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November 13, 2015

The Honorable Martin Honigberg, Chairman  
New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee  
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10  
Concord, NH 03301

Re: Proposed Site Evaluation Committee Rules

Dear Chairman Honigberg:

BAE Systems is disappointed and concerned by the Site Evaluation Committee (SEC) Rules submitted for Joint Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules (JLCAR) approval last month. As stakeholders continue to discuss revisions to the rules, I hope you and your colleagues will re-submit a set of balanced rules free of anti-development hurdles outside the scope of S. 245 and pertinent statutes.

BAE Systems is the largest manufacturer in the state, and among the state's largest consumers of energy. With facilities across the country, the company can say with certainty that New Hampshire's high energy costs negatively impact cost-competitiveness. Bringing new sources of electricity – regardless of source – and natural gas into the region is the only way to ensure access to reliable, low-cost energy. Absent a regulatory climate which enables fair and timely consideration of urgently needed energy generation and transmission projects, the ability of New Hampshire companies to compete nationally and globally will erode.

The "public interest" and "cumulative impact" issues are the two areas where the company feels the rules submitted to JLCAR went beyond the law and legislative intent, and, if implemented, would stifle any energy infrastructure development. Regarding a public interest determination, BAE Systems supports the suggestion made by Sen. Dan Feltes during JLCAR consideration last month, and subsequently made by Sen. Jeb Bradley in a letter to you dated November 6, 2015, which would have the SEC rules simply restate the public interest finding language in current statute. Regarding "cumulative impact" consideration, the law and legislative history indicate that cumulative impact should be part of SEC rules for wind energy projects only.

BAE Systems continues to support energy infrastructure development policies that strike an appropriate balance between the need to protect and preserve our environment with the need for reliable, low-cost energy in New Hampshire and the northeast. We hope the new SEC rules submitted to JLCAR in the coming weeks will achieve that balance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "PG Markwardt".

Paul Markwardt  
Vice President and Deputy General Manager  
BAE Systems Electronic Systems