggest, as I mentioned earlier, I think you can do -- and it's a straw poll we're talking about here. There's nothing binding. You can do a straw poll on technical finding, you know, the technical piece, recognizing that -- and I think it's true for just about everything we decide upon. The conditions that we put later on down the line are going to loop back and have an impact and we're going to have to revisit it possibility. So I would say go with the straw poll and see how -- because this piece will come up later.

PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: YOu
raise an important point, that we can always come back and change our minds if something in our deliberation says, you know, there's a piece missing. We can revisit it. So this is non-binding. It's not over until it's over and a final decision is made.

So, for now, I will ask you whether you feel it's -- are we comfortable doing them together, technical and managerial? Okay. Seeing nodding heads. I will ask you whether you feel the Applicant has the technical and managerial capability to construct and operate the Seacoast Reliability Project in conformance with the conditions and terms of the certificate.

Mr. Fitzgerald.
MR. FITZGERALD: I am very confident that they have capabilities.

PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: MS.
Duprey.
MS. DUPREY: Yes.
PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Mr.
Way.
MR. WAY: Yes.

PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Mr. Schmidt.

MR. SCHMIDT: Yes.
PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Mr. Shulock.

MR. SHULOCK: Yes.
PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY:
Director Muzzey.
DIR. MUZZEY: Yes.
PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: And I do as well.

Okay. Does anybody need a break between topics here, stretch your legs?

DIR. MUZZEY: Sure.
PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: A
five-minute break, ten-minute break?
(Recess was taken at 11:29 a.m.
and the hearing resumed at 11:44 a.m.)
PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: We
will resume our deliberations. We are going to take things slightly out of order where we're going with rules. And the next topic we're going to be discussing is the impact of the Project on aesthetics. Who would like to lead 015-04\} [DELIBERATIONS - DAY 1 MORNING
off? Mr. Shulock.
MR. SHULOCK: Okay. Under RSA
162-H:16 IV(C), before we can issue a certificate, we have to make a finding that the site and facility will not have an unreasonable adverse effect on aesthetics, historic sites, air and water quality, natural environment and public health and safety. So the first thing we're going to look at is aesthetics. And the general finding that we have to make is that the Project will not have an unreasonable adverse effect on aesthetics. So this is a broad topic, actually, and so Chuck Schmidt and I have divided it up. First, I'm going to look at the statutory factors that we have to consider under the rules, review some of the basic definitions and talk about some of the issues that the parties have brought up. Then Chuck's going to talk about the visual impact assessments. He's going to summarize the evidence and the positions of the parties, and then we can start our discussion.

So when we make that finding of unreasonable adverse effect, the statute
requires us to consider several different -seven different factors. And I'm going to read them off. It's a lot of reading, but I think it's important to do because everybody needs to understand that whatever our discussions are today, whether we're listing these explicitly or not, we are at least implicitly making these findings when we review the aesthetics.

The first is the existing character of the area of potential visual impact; second is the significance of affected scenic resources and their distance from the proposed facility; third, the extent, nature and duration of public uses of affected scenic resources; fourth, the scope and scale of the change in the landscape visible from affected scenic sources; fifth, the evaluation of the overall daytime and nighttime visual impacts of the facility as described in the visual impact assessment submitted by the Applicant and other relevant evidence submitted pursuant to Site 202.24; sixth, the extent to which the proposed
facility would be a dominant and prominent feature within a natural or cultural landscape of high scenic quality or as viewed from scenic resources of high value or sensitivity; and seven, the effectiveness of the measures proposed by the Applicant to avoid, minimize or mitigate unreasonable adverse effects on aesthetics, and the extent to which such measures represent best practical measures.

Then we have some definitions that come from our rules. So, Rule 102.45 defines "scenic resources" as "resources to which the public has a legal right of access that are: A, designated pursuant to applicable statutory authority by national, state or municipal authorities for their scenic quality; $B$, conservation lands or easement areas that possess a scenic quality; $C$, lakes, ponds, rivers, parks, scenic drives and rides, and other tourism destinations that possess a scenic quality; $D$, recreational trails, parks, or areas established, protected or maintained in whole
or in part with public funds; $E$, historic sites that possess a scenic quality; or $F$, town and village centers that possess a scenic quality. And again, what precedes all of that is that these are resources to which the public has a legal right of access."

Rule 102.44 defines "scenic quality" as "a reasonable person's perception of the intrinsic beauty of landforms, water features or vegetation in the landscape, as well as any visible human additions or alterations to the landscape."

Rule 102.23 defines "historic sites" as "historic property" as defined in statute, namely, "any building, structure, object, district, area or site that is significant in the history, architecture, archeology or culture of this state, its communities or the nation." This definition includes any prehistoric or historic district, site, buildings, structure or object included in or eligible for inclusions in the National Register of Historic Places maintained by the Secretary of the Interior.

Rule 102.10 defines "area of potential visual impact" as "a geographic area from which a proposed facility would be visible and would result in potential visual impacts, subject to the areal limitations specified in Site $301.05(\mathrm{~b})(4)$."

Site $301.05(b)(4)$ further requires a computer-based visibility analysis to determine the area of potential visual impact for proposed transmission lines that: One, will be located in a new transmission corridor or in an existing transmission corridor, if either or both the width of the corridor or height of the towers, poles or other supporting structures will be increased to extend the minimum of a $10-\mathrm{mile}$ radius; and, two, will be longer than 1 mile, to extend to a 2 -mile radius if located in any urban center.

So I tried to put together a list of some of the issues the parties have raised with regard to this assessment. But of course it's very important if I've missed any that people point them out. And, you know,
some of them we may need to discuss, some of them we may not.

The first is the visual impact analysis that was done by LandWorks was heavily criticized by Counsel for the Public and the intervenors as essentially being too stringent and being designed to exclude sites for review rather than to include sites for review, almost to the point where it's a violation of our rules. So we have to consider whether or not that impact analysis, whether by itself or in conjunction with other evidence that's been placed on the record, provides us with enough information to make the assessments that we need to make today. And that would include several subissues, such as whether the Applicant has adequately identified historic sites with scenic qualities for our review; whether Mr. Raphael appropriately used a bare earth analysis; whether all sites with public access have been reviewed. I think it was Newington that made the argument that properties in common use should have been
reviewed because the public has a right to enter upon those lands under certain conditions. I think we might also want to look at impact on specific scenic resources.

We might want to look at whether we base our decision on the incremental difference between the appearance of the current utility easement which contains poles and a certain number of wires at a certain height and the incremental distance to the larger poles and wires, or whether we should review those, the larger poles and wires, in and of themselves.

And then, of course, if we were to accept the conditions recommended by the Counsel for the Public and Mr. Lawrence with regard to the 13 sites that Mr . Lawrence identified, what the appropriate level of review will be and who should do it for vegetation management plans and whether they mitigate adverse effects.

So that's my part. I'll turn it over to Chuck, who's going to talk about the visual impact assessments and summarize the
evidence.
MR. FITZGERALD: Dave, could you just clarify what was the issue about sites that have some public access or co-access or something, common use --

MR. SHULOCK: Current use.
MR. FITZGERALD: Oh, current use.
MR. SHULOCK: I believe it was Newington, but there may be argument that the Applicant hadn't reviewed some scenic resources that were essentially private property that were assessed for current use.

MR. FITZGERALD: Okay.
MR. SHULOCK: Because as part of getting that current use, they had to allow public access under certain circumstances.

MR. FITZGERALD: I misheard you. I thought you said under common uses.

MR. SHULOCK: Right. And then I think Counsel for the Public's historic resource witness implied that even visual access might be enough if you stood at the boundary of the property and you could look into the historic site, that was the level of
access that we might want to consider.
MS. DUPREY: I didn't fully hear your
last -- you talked about what is appropriate. Appropriate about what? The mitigation --

MR. SHULOCK: Right. So --
MS. DUPREY: -- or what's the
appropriate mitigation? Is that what you -MR. SHULOCK: So, Mr. Lawrence and

Counsel for the Public identified 13 additional scenic resource sites. There's some dispute over whether they actually fall under the category. But the Applicant and Counsel for the Public have agreed to the preparation of vegetation management plans that would mitigate, in their opinion, whatever adverse effects might arise at those areas. But those plans are not prepared yet, and somebody has to review those plans. And we have to develop a level of comfort and a condition that would assure that they meet our findings.

MS. DUPREY: All right. Thank you.
MR. SCHMIDT: Good morning. I'll
touch on the effects of the aesthetics. And as Mr. Shulock indicated, I'll continue with the
intervenors' comments.
So, Site 301.05, Effects on Aesthetics, requires each application to include visual assessment of the proposed energy facility prepared in a manner consistent with generally accepted professional standards, with the eye of avoiding, minimizing or mitigating potential adverse effects of the proposed facility.

Visual impact assessment shall contain the following components, and I'm going paraphrase: A description and map depicting the locations is one; two, a description of how the Applicant identified and evaluated the scenic quality of the landscape and potential visual impacts; three, a narrative and graphic description explaining the physiographic, historical and cultural features of the landscape surrounding the proposed facility to provide the context for evaluating any visual impacts; this particular project, as Mr. Shulock mentioned, under Category 4, computer-base visibility analysis to 015-04\} [DELIBERATIONS - DAY 1 MORNING ONLY] \{11-28-18\}
determine the area of potential visual impact which, for proposed -- and this project is for $D$, electric transmission lines longer than one mile if located within any rural area shall extend to a 10-mile radius, and that's No. 2, a radius of 10 miles if the line would be located in a new transmission corridor or in an existing transmission corridor if either or both the width of the corridor or height of the towers, poles or other supporting structures would be increased; and then also five, an identification and description of all scenic resources within the area of potential visual impact is needed; and six, a characterization of the potential visual impacts of the proposed facility. And there are several.

I'll just quickly go through them. The expectation of the typical viewer; the effect on future use and enjoyment of the scenic resource; the extent of the proposed facility, including all structures and disturbed areas; the distance of the proposed facility from the scenic resource; the
horizontal breadth or visual arc of the visible elements of the facility; the scale, elevation and nature of the proposed facility relative to the surrounding topography; the duration and direction of the typical view of the elements; and the presence of intervening topography between the scenic resource and elements.

Also required is a photo simulation from -- and those are taken from representative key observation points, from other scenic resources for which the potential visual impacts are characterized as "high," and to the extent feasible, from a sample of private property observation points within the area of potential visual impact, to illustrate the potential change in the landscape that would result from construction of the proposed facility and associated infrastructure, including land clearing and grading.

With that, I'll proceed to the various individuals. The Applicant retained the services of LandWorks for a visual
assessment study. LandWorks, and Raphael, his opinion is that the Applicant has met the criteria for evaluating the aesthetic component, and they have minimized and/or avoided aesthetic impacts. The study area runs parallel to the transmission line corridor and contains 361 square miles through 20 towns.

Mr. Raphael identified 181
identified potential scenic resources. LandWorks analysis reduced this to 30 scenic resources that have the potential for visibility; 9 of those are considered very visually sensitive. The primary project visibility from scenic resources is limited to several local roads and a few local and regional viewpoints. He feels the average viewing distance of all resources with potential visibility will be 0.9 or more miles and 1.75 or more miles for the nine sensitive resources. The nine were evaluated for cultural designation and scenic quality. Of the 30 scenic resources identified as having potential visibility, as I said, nine 015-04\} [DELIBERATIONS - DAY 1 MORNING ONLY] \{11-28-18\}
have a visual sensitivity rating of moderate to high or high and therefore move forward in his next step. These areas in particular include: Great Bay National Wildlife Refuge, Little Bay Road, Cedar Point/Black River Road from Route 4, Scammell Bridge from Route 4, Wagon Hill Farm, Fox Point, the UNH campus, Garrison Hill Park and tower, and Stratham Hill Park.

The next step he utilized to determine the visual effect the Project may have on the nine areas. This rating used scale and special presence; and that is, the Project had a dominant element in the view; the prominence of the location; does the Project stand out and draw attention; compatibility; is the Project consistent or inconsistent with the built or natural elements currently visible in the landscape. Three scores for each resource were then combined to determine the overall visual effect. Only one of the nine sensitive resources resulted in an overall rating of moderate-high; that was Little Bay Road.

Photo simulations were prepared for resources rated with a moderate to high sensitivity, which had the potential to be significantly affected by the visual change. The Applicant's photo simulations represent one or more of the following features: A point within an area of the resource identified by the viewshed and has the highest range of structures potentially visible, a point where the highest amount of use is anticipated from the resource, or a point where access to the resource is most easily or likely achieved. The Applicant submitted an amendment to his original filing on October 7, 2016, and Mr. Raphael commented on that. Those included design changes to the overhead configuration in Durham and Newington, basically eliminating proposed Structure 92 near Fox Point Road. And the areas between sections -- Structures 16 and 18 were redesigned to eliminate Structure 117.

Raphael's conclusion included --
repeated his initial analysis that they have not changed with the revisions to the overhead configuration.

The next change in that amendment was undergrounding at Newington and Gundalow Landing Road. Raphael's conclusion was the original VA LandWorks report found no substantive issues with this particular site, and therefore nothing changed.

Undergrounding. And the third change was undergrounding in the Newington District Court -- Historic District. The Project will continue undergrounding the cable within the existing right-of-way across the Frink Farm and the Newington Center Historic District, crossing Nimble Hill Road.

Raphael's conclusion: This represents a net gain in visual quality over the previously proposed overhead route. The undergrounding of the section through the historic district for approximately . 51 miles represents substantial avoidance and minimization measures.

On the side, I felt some of the viewshed
simulations were not conclusive, and I'm not comfortable with the adequate attempts that were made to meet all of the vantage point simulations. So keep that in mind as we move ahead.

Now, Counsel for the Public, Mr. Lawrence -- hired Lawrence. He's a CFP expert witness and a landscape architect and has experience with a wide variety of projects, including energy siting facilities in New England. He was hired to review LandWorks' report. His findings include: The Project would not be widely visible due to the topography and forest cover across much of the Project route. The Project will be highly visible at road crossings and across portions of the UNH campus, and this project would dramatically change the visual character and increase [sic] the aesthetic quality of those areas. Mr. Lawrence disagreed with LandWorks' assertion that a transmission line has the same visual impact as a distribution line. The combination of significantly taller structures and
substantial tree removal to the full width of the right-of-way would dramatically change the visual character and decrease the aesthetic quality claims Mr. Lawrence. Mr. Lawrence also said some of the 13 areas identified -- identified 13 areas of visual impact identified in his report, and they constitute a scenic resource under the Committee's rules. To qualify as a scenic resource, there must be a public legal right of access, and the resource must meet one or more of the criteria set in Site 102.45 . Road crossings, designated scenic roads or scenic byways he felt should qualify as scenic resources. Certain buildings on the UNH campus he felt also should qualify as scenic resources.

As noted, Lawrence identified 13 key observation points at road crossings on the campus, and each one he compared the existing conditions to the proposed project conditions in developing illustrative photos and maps.

Regarding Lawrence -- regarding
LandWorks visual assessment report,

Lawrence's opinion is that it utilizes an overly complicated methodology and appears to under-represent scenic resources and minimizes the visual impact of the scenic resources identified.

The Applicant appears to propose to use natural revegetation to replace existing visual screens at road crossings where the right-of-way will be cleared for construction. Mr. Lawrence recommends employing planting of height-appropriate species to shield those areas. Lawrence's opinion is that the Project will change the visual character and decrease the aesthetic quality of the right-of-way.

The Town of Newington's comments included they feel the Project does include unreasonable adverse effects on the aesthetics and historic sites. They request that if the certificate is issued by the SEC, the Town requests a condition be included that requires that Eversource bury the transmission line in the current distribution line easement in all of the portions of the 015-04\} [DELIBERATIONS - DAY 1 MORNING ONLY] \{11-28-18\}
residential and historic districts in Newington in which the transmission line will be located. The Town's position is --
(Court Reporter interrupts.)
MR. SCHMIDT: The Town's position is emphasized in the post-hearing supplemental brief. The Applicant has failed to meet its burden of proving all of the applicable statutory and regulatory criteria. I will say the Applicant has attempted to negotiate with other property owners in the historic district and was not -- it's my understanding that the property owner was not interested in pursuing that.

The Frink Farm, the Darius Frink Farm's listing on the National Register explicitly links aesthetic quality. Their opinion is the aesthetic quality will be damaged by the intrusion of the 75-foot-tall steel monopole tower measuring 8 feet in diameter at its base adjacent to their field. She also quotes -- Ms. Frink quotes the National Historic Preservation Act. And
in that there's a statement, "diminish the integrity of the property," that the Project is considered to have adverse effect -excuse me. "Integrity is the ability of a property to convey its significance based on its location, design, setting and materials..."

I do also want to note the New Hampshire State Historic Preservation Officer identified no adverse effect to the Frink Farm.

The Frink Farm fully states -- the Frink Family states full and complete opposition to the Seacoast Reliability Project.

Regarding the monopole, I do also want to point out in Applicant Exhibit 250, and in e-mail at Exhibit 252, the Frink Farm summary outreach, Eversource has re-engineered the transition structure design to offer 75-foot, single monopole instead of a 65-foot, three-pole transition structure. And the response from the Frink Trust was that they were satisfied with that redesign.

Durham Residents. The Project will have an adverse effect to the community. The process used to determine the aesthetic impacts by the Applicant was overly complicated. The Applicant's historic consultants did not consult with the Durham Historic Association for local knowledge. The Applicant failed to adequately analyze the impact on stone walls.

Fitch. The Applicant has not been able to show by a preponderance of evidence that the Project will not have an unreasonable adverse effect on aesthetics.

Miller asserted that the bare earth visibility analysis was not used.

The Durham Historic Association indicates Mr. Raphael stated that he relied on the Applicant's historic consultants who listed only historic resources listed -- are eligible for listing on the National

Register. Many historic and cultural
resources possessing scenic quality that would have qualified under the SEC rules were never identified or analyzed by Mr. Raphael.

The elimination of 21 culturally designated scenic resources appears based on an overly complicated rating and scoring method that counters the purpose of the SEC rules.

The Applicant has not met its burden of proof in regard to recreational trails as described in SEC Rule Site $102.45(d)$, which defines "recreational trails" as "scenic resources." The Applicant's consultant did not assess the trails where the proposed Project crosses three historic districts and several conservation areas between the Durham-Madbury line on Durham Point Road. The Historic Association feels the Newmarket Road utility crossing and the Durham Point Road utility crossing qualifies as key observation points. The degree of change of the crossings at Durham Point Road and Route 108/Newmarket Road/King's Highway have not been adequately analyzed or mitigated by the Applicant.

DHA is very concerned about artifacts in the path of the transmission line "getting crushed." And I may add I am somewhat
concerned that the Applicant did not research or reach out to local people with knowledge of the historic features in their towns to further identify sites.

The Town of Durham and UNH. The Town and UNH is of the opinion that the Applicant did not meet its burden of showing the Project would have [sic] unreasonable effect. The method used to identify the historic sites was complicated and therefore overlooked many valuable sites. Mr. Raphael failed to identify key observation points where the Project would be prominently visible.

That's all I have.
So, a couple of the key points. It appears that the Raphael report is maybe lacking. But also, I see signs where the Applicant has reached out to certain areas to get to seek additional information. So, with that I'll turn it back over to Mr. Shulock.

MR. SHULOCK: I guess the question is how long do we want to go?

PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: What's
your preference?
MR. SHULOCK: I don't care.
PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Is it easier to take a break now and --

MR. SHULOCK: It's a logical breaking point.
(Court Reporter interrupts.)
PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: SO we're going to take a break now.

Ms. Duprey.
MS. DUPREY: Could we just talk for a minute about how we're going to tackle all of this? Because it might be worth figuring that out if we can before our break. My question being that it would be easy to hop around to all different things and not really burrow into each topic and try to get it resolved and then move on. And I think a number of our areas -mine is going to have the same kind of thing. And I'm just wondering if we might want to set some maybe broad areas, like perhaps we talk about the visual assessment itself and try to tackle how we feel about that because that underlies a lot of other things. I don't know.

Since it wasn't my topic area, I didn't give it that kind of consideration. But I didn't know if you two might have some suggestion as to how we best do the thorough job that we're going to need to do to go through this. Thank you.

MR. SHULOCK: I think that's
reasonable. I thought we might approach it as I listed those five or six different issues, and I thought we might go one by one through those, the first of which is there's the underlying question of whether the assessment is adequate; but even if it's not adequate, whether there's enough information in the record for us to proceed and make a decision based on those seven criteria that we need to consider. And then the issues go on from there, including if any of us feel the need to look at any of the individual places to see whether there's a significant adverse effect at any one location that might affect our review of the entire project and whether that adverse effect is appropriately mitigated. MS. DUPREY: Okay. So we'll bring up
a particular property if we feel like we want
to discuss it more; otherwise, we won't.
MR. SHULOCK: Well, we can do it that way, or we can group them in different ways. So, for instance, the areas identified by Counsel for the Public. I think there are 13 of those. Most of those are road crossings, and there's a mitigation plan for that. So we might address those as a group.

MS. DUPREY: Okay. And when we talk about the historic sites, we're talking about historic sites with a scenic quality. Is that the --

MR. SHULOCK: And public access.
MS. DUPREY: And public access.
MR. SHULOCK: But we may need to talk about what does "public access" mean.

MS. DUPREY: Okay. Yes.
MR. SHULOCK: Does that sound like a good enough start?

MS. DUPREY: Yeah, it does. Thank you.

PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: SO what I heard you say in the list that I made as you were talking is we'll talk generally about
the visual impact analysis first and bring up issues such as did they adequately identify scenic resource. So that's the historic properties --

MR. SHULOCK: As a subset.
PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: -- as a subset. Did they appropriately use the bare earth analysis, and so $I$ guess that goes into the area of potential visual impact. Whether all the sites with public access were considered, so I guess that goes back up to scenic resources. Impact on specific properties that we want to consider; we may use photo simulations at that point. Then there are other issues, like incremental change versus --
(Court Reporter interrupts.)
PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Then
conditions we may want to impose if we are inclined to grant a certificate.

MR. SHULOCK: I think that was all
that I had. If others have additional
concerns, we certainly have to address those.
And it's not that those are concerns, I want to
make clear. It's just those are --
PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Issues . Things like road crossings, these were key observation points that would fall under the scenic resource identification $I$ guess. That's a pretty broad topic. Methodology. We might want to talk about the methodology used in the visual impact, the screening. The high, lows and moderates, we probably should address that methodology. I'm sure we'll think of others as we go along, but that sounds like a good road map when we get back from lunch.

Do we feel like we want an hour? Do you want less time? Let's go off the record for this.
(Discussion off the record)
PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Back on the record. We'll break for an hour and be back at 1:20 and resume our deliberations concerning visual impact. Thank you.
(Lunch recess taken at 12:20 p.m. and concludes Day 1 Morning Session. The hearing continues under separate cover in the transcript noted as Day 1


$$
\begin{gathered}
\text { CERTIFICATE } \\
\text { I, Susan J. Robidas, a Licensed }
\end{gathered}
$$ Shorthand Court Reporter and Notary Public of the State of New Hampshire, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate transcript of my stenographic notes of these proceedings taken at the place and on the date hereinbefore set forth, to the best of my skill and ability under the conditions present at the time.

I further certify that I am neither attorney or counsel for, nor related to or employed by any of the parties to the action; and further, that $I$ am not a relative or employee of any attorney or counsel employed in this case, nor am I financially interested in this action.

Susan J. Robidas, LCR/RPR Licensed Shorthand Court Reporter Registered Professional Reporter N.H. LCR No. 44 (RSA 310-A:173)

|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { 6:7;91:24 } \\ \text { active }(1) \\ 26: 18 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { aerial (1) } \\ 9: 10 \end{gathered}$ | 5:21;6:1,19 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 62:24;63:3,10;66:10, } \\ & \text { 16;70:11;73:22;74:6; } \end{aligned}$ |
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|  |  | $\begin{aligned} & 84: 3,5 ; 88: 19 ; 89: 4 ; \\ & 90: 14 ; 91: 18,19 ; 93: 3 \end{aligned}$ | 75:12 <br> alternate (1) |  |
| \$10,000 (1) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { activities (1) } \\ & 5: 8 \end{aligned}$ |  | alternate (1) | 81:14;83:23;84:2; |
| 62:10 |  |  | 28:13 | 86:14;90:6;91:7,10; |
| \$132 (1) | actually (3) |  | al | 2:17;93:4,8,10;94:5, |
| 18:3 | 13;80:11 | :24;72:6,9,12 |  |  |
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| 18:4 | , | 81:3;90:19;93 | 48:14 | 10:19;16:11,15 |
| \$349,834.26 (1) | 6;94:24 | affect (1) | always (4) | 8:5;19:7;25:10,20; |
| 4:5 | addition (1) | 97:20 | :14;59:18;64:15 | 0:10;51:3;60:1 |
| \$84(3) | additional (5) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { affected (6) } \\ & 33: 1 ; 41: 6 ; 73: 12, \end{aligned}$ | amended (2) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 66:23;86:5;93: } \\ & 94: 9 \end{aligned}$ |
| 17:15,21;18:3 | $\begin{aligned} & 11: 3 ; 18: 3 ; 80: 9 \\ & 95: 20 ; 99: 22 \end{aligned}$ | $15,18 ; 86: 4$ | $4: 12,19$ | Application (5) |
|  |  | Afternoon (1) | amendment (2) | 6:1;9:17;19:7; |
| [ No (1) | additions (2)$30: 11 ; 75: 11$ | 101:1 | 86:15;87:4 | 67:15;81:3 |
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| 12.7 | 12:20;51:22;54:3 | 24:22;35:4;48:3 | $30: 17$ among (2) | appli |
| 68:24;88:19;95:8 | 57:5;58:12;65:16; | 52:13;59:8;75:4 | 51:13,16 | 6 : |
| 68.24,88.19,95.8 | :8;99:23;100:9 | against (1) | amount (2) | appoint (1) |
| A | address | 21:2 | $64: 3 ; 86: 1$ | 61:6 |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { Aaron (1) } \\ \text { 18:6 } \end{gathered}$ | addresses (1) | 7:1,7,12;62:1 | 6:8;77:4,1 | 34:1 |
|  | add41:9addressing (1) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 64:13,14;65:5;66:2 } \\ & \text { agency (11) } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 21 ; 81: 24 ; 84: 11 ; 87: 1 \text {; } \\ & 93: 15 ; 99: 1,8 \end{aligned}$ | approach (1) |
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| $\begin{gathered} \text { abilities (1) } \\ 51: 4 \end{gathered}$ | 55:23 | 7:9;35:2;36:19,22; | analyze (1) | appropriate (10) |
| ability (14) | adequate (9) 15:12,20;21:1 | $\begin{aligned} & 37: 20 ; 40: 3 ; 50: 10 ; \\ & 62: 23 ; 63: 2 ; 64: 9,18 \end{aligned}$ | 93:8 | 14:6;40:21;48:10; |
| $\begin{aligned} & 36: 4 ; 40: 11 ; 46: 20 \\ & 47: 6.11: 53: 6.8 .19 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 25: 2 ; 55: 11 ; 66: 10 \\ & \text { 88:2;97:12,12 } \end{aligned}$ | agree (16) | 93:24;94:20 | 49:8;50:3;56:18; 78:18;80:3,4,7 |
| 54:3;55:16;63:22; |  | 12:12,22;14:4,9; | and/or (1) | appropriately (3) |
| 64:9;68:24;92:4 | adequately (4) | 15:1;38:20;47:16; | 84:4 | 77:20;97:22;99:7 |
| able (6) | $\begin{aligned} & 77: 18 ; 93: 8 ; 94: 20 \\ & 99: 2 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 48:21;49:5,18;50:12; } \\ & \text { 57:22;58:1,2;67:7; } \end{aligned}$ | $\left\lvert\, \begin{gathered} \text { Annotated (1) } \\ 4: 21 \end{gathered}\right.$ | approval (6) |
| 21:7;54:23;55:6; <br> 57:13:60:16;93:10 | adjacent (1) | 57:22;58:1,2;67:7; 69:3 | annual (1) | 5:24;13:4,7;15:3; $50: 11,11$ |
| above (1) | 91:22 | agreed (8) | $\begin{gathered} 18: 23 \\ \text { anticipated (1) } \end{gathered}$ | approve (4) |
| 8:21 | administrative (1) | 4:12;8:6,13;22:24; |  | $33: 21 ; 34: 19,23 ;$$36: 20$ |
| above-ground (1) | 63:19 Administrator (3) | 44:24;45:7;47:22; | 86:11 |  |
| 7:15 | Administrator (3) |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { appearance (1) } \\ & 78: 7 \end{aligned}$ | approved (6) |
| accept | $\begin{gathered} \text { 34:12;35 } \\ \text { adopt (2) } \end{gathered}$ | Agreement $8: 4 ; 9: 18$ |  | $10 \cdot 15 \cdot 21 \cdot 8 \cdot 27 \cdot 23$. |
| $78: 15$ ccepted | 23:5;62:18 | Agreements (1) | 90:2,6;94:2;95:17 | approximately (3) |
| 81:6 |  | 9:12 | applicable (2) | 20:5;26:12;87:21 |
| access (16) | 18:9 | agriculture (1) | 74:15;91:8Applicant (11 | April (1)10:11 |
| 9:12;57:8,9;74:14 | $\begin{array}{\|c} \text { adopting (1) } \\ 62: 19 \end{array}$ | ahead (2) |  |  |
| $75: 6 ; 77: 22 ; 79: 4,16,$ |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & 4: 4,14 ; 5: 6 ; 7: 3 ; 8: 2, \\ & 5,13 ; 9: 2,9 ; 10: 13 \\ & 11: 9,17,21 ; 12: 1,2 \end{aligned}$ | Aquatic (1) |
| 22;80:1;86:12;89:11; | adverse (16) $7: 15,23 ; 72: 6,12$ | 23:6;88: |  | $\begin{gathered} 4: 5 \\ \operatorname{arc}(\mathbf{1}) \end{gathered}$ |
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