

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE**

**Docket No. 2015-04**

**Application of Public Service Company of New Hampshire  
d/b/a Eversource Energy for Certificate of Site and Facility**

**May 3, 2018**

**ORDER ON ASSENTED-TO MOTION  
TO INCREASE BUDGETS FOR CONSULTANTS**

This Order grants Counsel for the Public's Motion to increase the budget for the fees and costs of his consultants.

**I. BACKGROUND**

On October 20, 2016, Counsel for the Public requested approval to retain Heritage Landscapes, LLC (Heritage) as an expert consultant on historic and cultural resources and Michael Lawrence Associates, PLC (MLA) as an expert consultant on aesthetics. On October 28, 2016, Counsel for the Public requested approval to retain ESS Group (ESS) as an expert consultant on technical and environmental aspects of crossing of the Little Bay.

On November 8, 2016, the Presiding Officer granted the requests and approved a budget for: (i) Heritage in the amount of \$32,149; (ii) MLA in the amount of \$40,000; and (iii) ESS in the amount of \$82,000.

On April 25, 2018, Counsel for the Public filed an Assented-To Motion for Leave to Increase Budgets for Consultants. The Applicant assented to the requested relief and no party objected.

## II. ANALYSIS

Counsel for the Public explains that an increase in Heritage's budget was caused by the extension of timeframes in this docket and the unanticipated review of Section 106 materials that were provided by the Applicant. Counsel for the Public requests an increase in Heritage's budget by \$14,851.

Counsel for the Public explains that the increase in MLA's budget is warranted, considering the extended timeframes of this case and the unanticipated increase in scope. .

Counsel for the Public explains that the increase in ESS's budget is warranted due the extension of the timeframes and ESS's unanticipated involvement with the DES review process. Counsel for the Public requests an increase in ESS's budget by \$13,000.

Counsel for the Public's requests are reasonable. At the time of retention, Counsel for the Public's experts did anticipate the additional costs that would not be covered by the initially approved budgets. The additional funds requested by Counsel for the Public for the completing the consultative and expert services are reasonable under the circumstances.

Counsel for the Public's Motion is granted. Subject to the conditions in prior Orders, the Applicant shall pay for the services of: (i) Heritage, as invoiced, in an additional amount not to exceed \$14,851; (ii) MLA, as invoiced, in an additional amount not to exceed \$9,000; and (iii) ESS, as invoiced, in an additional amount not to exceed \$13,000.

SO ORDERED this third day of May, 2018.



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Evan Mulholland, Presiding Officer  
Site Evaluation Committee