1	STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
2	SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE
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4	March 11, 2019 - 8:37 a.m. [Filed electronically Public Utilities Commission on 03-19-19]
5	21 South Fruit Street Suite 10 Concord, New Hampshire
6	
7	IN RE: SEC DOCKET NO. 2015-04
8	APPLICATION OF PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE d/b/a EVERSOURCE ENERGY FOR A
9	CERTIFICATE OF SITE AND FACILITY.
10	(Hearing for the deliberations by the Subcommittee on the Motions
11	for Rehearing submitted by the Town of Durham, the Durham
	Residents Group, and the
12	Conservation Law Foundation.)
	Conservation Law Foundation.) PRESENT: SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE:
12 13 14	PRESENT: SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE: David Shulock, Designee Public Utilities Comm.
13 14	PRESENT: SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE: David Shulock, Designee Public Utilities Comm. (Presiding as Presiding Officer)
13 14 15	PRESENT: David Shulock, Designee (Presiding as Presiding Officer) Dir. Elizabeth Muzzey Dept. of Natural and Cultural Resources
13 14 15 16	PRESENT: David Shulock, Designee (Presiding as Presiding Officer) Dir. Elizabeth Muzzey Michael Fitzgerald, Designee Dept. of Environmental Services
13 14 15 16	PRESENT: David Shulock, Designee Public Utilities Comm. (Presiding as Presiding Officer) Dir. Elizabeth Muzzey Dept. of Natural and Cultural Resources Michael Fitzgerald, Designee Dept. of Environmental
13 14 15 16 17	PRESENT: David Shulock, Designee (Presiding as Presiding Officer) Dir. Elizabeth Muzzey Dept. of Natural and Cultural Resources Michael Fitzgerald, Designee Dept. of Environmental Services Christopher Way, Designee Dept. of Business and
13 14 15 16 17 18	PRESENT: David Shulock, Designee (Presiding as Presiding Officer) Dir. Elizabeth Muzzey Michael Fitzgerald, Designee Dept. of Environmental Services Christopher Way, Designee Dept. of Business and Economic Affairs
13 14 15 16 17 18	PRESENT: David Shulock, Designee (Presiding as Presiding Officer) Dir. Elizabeth Muzzey Michael Fitzgerald, Designee Christopher Way, Designee Christopher Way, Designee Susan Duprey SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE: Public Utilities Comm. Cultural and Cultural Resources Dept. of Environmental Services Dept. of Business and Economic Affairs Public Member
13	PRESENT: David Shulock, Designee (Public Utilities Comm. (Presiding as Presiding Officer) Dir. Elizabeth Muzzey Dept. of Natural and Cultural Resources Michael Fitzgerald, Designee Dept. of Environmental Services Christopher Way, Designee Dept. of Business and Economic Affairs Susan Duprey Public Member ALSO PRESENT FOR SEC: Michael J. Iacopino, Esq. Iryna Dore, Esq. (Brennan Lenehan)
13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	PRESENT: David Shulock, Designee Public Utilities Comm. (Presiding as Presiding Officer) Dir. Elizabeth Muzzey Dept. of Natural and Cultural Resources Michael Fitzgerald, Designee Dept. of Environmental Services Christopher Way, Designee Dept. of Business and Economic Affairs Susan Duprey Public Member ALSO PRESENT FOR SEC: Michael J. Iacopino, Esq. Iryna Dore, Esq.

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 5
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 6
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 7
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 8
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    Asst. Attorney General
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PROCEEDING 1 PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK: Good 2 3 morning. I'd like to open today's hearing in the Eversource Seacoast Reliability Project. 4 5 We're here to deliberate three Motions for 6 Rehearing that were filed by the Conservation 7 Law Foundation, the Durham Residents Group, and 8 the Town of Durham on our January 31st, 2019 Decision and Order. 9 10 And I'll start by taking 11 appearances. 12 MR. NEEDLEMAN: Good morning, Mr. Chair. Barry Needleman, from McLane Middleton, 13 14 representing the Applicant. Next to me is Adam 15 Dumville, also from McLane Middleton, and next 16 to Adam is Beth Maldonado, from Eversource. 17 PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK: Good 18 morning. 19 MR. PATCH: Doug Patch and Jeremy 20 Eggleton, for the Town of Durham. 21 MR. ASLIN: Chris Aslin, from the 22 Attorney General's Office, acting as Counsel 23 for the Public. 24 MS. BROWN: Marcia Brown, NH Brown

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         Law, representing Donna Heald.
                   MR. IRWIN: Good morning. Tom Irwin,
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 3
         representing the Conservation Law Foundation.
                   PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK: So, good
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 5
         morning. So, as everybody knows, this is a
         Motion for a Rehearing. It's a deliberation
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 7
         among the members of the Committee. It's not a
         public participation hearing.
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                   And the very first thing that we need
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         to do is to recess. We're going to go into a
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         non-meeting with the counsel. And we're going
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         to target -- the clock hasn't been changed --
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         nine o'clock for coming back. It may be a
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         little bit sooner, it may be a little bit
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         later, but we'll target nine o'clock. And with
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         that, we'll recess.
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                         (Recess taken at 8:39 a.m. and
18
                         the hearing and deliberations
19
                        resumed at 9:34 a.m.)
20
                   PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK: Good
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                   We're all back. And we will begin
         morning.
22
         this morning's deliberations.
23
                   First, I would like for members of
24
         the Committee to introduce themselves. It's
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         been a while since we've been here.
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                   Mr. Way.
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                   MR. WAY: Good morning. I'm
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         Christopher Way, a designee for the Department
         of Business and Economic Affairs.
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 6
                   MR. FITZGERALD: Michael Fitzgerald,
 7
         New Hampshire Department of Environmental
 8
         Services.
 9
                   MS. DUPREY: Susan Duprey, public
10
         member.
                   PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK: David
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12
         Shulock, Public Utilities Commission.
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                   DIR. MUZZEY: Elizabeth Muzzey,
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         Department of Natural and Cultural Resources.
                   PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK: We also
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16
         have here our attorney, Mike Iacopino, and Pam
17
         Monroe, our Administrator.
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                    So, we're going to jump right in and
19
         go issue by issue. And we'll start with
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         arguments that there were approvals required by
21
         the Governor and Executive Council.
22
                   Mr. Way.
23
                   MR. WAY: I'll summarize some of the
24
         issues or the issues that were raised.
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1 With respect to RSA 4:40 and the disposal of state owned real estate, the 2 3 comment is that the Subcommittee did not have 4 authority to decide which property rights the Applicant obtained and/or should be required to 6 obtain. 7 We also have further consideration that (2) the Subcommittee committed an error of 8 9 law when it determined that the license granted 10 to the Applicant did not constitute a de facto 11 lease. 12 The Subcommittee committed an error of law when it determined that 13 14 installation of concrete mattresses will not 15 cause a disposal of property. 16

Next, the Subcommittee's decision that concrete mattresses will be installed temporarily and will be decommissioned is not supported by the record.

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And finally, the Subcommittee should have found that the Applicant should seek

Governor's and Executive Council's approval under the common law doctrine of public trust.

I think I would start this off and

state that I think we addressed this issue quite in depth during the hearings and deliberation. I think we established that this was not a disposal of property. It was not a lease. It was not an easement, but was subject to a license.

 $\label{eq:AndI} \mbox{ And I think I would start there and} \\ \mbox{ see what people --}$

PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK: So, I agree. I think we went over this pretty thoroughly. The one argument that I saw in the briefing had to do with investments made in reliance on the license, and the fact that in some situations that could turn a license into something more than that, and give a person an actual right in the land. And, you know, having looked at that issue, I don't think that that comports with New Hampshire law.

The second thing that I would note is that the argument is based upon a letter from an Assistant Attorney General, and that that letter is based on a provision of law that has since been repealed.

MS. DUPREY: I agree.

PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK: I guess, if I were to add anything else, it would be that the Applicant argues that it received a license and nothing more.

MR. WAY: I agree.

PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK: And there was one other issue that was brought up, and that was that the description of the concrete mattresses and some of the effects of the concrete mattresses were permanent. But we specifically addressed the removal of those concrete mattresses when we were dealing with decommissioning. And the Applicant, once the project is decommissioned, will have to address removal of the concrete mattresses in one way or another, in accordance with whatever rules are in effect at that time.

So, I don't see that as a "permanent" in the sense of a granting of a fee.

MR. WAY: I agree. And I think it -we did include it in decommissioning. So, it
does not mean that there is a disposal of
property for the purposes of the concrete
mattresses.

1 PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK: So, did 2 anybody else have any additional comments at 3 this time on whether this was a disposal of land? 4 5 DIR. MUZZEY: No. I agree with the 6 discussion as we've had it. 7 MS. DUPREY: I agree as well. 8 PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK: So, the next issue was whether the DES Wetland Permits 9 10 require approval by Governor and Council under 11 RSA 482-A:3, II. And this is an argument that 12 I don't believe was raised in the original 13 briefing. 14 But, having looked at it, I don't 15 believe that G&C approval is necessary, because 16 DES has not approved the Wetlands Permit under 17 this statutory construction. DES provides us 18 with a recommendation for a permit. The permit 19 is actually approved by the Site Evaluation 20 Committee under its statute. And therefore, I don't believe the permit is subject to G&C 21 22 approval in this instance. 23 That is different for other wetlands 24 But, for permits that are subject to permits.

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our approval, they do not require G&C approval.
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                   Anybody have any comments --
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 3
                   MR. WAY:
                              I agree.
 4
                   PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK: -- they
 5
         would like to raise on this?
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                   MR. FITZGERALD: I agree.
                                               They're
 7
         separate statutory requirements.
 8
                   MS. DUPREY:
                                 I agree as well.
                   PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK: So, the
 9
10
         next issue that we need to address is an
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         argument that the PUC essentially did not have
12
         the information necessary to issue its order,
13
         because the Applicant did not specifically
14
         state that the mechanical protection that it
15
         would be using in this project in the crossing
16
         of Little Bay would be concrete mattresses.
17
                   And this is really a repeat of
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         arguments that were made before. I think we
19
         fully considered these arguments. And I don't
20
         really see that it's our purview to say what
21
         the PUC should have had in front of it or what
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         they do with the information that they did
23
         receive.
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                   MR. WAY:
                              I agree.
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1 MR. FITZGERALD: Yes. 2 MS. DUPREY: I agree as well. 3 DIR. MUZZEY: I agree as well. 4 PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK: Okay. 5 So, well, I guess I would add to that that in 6 our record we do have a letter from Debra 7 Howland at the PUC saying that the PUC had all of the information that it required in order to 8 9 make its decision when the application for the 10 license was originally filed. 11 And then we have a letter from the 12 PUC, after the Applicant notified the PUC that 13 it would be using the mechanical stabilization, 14 that its original order could stand. And so, 15 the PUC apparently did do its work, and I trust 16 they did it well. 17 So, I think the next issue we need to 18 address are arguments that we erred when we 19 allowed the Presiding Officer to communicate 20 with NHDES about its final decision. 21 And, Chris. 22 MR. WAY: So, with regards to the 23 Applicant's and Presiding Officer's 24 communication with New Hampshire Department of

Environmental Services, the Subcommittee committed an error of law when it allowed the Applicant to communicate with NHDES after NHDES issued its final permits recommendations on February 28th, 2018. And it was inappropriate for the Presiding Officer to request NHDES to comment on recommended conditions that the Applicant disputed prior to the hearing without the approval of the Subcommittee.

And then, if we talk about the final decision by NHDES, the Subcommittee committed an error of law when it denied the August 21st, 2018 motion requesting a suspension of the proceedings and an inclusion of the parties in communication with NHDES; and secondly, denied the October 24th, 2018 motion to strike communication from NHDES that was provided after February 28th, 2018 and related testimony.

This is another one I think we spent a considerable amount of time and response on. With regards to the Presiding Officer, I think the statute bears out, the Presiding Officer has the authority and responsibility to

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identify issues that may have bearing on the
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         Committee. And I think we're obviously going
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         to have ongoing interactions with many parties,
         and we want to be able to have interactions
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         with those parties.
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                   And I think also, too, that with
 7
         regards to final decisions, there was ample
 8
         opportunity for review, questioning, and input.
                    I'd open it up for other thoughts.
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                   MS. DUPREY: I agree with that
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         characterization.
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                   DIR. MUZZEY: And I would just add
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         that this type of argument was made both by the
14
         Presiding Officer, as well as the full
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         Committee, as the proceeding went through many
16
         days of hearings and that type of thing. So,
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         it's not just what the Presiding Officer had
18
         agreed to, but the entire Committee did as
19
         well.
20
                   MR. WAY: Correct.
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                   PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK: Any other
22
         comments?
23
                   MR. FITZGERALD: I would concur with
24
         that, those opinions.
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1 PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK: Okay.

So, I think the next area we need to deliberate on are arguments that we made inappropriate

4 delegations to state authorities.

Beth.

DIR. MUZZEY: Thank you. The argument that's been made is that the Subcommittee crossed the boundaries of delegation set forth in the statute when we authorized a number of different entities to do various things in the order. This included a number of things that the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services will be doing, such as approving plans, reviewing results of the jet plow trial, using its expertise to determine whether the testing of oysters should be required, a number of other natural resource decision-making.

Also delegation to the Division of
Ports & Harbors or the Department of Safety
Marine Patrol, as well as authorizing various
agencies with permitting authorities and review
authorities to review marshalling yards and
laydown areas that may not be known yet in this

1 proceeding.

As well as the Department of
Transportation to issue it's required permits,
licenses, and approvals.

As well as the Dispute Resolution Procedure that was laid out, and how that authority will be delegated.

As we've noted with some of these other concerns, I believe that this delegation was thoroughly discussed within the proceeding. And that we made our decisions based on evidence, and that there is not new evidence that would lead us to change our decision-making.

Although it's noted that there are many plans that are part of this proceeding, it seems -- I continue to believe that our delegating authority here was done within the statute, and we don't need to reopen this hearing in order to consider it further.

I'm wondering if anyone else has other thoughts on that.

MS. DUPREY: I agree with your characterization. And I just would add, with

respect to the Dispute Resolution Process, that regarding the claim that the burden of proof has shifted to private property owners, it's my feeling that this argument disregards the fact that the Dispute Resolution Process is simply a mitigation measure. It's not required.

Any private property owner can choose to forgo this process and sue the Applicant for damages for their specific property, or it can undergo the process that we have sought to provide to people.

But there's no requirement that they do it. And so, therefore I disagree with the argument that's been made.

DIR. MUZZEY: And one final aspect of some of the arguments that were made is that the Subcommittee deprived parties of their due process rights when we did not implement a separate process administered by the Site Evaluation Committee to review the various plans, and hear comments, hold hearings on the plans as they are implemented and reviewed by DES.

Again, we did discuss how public

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         comments could be made to those plans within
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         our deliberation. We cannot govern the
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         internal processes that DES uses for its
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         authorities, although we did recognize that
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         there is room for public comment within those,
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         and that would be, again, within the
 7
         jurisdiction of DES to accept those comments
         and potentially act or not act on them.
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                   PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK: I think
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10
         I'd just like to add that I think that all of
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         these delegations fall squarely within the
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         statute that allows us to delegate. Which says
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         that "the committee may delegate to the
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         administrator or to such state agency or
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         official as it deems necessary or appropriate
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         the authority to specify the use of any
17
         technique, methodology, practice, or procedure
18
         approved by the committee within a certificate
19
         issued under this chapter."
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                   Any further comments on delegation?
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                         [No verbal response.]
22
                   PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK: All set?
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         So, the next issue that I have on my checklist
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{SEC 2015-04} [RE: Deliberations] {03-11-19}

is that we erred in determining that there is a

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reliability need for the project.

And, Mike, I believe you're going to discuss that for us.

MR. FITZGERALD: Yes. The arguments made were that there — that our decision was unreasonable and arbitrary, not supported by the record, and that we committed an error of law when we refused to ask ISO-New England to update their analyses. And that we acted arbitrary and unreasonably when we refused to order the Applicant to consider other alternatives.

I think we carefully considered all of these arguments previously during our deliberations. We heard these, I think that we fully -- had full confidence in the ISO-New England process for determining that this was a reliability project, it was necessary for the -- for the growth in the area, to address the growth in the area, and to ensure reliable electric service to the region.

I don't think that we heard any evidence as to why that process was inappropriate. So, I think we addressed these

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         fully and don't need to go back and look at
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         this again.
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                    MR. WAY:
                              I agree.
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                    PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK: I agree
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         as well.
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                    Any other comments on those findings?
 7
                         [No verbal response.]
 8
                    PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK:
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         Then, there have been arguments made regarding
10
         orderly development of the region and prior
11
         precedent, specifically whether our Order
12
         conforms with the Order issued in the Northern
         Pass docket.
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                    MR. WAY:
                              The argument is the
15
         Subcommittee in the Northern Pass docket found
16
         that, just because the project will be
17
         constructed in an existing right-of-way, it
18
         does not automatically become comparable with
19
         local land uses. Mr. Varney's report in this
20
         docket and in the Northern Pass docket are
21
         based on this assumption. The Subcommittee
22
         should have followed the Northern Pass
23
         precedent and declined to accept Mr. Varney's
24
         findings.
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                    I believe this is rehashing an old
         argument, and I'm not seeing a lot of new
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         information. I think it is reasonable to
 3
         anticipate that there will be parallels made
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         between the two projects. But the projects
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         were different in scope, they were different in
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         contents, they were different in their
 8
         conclusions. They were very different
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         projects. And I think we look at them very
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         differently. And I think also, too, we're not
11
         bound to take the decisions -- past decisions
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         as dictates for our next decision.
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                   So, I think for my part, I don't
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         think this merits a rehearing. I think we've
15
         addressed this issue.
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                   And open it up for others.
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                   PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK: I don't
         think I have anything to add.
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19
                   Anybody else?
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                   DIR. MUZZEY: No. I agree with that
21
         summary.
                   Thank you.
                   PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK: I think
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23
         the next issue we should address is the
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         argument that we failed to properly consider
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the views expressed by the municipalities who were affected by the project.

Susan.

MS. DUPREY: Thank you.

Specifically, the Town of Durham concluded that we arbitrarily and unreasonably failed to provide due consideration to the testimony provided by the Town, and relied on an erroneous report by Mr. Varney instead.

I think it's fair to say that we would disagree with that characterization of Mr. Varney's report. We spent a great deal of time listening to, in particular, the two communities, Newington and Durham's town officials, they testified for hours, as I recall. We also received written testimony from all four communities that were directly affected by the installation of this facility.

The requirement is that we "consider" the town's position, not that we necessarily adopt it, agree with it or implement it, but rather that we consider it. And we consider it along with a host of other issues that we are required to consider when making this decision.

1 I think we spent extensive time 2 listening and making that consideration. And I 3 think what we did was appropriate. 4 MR. FITZGERALD: I would agree that 5 we very carefully gave consideration and listened to all of the towns' arguments and 6 7 gave them due consideration. MR. WAY: Agree. 8 PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK: Agreed. 9 10 DIR. MUZZEY: Agreed as well. 11 PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK: So, our 12 next issue has to do with orderly development 13 of the region, Little Bay and Great Bay 14 estuary, and some environmental concerns. 15 that would be followed by arguments that we did 16 not properly consider effect on water quality 17 and the natural environment, including our 18 consideration of the jet plow trial run, 19 sediment dispersal, and impact on eelgrass, and 20 then, in addition, some Mitigation Fund issues. 21 And, Mike. 22 MS. DUPREY: If I could just 23 interrupt you, Mr. Chair? I'm not sure that

{SEC 2015-04} [RE: Deliberations] {03-11-19}

you mentioned "nitrogen", which was also one of

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1 the issues.
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PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK: Yes, nitrogen.

MS. DUPREY: Yes. Thank you.

MR. FITZGERALD: Yes. These, there were several areas of discussion under water quality, under the issue of water quality. These included the release of nitrogen into the bay, and whether or not we adequately responded to the towns' experts; the jet plow trial run, and whether our reliance on the jet plow trial run to ensure that the project will not have an unreasonable effect is unsupported. think there were several questions raised there, that especially it would not address all the variables, and because of its very limited time and duration. And that DES does not have the authority to stop the project. The argument's made that DES does not have the authority to stop the project if they approve of the trial run.

It also included the sediment dispersion analysis, and the impact on eelgrass, and, lastly, the -- well, the impact

of the Mitigation Fund for the salt marsh restoration at Wagon Hill. And also, the health and safety impact on oysters in the bay.

Again, in most of these, I saw very little new information. It just seems to me that these arguments are that we got it wrong. I think that we very carefully listened to and questioned the experts that were presented. There were a number of arguments that said that that there "may be effects" or "potential impacts". But I think we gave significant consideration to them.

We also heard the arguments from, you know, we looked at the DES decision, and felt that DES had made the appropriate characterizations, and their permit addressed the potential for impacts.

With respect to sediment dispersion, the impact to eelgrass, again, these are arguments that we heard. We deliberated and decided. I saw nothing new in these arguments.

And with respect to the Mitigation
Fund regarding Wagon Hill, it was clear that
that Mitigation Fund would be administered by

DES, is administered by DES, and that there's a DES process for how those funds are appropriated.

Our statement was that we assumed or estimated that the funds would be applied in a certain manner, but that we clearly understood that that was up to DES, and that was appropriate.

So, again, and with regards to the health and safety issues, again, I see nothing new here. The same arguments are made that we considered and addressed. And I believe we made an appropriate decision. Excuse me.

PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK: Beth.

DIR. MUZZEY: One other aspect that relates to the material you just covered is the concern that the Subcommittee failed to consider the issues of water quality, habitat health, health and safety of the estuary of Great and Little Bays on the idea of orderly development.

And I think it's worth noting that, by the time the Subcommittee began considering the project's potential impact on the orderly

1 development of the area, we had already covered 2 whether or not the project presented 3 unreasonable adverse effects to Little Bay and the natural environment, and had determined 4 that it would not have an unreasonable adverse 6 impact on that. 7 And so, although we did consider it during orderly development, I just wanted to 8 9 note that we already determined it was not 10 unreasonably adverse by the time we were doing 11 that deliberation. 12 MR. FITZGERALD: I would agree with 13 that. 14 PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK: 15 MS. DUPREY: I agree with all of 16 these characterizations. Thank you. 17 MR. WAY: I do, too. 18 PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK: I think I 19 would add that, with the exception of the Wagon 20 Hill issue, I see all of these arguments as going toward our weighting and balancing of the 21 22 evidence. And there is evidence to support all

{SEC 2015-04} [RE: Deliberations] {03-11-19}

of the findings that we made and all of the

decisions that we made.

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1 I see these as simply an argument that we should have viewed the evidence 2 3 differently than we did, right? But, clearly, we understood that there would be nitrogen 4 5 released into the water column. We made a 6 specific finding that the sediment plume would 7 not reach the eelgrass. All of that is 8 supported by the record, right? And this is 9 just a rehash of the arguments and asking us to 10 reweigh that evidence. And I think we weighed 11 it appropriately in the first instance. 12 Any other comments on that issue? 13 [No verbal response.] 14 PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK: And the 15 next set of issues that have been raised has to 16 do with our decision as it relates to private 17 property. 18 And Susan, if you could. 19 MS. DUPREY: Yes. First, is the

MS. DUPREY: Yes. First, is the issue related to the public interest. It was argued that we didn't appropriately consider the impact of the project on private property. Specifically, it was argued that there was no finding as to which properties will be affected

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and to what extent. It was also argued that we just found that there will be an impact on some properties, and that we can't balance the project's impact on private properties without knowing the extent of the impact.

My response to that is that we spent a great deal of time listening to the impact on everybody's property that came forward. And we also reviewed a number of expert reports on impact to private property.

When it comes to this finding of the public interest, though, the Committee is called upon, as you were just noting, I believe, Mr. Chairman, that we balance a number of factors. This is but one of a laundry list of factors that we are required to balance.

And as we take all of these factors into consideration, it's our job to then decide whether one of them is so important that it would negate our issuing the facility.

And in this case, we did not find, and I still believe we've made the correct decision, that the impact to private property was so significant that it should outweigh all

the other factors that we had to consider with respect to whether or not to issue a certificate here.

So, I feel that we thoroughly went through those factors, not only in the "public interest" segment of our discussion, but in the 15 days of hearings that we held, where I thought we pretty carefully went through all of the evidence, and listened and read testimony with respect to not only private property, but all the other things that we're required by statute to consider, and that we appropriately came to the right decision with respect to it.

It's also argued that we impermissibly shifted the burden of demonstrating the impact on private property to property owners. I also disagree with that statement, don't believe that we did that.

And in furtherance of that particular matter, I would raise the Dispute Resolution

Procedure, which I note that Counsel for the Public was involved in. And we spent a great deal of time trying to fashion a Dispute Resolution Procedure that would handle and

manage as best as possible the concerns that had been raised to our attention about the values of properties.

It was raised to us that, through one of the motions, that the Right-to-Know Law is being violated by the Dispute Resolution

Process being confidential. We would note that no one has to go through the Dispute Resolution

Procedure. No agency is specifically managing the Dispute Resolution Procedure. It's completely voluntary.

There's no abandonment required by anybody of any of their rights. No one is being required to waive any of their rights. They can choose to go through the Dispute Resolution Process or not. It's completely at their will. They have the right to pursue their statutory rights to the fullest extent and not go through the Dispute Resolution Procedure.

So, therefore, I believe that our
Dispute Resolution Procedure is not a
substitute for the Subcommittee's findings, and
that we appropriately balanced the impacts on

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1
         private property by correctly applying the
         criteria set forth in the statute, specifically
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 3
         at Section 16 of Chapter 162-H.
                   PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK: Does
 4
 5
         anybody have anything to add?
                         [No verbal response.]
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                   PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK:
 7
         All right. That's -- Beth.
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                   DIR. MUZZEY: I'm sorry if I missed
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         this in our discussion, but did we talk about
         oysters in the section of natural environment?
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12
                   MR. FITZGERALD: Yes.
13
                   DIR. MUZZEY: I know it was brought
14
         up under health and safety as well within
15
         our -- the proceeding. And I just wanted to
16
         make sure that --
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                   MR. FITZGERALD: Well, I included it
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         in my discussion, even though it was brought up
19
         as a health and safety issue.
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                   DIR. MUZZEY: Right. And the fact
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         that no new arguments seem to be made that we
22
         had considered those factors.
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                   MR. FITZGERALD: Yes.
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                   DIR. MUZZEY: And no need to reargue
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         that?
                   MR. FITZGERALD: Absolutely.
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                   DIR. MUZZEY: Thank you.
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                   PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK: So,
         that's the last -- that was the last issue that
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         I have on my list. So, I'm going to recess the
 7
         hearing, and we're going to go into a
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         non-meeting with our counsel. Hopefully, we'll
         be back within 20 minutes.
9
                         (Recess taken at 10:12 a.m. and
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11
                         the hearing and deliberations
12
                         resumed at 10:20 a.m.)
13
                   PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK: Okay.
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         I'd like to reopen the hearing and continue our
15
         deliberations.
16
                   We have before us the Town of
17
         Durham's Partially Assented-to Motion for
18
         Rehearing. Does anybody have a motion with
19
         regard to that hearing [motion?]?
20
                   MR. FITZGERALD: Mr. Chairman, I
21
         would --
                   PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK: Susan.
22
23
                   MR. FITZGERALD: Oh. So sorry.
24
                   MS. DUPREY: Mr. Chairman I would
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make a motion to deny the Town of Durham's
 1
         Motion for Rehearing.
 2
                    PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK: Second?
 3
                    DIR. MUZZEY: Second.
 4
                    PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK: Okay.
 6
         Would anybody like to add anything to the
 7
         discussion that we've had so far?
 8
                    DIR. MUZZEY: No.
                    PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK: Okay.
9
10
         Well, let's take a vote.
                    All in favor of the motion?
11
12
                         [Multiple members indicating
                         "ave". 1
13
14
                    PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK:
15
         that's unanimous to deny.
16
                    We have a motion of Durham Residents'
17
         Partially Assented-to Joint Motion for
18
         Rehearing. Would anyone like to make a motion
19
         with regard to that?
20
                    Mike.
21
                    MR. FITZGERALD: Mr. Chairman, I'd
22
         make a motion that we deny that.
23
                    PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK: Second?
24
                    MS. DUPREY: Second.
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PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK: Would
 1
         anyone like to add anything to our discussion
 2
 3
         with regard to that motion?
                         [No verbal response.]
 4
                    PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK: Well,
 5
 6
         let's take a vote.
 7
                    All in favor of denying, please say
         "aye"?
 8
 9
                         [Multiple members indicating
                         "aye".]
10
                    PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK: It's
11
12
         unanimous.
13
                    And lastly, we have a corrected
14
         Partially Assented-to Motion of the
         Conservation Law Foundation for Rehearing and
15
16
         Reconsideration. Do I hear a motion on that?
17
                   Mr. Way.
18
                    MR. WAY: Mr. Chairman, I would make
19
         a motion to deny the Conservation Law
20
         Foundation motion.
21
                    PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK: Is there
22
         a second?
23
                    MR. FITZGERALD: I'll second it.
24
                    PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK:
                                                Okay.
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Would anyone like to add anything to our
 1
          discussion with regard to that motion?
 2
                          [No verbal response.]
 3
                    PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK: Let's
 4
 5
          vote then.
 6
                    All in favor of denying, say "aye"?
 7
                          [Multiple members indicating
                          "aye".]
 8
                    PRESIDING OFFICER SHULOCK:
 9
10
         unanimous.
                    So, those were the three motions that
11
12
         have brought us here today. We've denied all
13
          three.
14
                    And we will adjourn the hearing.
15
          Thank you all very much.
16
                          (Whereupon the deliberations and
17
                         the hearing was adjourned at
                         10:23 a.m.)
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CERTIFICATE

I, Steven. E. Patnaude, a Licensed Shorthand Court Reporter, 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.

Steven E. Patnaude, LCR

Licensed Court Reporter N.H. LCR No. 52 (RSA 310-A:173)