STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE

September 23, 2015 - 12:03 p.m.
Public Utilities Commission
21 South Fruit Street Suite 10
Concord, New Hampshire

IN RE: SEC DOCKET NO. 2015-05
SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE:
Joint Application of New England Power Company d/b/a National Grid and Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy for a Certificate of Site and Facility. (Meeting of Subcommittee members to determine whether the Application as filed contains sufficient information to carry out the purposes of RSA 162-H.)

PRESENT:

SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE:

F. Anne Ross, Esq. Public Utilities Commission
(Presiding as Presiding Officer)

Cmsr. Kathryn M. Bailey Public Utilities Commission
Cmsr. Jeffrey Rose Dept. of Resources & Economic Development
Dr. Richard Boisvert DCR-Div. of Historical Res.
Michele Roberge Dept. of Environmental Serv.
Patricia Weathersby Public Member
Roger Hawk Public Member

Also Present: Michael J. Iacopino, Esq. (Brennan Lenehan..)

COURT REPORTER: Steven E. Patnaude, LCR No. 52
ALSO NOTED AS PRESENT:

Adam Dumville, Esq.
(McLane, Graf, Raulerson & Middleton)
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MOTION BY MR. BOISVERT to accept the Application as complete... SECOND BY MS. WEATHERSBY 10

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AMENDMENT TO THE MOTION BY COMMISSIONER BAILEY 10 that the Subcommittee is voting on a finding that the Application is complete, and to allow Counsel to the Committee to designate the Subcommittee's findings in an order

VOTE ON THE MOTION AS AMENDED 11

{SEC 2015-05} [Meeting of Subcommittee] {09-23-15}
P R O C E E D I N G

PRESIDING OFFICER ROSS: Good afternoon.

My name is Anne Ross. And, I've been designated as member and Presiding Officer of the Subcommittee. The Subcommittee sits on Docket Number 2015-05, which is the Joint Application of New England Power and Eversource Energy for a Certificate of Site and Facility for the Merrimack Valley Reliability Project and Electric Transmission Line Project.

I will now allow the other members of the Committee to introduce themselves.

COMMISSIONER BAILEY: Good afternoon.

Kate Bailey, New Hampshire Public Utility Commission.

MR. BOISVERT: Richard Boisvert, New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources.

MS. ROBERGE: Michele Roberge, for the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services.

COMMISSIONER ROSE: Good afternoon.

Jeff Rose, with the Department of Resources and Economic Development.

MS. WEATHERSBY: Patricia Weathersby, public member.

PRESIDING OFFICER ROSS: On August 5th, New England Power Company, doing business as National
Grid, and Public Service Company of New Hampshire, doing business as Eversource Energy, filed a Joint Application for a Certificate of Site and Facility with the Site Evaluation Committee. The Application seeks the issuance of a Certificate of Site and Facility approving the siting, construction, and operation of a 345 kilovolt (CH) electric transmission line. The proposed transmission line will be constructed in an existing developed transmission line corridor between New England Power's Tewksbury 22A Substation in Tewksbury, Massachusetts and PSNH's Scobie Pond 345 kV Substation in Londonderry, New Hampshire.

The Project will consist of approximately 18 miles of 345 kV transmission line, known as the "3124 Line". The Project will also require the relocation of existing facilities along some sections of the corridor, including the 115 kV line, referred to as the "Y-151 Line", in order to accommodate the proposed 3124 Line. The Project will traverse the Towns of Pelham, Windham, Hudson, and Londonderry.

Specifically, the Project will consist of four segments, three of which will be located in the State of New Hampshire. Segment 1 will be located entirely in Massachusetts. Segment 2 will be owned by New
England Power and will extend from the Massachusetts border to a location in the Town of Hudson, where the Project transitions from NEP to PSNH ownership. This segment is approximately 14.6 miles in length.

Segment 3 will extend from Mile 14.6 of the Project, in Hudson, New Hampshire, to Mile 18.5 of the Project, where the new 3124 Line will depart to a north-south corridor running parallel to NEP's right-of-way and turn northerly towards the Scobie Pond 345 Substation in Londonderry, New Hampshire. It will consist of approximately 3.9 miles.

Segment 4 will begin from the point that the PSNH right-of-way diverges from running parallel with the NEP right-of-way and continues east to the Scobie Pond 345 kV Substation for approximately 5.9 miles.

And, I'm going to pause and ask the member joining us if he could introduce himself.

MR. HAWK: My name is Roger Hawk. I'm the citizen member of the Committee. Sorry for being late.

PRESIDING OFFICER ROSS: Thank you. The purpose of our meeting here today is to determine whether the Application as filed contains sufficient information to carry out the purposes of RSA 62-H -- that's 162-H,
excuse me. To date, we have received correspondence from various state agencies, including the State Fire Marshal, the Division of Historical Resources, the Department of Environmental Services, the Department of Transportation, and the Safety Division of the Public Utilities Commission. Each of the agencies have conducted a preliminary review of the Application and have advised the Committee that the Application and its contents appear to be complete from the agencies' perspective. The authority for our proceeding today is RSA 162-H:4 -- (CH) Section 4 and 7.

I will now open the floor for discussion of whether the Application contains sufficient information for us to carry out the purposes of RSA 162-H.

COMMISSIONER BAILEY: Having reviewed the filings from the state agencies and the Application, I believe that the Application is complete, and we should accept it for review.

PRESIDING OFFICER ROSS: Are there any other comments from members?

MS. WEATHERSBY: Madam Chair?

PRESIDING OFFICER ROSS: Yes.

MS. WEATHERSBY: I would agree with that statement.
PRESIDING OFFICER ROSS: Did you want to speak?

COMMISSIONER ROSE: I would concur with that statement as well.

PRESIDING OFFICER ROSS: Is there anyone who doesn't agree with the statement that the Application appears to be complete, based on the filings that we've received?

(No verbal response)

MR. IACOPINO: May I? Okay. Madam Chair, I would just point out that, as Counsel to the Committee, I did provide the Committee with a checklist list that I generally use for the review of these types of applications. It's a 108-element checklist that goes over both what's required to be contained within an application by statute and what is required under our -- under our current administrative rules. And, I did circulate that checklist for the Committee's review.

And, based upon what I reviewed, it seems that each element was successfully provided by the applicant to make this a complete application, at least from the standpoint of whether or not they have provided the components that are required by both the statute and the administrative rules to make a complete application.
PRESIDING OFFICER ROSS: Thank you. I received that packet and reviewed it. Have other members also received the information concerning the checklist and the review?

COMMISSIONER BAILEY: Yes.

MS. ROBERGE: Yes. I received it. And, I concur, that I believe the Application is complete as well.

PRESIDING OFFICER ROSS: In that case, I would entertain a motion?

MR. BOISVERT: Let me move that we accept the Application as complete. And, following some guidance here, if I can read the --

PRESIDING OFFICER ROSS: Certainly.

MR. BOISVERT: A comprehensive review of the Application reveals that the Application has provided all information required by RSA 162-H and by the Site Evaluation Committee rules codified development at the New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules, Site 301. Based upon the preliminary review of the Application by the Committee as required by RSA 162-H:7, IV, the Committee finds that the Application contains sufficient information to carry out the purposes of RSA 162-H. The Application is hereby accepted and deemed to seek the issuance of a

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Certificate of Site and Facility for an energy facility as defined in RSA 162-H:2, VII.

On September 23rd, 2015, at the duly noticed public meeting, the Committee votes to accept the Application.

PRESIDING OFFICER ROSS: Do I have someone willing to second the motion?

MS. WEATHERSBY: Second.

PRESIDING OFFICER ROSS: I believe it is somewhere tucked into your motion was the statement that "the Application is complete", I was listening for that?

MR. BOISVERT: Yes. It says "the Application is hereby accepted" -- okay, I'm sorry. I believe I said it was "complete". There's another section, "Therefore, the Application is hereby accepted and this matter shall proceed in accordance with the procedures set forth at RSA 162-H and New Hampshire Code Administrative Rules, Site 200 et seq."

PRESIDING OFFICER ROSS: I would accept a slight amendment, just to clarify that we are voting on whether the Application is complete. That motion, if someone could --

COMMISSIONER BAILEY: Could I make that motion, and also, Mr. Boisvert, could I ask that we
consider allowing the Chair -- or, the counsel to so
designate our findings in an order?

MR. BOISVERT: Yes, you can.

PRESIDING OFFICER ROSS: With those --
with that amendment, that we're adding language to the
effect that we are finding the Application is complete and
delegating or designating counsel to put our findings and
translate our findings into an appropriate order.

With that, is there any discussion of
the pending motion?

(No verbal response)

PRESIDING OFFICER ROSS: Then, all in
favor please say "aye"?

[Multiple members indicating "aye".]

PRESIDING OFFICER ROSS: Any opposed say
"nay"?

(No verbal response)

PRESIDING OFFICER ROSS: Okay. The
ruling is made that we've accepted this as complete.

Is there anything further we need to do
today?

(No verbal response)

PRESIDING OFFICER ROSS: With that, then
I think we'll close this meeting of the Site Evaluation
Committee on Docket 2015-05. Thank you very much.

MR. DUMVILLE: Thank you very much.

(Whereupon the meeting of the Subcommittee regarding SEC 2015-05 was adjourned at 12:14 p.m.)