State of New Hampshire

Site Evaluation Committee

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October 9, 2015

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Re: 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
NH Site Evaluation Committee Docket No. 2015-05

Dear State Agency Leaders:

NOTICE OF INITIATION OF PROCEEDING
(RSA 162-H:7-a, II)

On August 5, 2015, New England Power Company d/b/a National Grid (NEP) and Public Service Company of New Hampshire (PSNH) d/b/a Eversource Energy (collectively Applicant) filed a joint application for a certificate of site and facility (Application) with the Site Evaluation Committee (Committee). The Application seeks the issuance of a Certificate of Site and Facility (Certificate) approving the siting, construction and operation for a new 345 kV electric transmission line (Project). The proposed transmission line will be constructed in an existing developed transmission line corridor between NEP's Tewksbury 22A Substation in Tewksbury, Massachusetts and PSNH's Scobie Pond 345 kV Substation in Londonderry, New Hampshire. The pre-existing transmission line corridor traverses the towns of Pelham and Hudson in Hillsborough County, and Windham and Londonderry, in Rockingham County.

A Subcommittee was appointed in this docket on August 12, 2015. The Presiding Officer is F. Anne Ross. On October 5, 2015, the Subcommittee issued an order finding that the Application contained sufficient information to carry out the purposes of RSA 162-H. The purpose of this letter is to formally notify your agency that the Committee has accepted the Application and initiated a proceeding pursuant to RSA 162-H:7-a.

The Application and all other filings in this docket are located at the Committee's website: www.nhsec.nh.gov.

All filings in this docket should be directed to:

Pamela Monroe, Administrator
NH Site Evaluation Committee
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, NH 03301
Pamela.monroe@sec.nh.gov.
(603) 271-2345

STATE AGENCIES WITH PERMITTING
OR OTHER REGULATORY AUTHORITY

If your agency, or any division or bureau of your agency, has permitting or other regulatory authority over any aspect of the Application or the proposed Project, RSA 162-H:7-a governs how you may participate in the proceedings.

You should review those portions of the Application that pertain to your permitting and other regulatory authority. In accordance with **RSA 162-H:7, VI-b** your agency must **report your progress** to the Subcommittee no later than **March 2, 2016**. The progress reports shall include an outline of draft permit conditions and specify additional data requirements that are necessary to make a final decision on the parts of the Application that relate to your agency's permitting or other regulatory authority.

Further, in accordance with **RSA 162-H:7, VI-c**, your agency must make and submit to the Subcommittee a **final decision** on the parts of the Application that relate to your agency's permitting or other regulatory authority no later than **May 31, 2016**.

Lastly, in accordance with **RSA 162-H:7-a, I,(c)**, you should identify any issues of concern about those portions of the Application or the Project that relate to your permitting or other regulatory authority or advise the Subcommittee if there are no issues of concern for your agency. In the event that issues of concern exist, you may designate witnesses to appear before the Subcommittee at a hearing to provide the agency's input and to answer questions posed by the Subcommittee and the parties to the proceeding.

STATE AGENCIES THAT DO NOT HAVE PERMITTING OR OTHER REGULATORY AUTHORITY (RSA 162-H: 7-a, III)

If your agency does not have permitting or other regulatory authority related to the Application or the Project, but wishes to participate in the proceedings, your agency must file a request to participate with the Presiding Officer. Your request must be filed within 30 days of receipt of this letter and should be delivered to Pamela Monroe, Administrator.

In your request you should set forth, in detail, the material interest that your agency has in the Project or the Application. Under RSA 162-H:7-a, III, the Presiding Officer of the Subcommittee will determine whether your agency has a material interest in the proceedings and whether your agency's participation conforms with the normal procedural rules of the Committee. If permitted to participate, you must designate a staff liaison from your agency. Your staff liaison to the Committee should expect to be required to attend all hearings, pre-hearing conferences and technical sessions. Your staff liaison should review RSA 162-H and the Committee's administrative rules, Site 100, *et seq*. Both are available on the Committee's website. Your agency, if permitted to participate, will be required to conform to all the same requirements as other parties to the proceeding including any procedural orders issued by the Presiding Officer.

Your agency may also choose to file a formal motion to intervene in the proceedings consistent with the requirements of RSA 541-A:32 and New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rulesk, Site 202.11.

PUBLIC RECORDS AND EX-PARTE COMMUNICATIONS
(RSA 162-H: 7-a, 5; RSA 541-A: 36)

Please be aware that all communications between your agency, its witnesses or its liaison, and the Subcommittee will be included in the official record of this docket and will be publically available. Ex-parte communications with Subcommittee members about the Project or the Application are strictly prohibited.

Should you have any questions about this notification please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Pamela G. Monroe, Administrator
NH Site Evaluation Committee