



The State of New Hampshire  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**



**Thomas S. Burack, Commissioner**

September 4, 2015

Michael J. Iacopino  
Brennan, Lenehan, Iacopino & Hickey  
85 Brook Street  
Manchester, NH 03104

Re: Joint Application of New England Power Company d/b/a National Grid &  
Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy  
Merrimack Valley Reliability Project  
Site Evaluation Committee No. 2015-005

Dear Attorney Iacopino:

This letter is to notify you that DES Water Division staff have completed their determination as to whether or not the above referenced application contains sufficient information for the DES to complete their technical review to consider the issuance of permits, conditions, or licenses under the jurisdiction of DES. The following list contains the program application numbers as well as the completeness determination:

1. Alteration of Terrain Permit Application No. 150903-147 - complete
2. Wetland Permit Application Nos. 2015-02336, 2015-02337, 2015-02338, 2015-02339 - complete
3. Shoreland Permit Application No. 2015-02335 - complete

In addition to the above permit applications, a 401 Water Quality Certification (WQC) from the Department may be required depending on which U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) permit is deemed necessary – an Individual Section 404 permit or State Programmatic General Permit (PGP). Therefore, if the ACOE decides the project falls under the PGP (as expected by the Applicant) there is sufficient information in the submittal for Watershed Management Bureau (WMB) to begin its review as related to the 401 WQC. If the ACOE decides the project requires an Individual Section 404 permit, the application is not complete until the Applicant submits an application for 401 WQC to the WMB.

The DES Water Division's detailed review of the project along with the provision for technical comments or conclusions will occur concurrently with the NHSEC project evaluation process. If you have any questions, please contact me at 271-2951 or email at: [Rene.Pelletier@des.nh.gov](mailto:Rene.Pelletier@des.nh.gov)

Sincerely,

Rene Pelletier, Assistant Director  
Water Division

cc: Eugene Forbes, Director, Water Division  
David Keddell, ACOE