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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE

JULY 14, 2016 - 6:05 p.m.
Oyster River High School
55 Coe Drive
Durham, New Hampshire
(Strafford County)



ORIGINAL

NHPUC 6SEP16PM2:32

IN RE: SEC DOCKET NO. 2015-04
Application of Public Service
Company of New Hampshire, d/b/a
Eversource Energy, for a
Certificate of Site and
Facility.
(Public Information Session
held pursuant to RSA 162-H:10,
I-a.)

[Consisting of a presentation by
the SEC, a presentation by the
Applicant, followed by a
Question-and-Answer Session
and comments received from the
public]

PRESIDING: Michael J. Iacopino, Esq. (Brennan...)
(Presiding as the Presiding Officer)

Pamela G. Monroe, SEC Administrator

COURT REPORTER: Susan J. Robidas, LCR No. 44

1 NOTED AS PRESENT:

2 Counsel for the Applicant: Barry Needleman, Esq.
3 Adam Dumville, Esq.
(McLane Middleton)

4 Counsel for the Public: Christopher Aslin, Esq.
5 Asst. Atty. General
N.H. Dept. of Justice

6

7 Also noted as present from the
8 Applicants who were available
9 to provide the presentation and
answers to questions:

10 Jim Jiottis

11 David Plante

12 Sarah Allen

13 Bob Varney

14 Bob Clarke

15 Cherilyn Widell

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P R O C E E D I N G S

1
2 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: Good
3 evening. My name is Michael Iacopino. I'm
4 counsel to the New Hampshire Site Evaluation
5 Committee, and we're here tonight for the first
6 of two public information sessions in Docket
7 No. 2015-04, the Application of Public Service
8 Company of New Hampshire, doing business as
9 Eversource Energy, for a Certificate of Site
10 and Facility. I'm going to give you a little
11 rundown of what we're going to do here tonight,
12 and then we'll get into a presentation to
13 explain to you exactly what the Site Evaluation
14 Committee is, how it operates. First thing you
15 should know is a little background.

16 On April 13, 2016, PSNH, doing
17 business as Eversource, filed an Application
18 for a Certificate of Site and Facility with the
19 Site Evaluation Committee. Eversource asked
20 the Committee to issue a Certificate of Site
21 and Facility approving the siting, construction
22 and operation of a 115 kV transmission line
23 that will span from the Madbury Substation to
24 the Portsmouth Substation. The Project is

1 approximately 12.9 miles in length and is
2 comprised of a combination of above-ground,
3 underground and underwater segments. The
4 Project will be located in the towns of
5 Madbury, Durham, Newington and in the city of
6 Portsmouth.

7 On April 29, 2016, the Chair, Martin
8 Honigberg, who is the Chair of the Site
9 Evaluation Committee, appointed a subcommittee
10 that will be the body that will hear the
11 evidence in this docket and will determine
12 whether or not to issue the Certificate that is
13 sought.

14 On June 13th, the Subcommittee issued
15 an order finding that the Application, as it
16 was filed, contained sufficient information to
17 carry out the purposes of R.S.A. 162-H. And I
18 will get into what those purposes are in just a
19 moment.

20 This hearing today is one of two
21 public information sessions that are scheduled.
22 The next one -- today is in Strafford County,
23 as you all know. The next one will be in
24 Rockingham County because part of the facility

1 is in Rockingham County, and that public
2 hearing will occur on July 21, 2016. A formal
3 Order of Notice of this meeting tonight was
4 issued by the Public Utilities Commission, and
5 it was published on June 27th in the Manchester
6 Union Leader, which is a paper that has
7 statewide circulation.

8 For those of who you want to follow
9 along, we have an agenda that's out there at
10 the table. On the back side of the agenda is
11 some instructions, if you want to participate
12 by asking questions or making statements in
13 tonight's proceedings. And I'm going to go
14 through that first.

15 Our process is there will be a
16 presentation made by me, explaining how the
17 Site Evaluation Committee operates. Following
18 that presentation, Mr. Jiottis, from
19 Eversource, will make a presentation about the
20 Project and give you more information about the
21 specifics of the Project itself. Once he is
22 done, we will take questions from the public.
23 If you have a question that you would like
24 asked, we'd like you to write that question

1 down on the green sheet and hand it to one of
2 the workers at the table back there, or you can
3 walk right up here and hand it to me or to Ms.
4 Monroe, the Administrator of the Committee.
5 By the way, to my right is Pamela Monroe.
6 She's the Administrator of the Committee. That
7 means she deals with all the problems, okay.
8 But if you have a question, write it down. We
9 will group the questions by subject matter and
10 ask them of the Applicant. Or if there is a
11 question about the Site Evaluation Committee,
12 we will hopefully answer your question. If you
13 just want to make a written comment about the
14 Project or what you perceive about the Project,
15 that's what the blue sheets are for. Write
16 down your comment or your question that you
17 don't want to ask tonight and, again, hand it
18 to the folks at the table back there. And
19 finally, if you wish to make a public statement
20 tonight, as opposed to a question, you should
21 fill out one of these yellow cards and, again,
22 hand it to one of the workers in the back of
23 the room, or bring it right up to the table
24 here. We will take public statements after we

1 answer all the questions. By that time, by the
2 end of the public statements, we should be
3 ready to adjourn.

4 Did I miss anything?

5 MS. MONROE: No. Thank you.

6 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: So,
7 again, if you want to speak, yellow card; if
8 you just want to leave a written comment, blue
9 sheet; and if you have a question, green sheet.

10 The Site Evaluation Committee is a
11 Committee that is established by the
12 Legislature of the State of New Hampshire. Our
13 enabling statute -- in other words, the statute
14 that gives birth to the Committee -- is R.S.A.
15 162-H. If you ever need to contact the
16 Committee, Pam Monroe is the person to contact,
17 and her contact information is right here, her
18 e-mail and her telephone number. And I'll put
19 this up at the end of the presentation as well.

20 R.S.A. 162-H has some very specific
21 purposes. It is designed to balance. It
22 creates a Committee that is designed to balance
23 the benefits and impacts of energy facilities
24 that are proposed to be sited, constructed and

1 operated in the state of New Hampshire.
2 Generally, those energy facilities are the
3 larger ones, usually over 30 megawatts.
4 Sometimes they're under 30 megawatts. But for
5 the most part, they're energy facilities that
6 will have a nameplate capacity of 30 megawatts.
7 The purpose of the Committee is to balance the
8 impacts of site selection on the welfare of the
9 population, private property, location and
10 growth of industry, the economic growth of the
11 state, the environment of the state, historic
12 sites, aesthetics, air and water quality,
13 public health and safety, the natural
14 environment. And basically that's a pretty big
15 task for the Committee is to balance all those
16 things during the course of its process.

17 Second and third purposes of Site
18 Evaluation Committee are to avoid undue delay
19 in the construction of new energy facilities
20 and to provide full and timely consideration
21 of all environmental consequences, and to
22 provide full and complete disclosure to the
23 public of the process of siting the plant, as
24 well as what the energy facility is going to

1 look like, sound like and how much
2 electricity or other energy it's going to
3 produce or transport. And finally, the major
4 purpose -- one of the major purposes is to
5 ensure that the siting, construction and
6 operation of energy facilities are treated as
7 a significant aspect of land-use planning in
8 which all environmental, economic and
9 technical issues are resolved in an
10 integrated fashion. In essence, the Site
11 Evaluation Committee is the statewide
12 planning board for energy facilities in the
13 state of New Hampshire. It's designed to
14 integrate all the state permitting processes.
15 So, as you can imagine, any large
16 construction project, whether it be a
17 shopping mall or an energy facility, has to
18 go through a lot of permitting. When it's an
19 energy facility, that permitting is
20 centralized through the Site Evaluation
21 Committee. Each of the state agencies that
22 would normally grant the permit do remain
23 involved, and they do have significant input
24 into the process.

1 People always ask about this one, but
2 the Site Evaluation Committee does preempt.
3 In other words, it replaces your local ZBA,
4 your local planning board. It takes over.
5 The legal term us lawyers like to use is it
6 "preempts" their authority. That doesn't
7 mean that the Site Evaluation Committee does
8 not consider the local interests. However,
9 the ultimate decision is not made by your
10 local entities, it is made by the Site
11 Evaluation Committee. It provides
12 essentially a supermarket or a one-stop
13 shopping center for folks who want to build
14 energy facilities in the state of New
15 Hampshire.

16 The Committee today consists of these
17 individuals. The three Public Utilities
18 Commissioners are on the Committee, and the
19 Chair of the Public Utilities Commission is
20 also the Chair of our Committee. Those three
21 are: Martin Honigberg, who's our Chair;
22 Robert Scott, who's a PUC Commissioner, and
23 Kate Bailey, who's also a PUC Commissioner.
24 In addition, the DES Commissioner, Thomas

1 Burack, is the Vice-Chair of the Committee.
2 And then the Department of Transportation
3 Commissioner, our DRED Commissioner, our
4 Cultural Resources Commissioner all sit on
5 the Committee as well. And today, those
6 folks are Victoria Sheehan, Jeff Rose. And
7 this one is an either/or. It can be either
8 the commissioner himself or the Director of
9 the Division of Historic Resources. Our
10 Cultural Resources Commissioner is Van
11 McCloud. Generally it's Beth Muzzey who will
12 sit on the Committee. And then we have two
13 public members and an alternate public
14 member. Right now, one of our public member
15 seats is vacant. So the two public members
16 who will sit on this case are Patricia
17 Weathersby and Rachel Whitaker. Patricia and
18 Rachel are not State employees like the other
19 members of the Committee are. The members of
20 the Committee who run state agencies have the
21 authority to delegate their seat on the
22 Committee to a senior person in their
23 division, and in this particular case that
24 has happened. Chairman Honigberg has

1 designated Bob Scott to be the chairman of
2 this subcommittee that will hear this today.
3 Tom Burack, Commissioner of DES, has
4 delegated Michelle Roberge to sit on the
5 Committee in his place. Is it Marty or
6 Kate --

7 MS. MONROE: Marty.

8 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: Martin
9 Honigberg designated Dave Shulock, who's the
10 Director of the Legal Division at the PUC, to
11 sit on the Subcommittee. Beth Muzzey will be
12 sitting on the Committee. Charles Schmidt was
13 designated by the Department of Transportation.
14 And again, our two public members will be
15 sitting on every docket that's before the
16 Committee until that third seat is filled. But
17 that's the Subcommittee that will be making the
18 big decisions in this docket.

19 In every case that comes before the
20 Site Evaluation Committee, every application,
21 the Attorney General is required to appoint
22 Counsel for the Public. Counsel for the
23 Public's role is to represent the public, to
24 protect the quality of the environment and to

1 make sure that we seek an adequate supply of
2 energy for the state of New Hampshire. And
3 Counsel for the Public has all the rights and
4 responsibilities of a party to the case. In
5 other words, Counsel for the Public comes into
6 the case and has just as much rights to file
7 motions, make arguments, make objections as
8 Eversource does, or any other party who may be
9 involved in the case. Counsel for the Public
10 in this particular case is Assistant Attorney
11 General Chris Aslin. He's right here in the
12 third row. I'm going to turn the microphone
13 over to him for a minute so he can introduce
14 himself, and he can let you guys know how to
15 contact him. But his contact information is up
16 there as well.

17 MR. ASLIN: Thank you, Mike. As you
18 just heard, my name's Chris Aslin, Assistant
19 Attorney General with the Department of
20 Justice. I've been appointed as Counsel for
21 the Public for this proceeding. And you can
22 see on the screen the statutory role that
23 Counsel for the Public plays. It's important
24 to remember that Counsel for the Public

1 represents the public interests at large; it
2 doesn't represent individual members of the
3 public. So, unfortunately, I'm not your
4 specific lawyer if you have an interest. And
5 if you are going to be involved in the case on
6 your own personal interests, I'd recommend you
7 find your own attorney for that. However, as
8 Counsel for the Public, I am tasked with
9 looking at this project with the public's
10 interest in mind. And I'd be very interested
11 to hear any concerns members of the public have
12 about the Project, concerns or support. And I
13 can be a resource for you to understand the
14 process, along with Pam Monroe, in answering
15 any questions. So if you have things you'd
16 like to tell me or have questions for me, I
17 will be around after this presentation and
18 happy to speak with you. Thank you.

19 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: Thank
20 you, Chris.

21 If you go on to our web site, you
22 will see that we have a copy of the Application
23 available there. You will see that they are
24 ginormous dockets that contain all kinds of

1 information. That's because a lot goes into
2 these proceedings before we even get to this
3 point. Before an application is filed, the
4 applicants generally are doing studies with the
5 Independent System Operator who runs the New
6 England grid to make sure they can put their
7 power out to the public. These applications
8 generally have lots of environmental and
9 resource studies that support them. The
10 Application -- the applicants generally are
11 meeting with state agencies to find out what
12 the requirements are going to be in advance so
13 that they can comply with them. And there are
14 a lot of agencies, both state and federal,
15 involved in the process, even before an
16 application is filed. Most applicants make
17 contact with regional planning commissions,
18 local zoning boards and planning boards and
19 municipalities. They generally obtain the
20 long-range plans for the municipality, the
21 zoning ordinances, the planning ordinances, and
22 are prepared to discuss how their project can
23 fit in with those things. Obviously, if you
24 are a power generator -- which this is not a

1 power generation facility in this docket. But
2 if you're a power generator, you have to make
3 arrangements for transmission. You have to
4 make arrangements to buy and sell power,
5 financing. With some of our projects that come
6 before the Site Evaluation Committee, there are
7 big tax credit issues, particularly if they're
8 renewables. And each applicant who wishes to
9 site, construct and operate an energy facility
10 in the state of New Hampshire must, before they
11 even file with the Site Evaluation Committee,
12 hold a public information session in each
13 county where the Project is proposed to be
14 located, somewhat similar to what we're doing
15 here tonight, although the Committee itself is
16 not involved in those proceedings. But at
17 least 30 days before filing they have to have a
18 public information session in each county. And
19 I understand that that occurred both here in
20 Strafford County and also in Rockingham County
21 for this project back in April or May. Then,
22 when an Applicant files their application, one
23 of the reasons why they are so large is because
24 of our requirements. We require they describe

1 each piece of the application, each major part
2 of it, in reasonable detail; we require them to
3 identify their preferred choice of route, in
4 this particular case because it's a
5 transmission line; and any other choices for
6 each major part of the facility, that they
7 describe the impact of each major part of the
8 facility on environment; that they describe the
9 Applicant's proposals for studying and solving
10 any environmental problems; that the Applicant
11 describe the Applicant's financial, technical
12 and managerial experience and why they believe
13 they are capable of siting, constructing and
14 operating such a project; they have to document
15 that written notification of the Project,
16 including copies of the Application, have been
17 given to the governing bodies in each community
18 in which they're going to be located; and that
19 they have in reasonable detail provided the
20 elements of and financial assurances for a
21 facility decommissioning plan. That's one of
22 our regulations, one of our rules. And the
23 Applicant must also provide any additional
24 information that's contained in our rules. And

1 believe me, there's a lot of information that
2 is required to be provided in Site 301. That's
3 our fancy lawyer talk for our rules and
4 regulations.

5 The SEC has time frames that are
6 created by statute that we must comply with.
7 Having this hearing tonight is complying with
8 one of those time frames. The first time frame
9 is that the Applicant must, at least 30 days
10 before filing its application, must hold a
11 prefiling information session that I discussed
12 before. Once the Application is filed, the
13 chairman of the Application is charged with
14 expeditiously providing the Application to all
15 of the state agencies that may have
16 jurisdiction. There is a preliminary review
17 that is conducted by the Site Evaluation
18 Committee expeditiously. And then, within 60
19 days, the Site Evaluation Committee has to
20 determine if the Application is complete and if
21 the Committee is going to accept the
22 Application as complete. In this case, that
23 did occur, and the Subcommittee voted to accept
24 the Application and issued an order accepting

1 it on June 23rd. That date is important
2 because that's the date from which all the
3 other time frames run. So, as you see, the
4 rest of these time frames all are based on when
5 the Application was accepted by the Committee.
6 Within 45 days after the acceptance of the
7 Application, this proceeding that we're doing
8 tonight must take place, as well as the one in
9 Rockingham County. As I said before, the
10 Rockingham County public information meeting
11 was scheduled for June [July] 21. Where's that
12 going to be?

13 MS. MONROE: Newington Town Hall.

14 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: It's
15 Newington Town Hall, if you want to do this
16 twice. Within 90 days of the acceptance of the
17 Application, which in this case would be before
18 September 12, 2016, the Subcommittee itself
19 must hold what we call a "public hearing" in
20 each county. Tonight, you only get Pam and I
21 hear to talk to. But at the public hearings,
22 there will be the entire Subcommittee that's
23 sitting on this case. So, getting to there,
24 that's four public meetings that are held: Two

1 with staff from the Site Evaluation Committee,
2 and two with the Subcommittee itself in this
3 particular docket.

4 Within 150 days of the acceptance of
5 the Application, we require by statute all the
6 state agencies that have jurisdictional or
7 other regulatory authority to file with us
8 draft reports. Those reports, depending upon
9 which state agency it is, will look different.
10 Some of them have draft conditions they are
11 considering imposing on the certificate.
12 Sometimes we get final conditions early on.
13 Sometimes we get reports with recommendations.
14 Sometimes we get reports that say we need more
15 information. But that must occur within 150
16 days. And then, within 240 days after the
17 acceptance of the Application, we require those
18 final agency decisions, so that if the
19 Department of Environmental Services needs to
20 issue an alteration of train permit, that must
21 be issued by -- in this case, it will be
22 February 8, 2017. Once the agencies have
23 weighed in and we've had those public hearings
24 and public information sessions, we then go

1 into what we call "adjudicative sessions." And
2 those are sessions that you might think of like
3 you see on TV, like a trial. Witnesses will
4 actually come into the hearing room. They will
5 be cross-examined. There will be arguments
6 made, memos written. And then ultimately the
7 Subcommittee must decide to either grant or
8 deny the Certificate, with or without
9 conditions, within 365 days of the acceptance
10 of the Application. In this docket, that date
11 is June 13th, 2017.

12 So, these are the time frames that
13 the Committee must go through and abide by.
14 They're all contained in R.S.A. 162-H. There
15 are a lot of intermediate deadlines that get
16 set in these dockets for things like discovery,
17 for filing motions to intervene and other
18 things like that. But these are the major
19 statutory deadlines.

20 There are a number of ways for the
21 public to participate in our process. First,
22 you've already heard from Counsel for the
23 Public. If you've got something you think he
24 ought to know or an idea that you think is

1 worthwhile that he ought to pursue, you can
2 always contact Counsel for the Public. There
3 are the prefiled information sessions that
4 we've already discussed. There are
5 opportunities to give your input to the
6 Applicant. There are these public hearings
7 that we're having tonight -- or public
8 information sessions that we're having tonight,
9 where you get to ask questions or make
10 statements. If you've already made up your
11 mind and want to tell us how you feel about the
12 Project, you can do that tonight. In addition,
13 there will be that public hearing where we'll
14 have the Subcommittee here -- maybe not in this
15 building, but here somewhere in Strafford
16 County -- to hear your concerns as well. So,
17 that's the fourth way that you can participate
18 as a member of the public. We accept written
19 public comments, whether they are on these blue
20 sheets or whether you want to go home on your
21 word processor and type out a novel for us. We
22 accept written public comments through the
23 pendency of the entire proceeding until the
24 gavel slams at the end and they go into

1 deliberative session. So, if anybody ever
2 wants to make a public comment on a particular
3 application, you can do that right up until the
4 end. Unlike federal agencies with cutoff dates
5 that are earlier, we don't have that. And by
6 statute, this committee must consider and weigh
7 information and reports that come in from the
8 public. So we have a statutory obligation to
9 read and consider what the public thinks. The
10 sixth way is actually to intervene in that
11 adjudicative proceeding, and that means to
12 actually become a party. If you have a
13 substantial interest in the outcome of the
14 proceeding, you have the right to apply to
15 intervene. You file a motion to intervene in
16 the docket if your rights, duties, privileges,
17 immunities or other substantial interests may
18 be affected by the proceeding. In order to
19 intervene, you have to demonstrate that, that
20 you have that kind of interest; and No. 2, that
21 your participation is in the interest of
22 justice and will not interfere with the orderly
23 and prompt conduct of the proceedings. In this
24 case, there is already a deadline set for

1 anybody who wishes to file a motion to
2 intervene in this case, and that deadline is
3 July 22, 2016. That deadline was also in the
4 notice that went out in the newspaper that I
5 discussed before. So, anybody who wishes to
6 intervene should file a motion to intervene.
7 That motion, if you chose to file a motion to
8 intervene, should state in as much detail as
9 you can what your substantial rights, claim,
10 title or interest in the outcome of the Project
11 is so that Chairman of the Committee is aware
12 of exactly what's at stake for you. And it
13 should also give information why you'll be
14 polite and not interfere with the prompt and
15 orderly conduct of the proceeding. So if you
16 file a motion to intervene, please be specific
17 about what your interests are.

18 Ultimately, at the end of the day,
19 after all of the public hearings, public input,
20 the adjudicative hearings have been completed,
21 the Site Evaluation Committee has guidelines --
22 not guidelines. This is what they must
23 consider by statute in determining whether to
24 grant or deny an application.

1 First, the Committee must determine
2 whether the Applicant has adequate financial,
3 technical and managerial experience to assure
4 construction -- I should say assure siting and
5 construction and operation of the facility and
6 continuing compliance with any terms and
7 conditions of a certificate; second, the
8 Committee must determine, in order to grant the
9 certificate, must determine that the Project
10 will not unduly interfere with the orderly
11 development in the region, and in coming to
12 that conclusion, must consider the views of
13 municipal, regional AND planning commissions
14 and governing bodies. So, for those of who you
15 live in towns where this project will go
16 through, or towns that may be affected by it,
17 you should speak to your local officials about
18 whether or not it is prudent for them to become
19 involved in the proceeding because the
20 Committee will listen to what they have to say.

21 The third -- and actually, it's more
22 than three -- the Committee has to consider
23 whether the Project will have an unreasonable
24 adverse impact on aesthetics, historic sites,

1 air quality, water quality, the natural
2 environment, and the public health and safety.
3 That's sort of the guts of what the Committee
4 must determine. Those are the hardest
5 decisions that the Committee has to undertake.

6 And finally, the Committee must
7 determine if issuance of a certificate will
8 serve the public interest. If an application
9 meets all of these criteria, the Subcommittee
10 should grant the certificate. If the
11 Subcommittee finds that it fails to meet any of
12 these criteria, the Subcommittee should deny
13 the certificate. But don't think that it's
14 usually just an up or down on most
15 applications. These applications -- when
16 certificates are granted, they usually come
17 with lots of conditions on them. And those
18 conditions become part of the certificate, and
19 a failure to comply with conditions can lead to
20 enforcement actions against the operator of the
21 project.

22 So, once again, if you need to
23 contact the Site Evaluation Committee, there is
24 the best way to get in touch with us, through

1 Pam. All of the pleadings, the filings, the
2 motions, the objections, the public comments,
3 the Application itself, are all on that web
4 site. When you go to our web site, on the
5 left-hand side, go to Projects, and then go to
6 the particular year, which in this case is
7 between 2010 and 2016, and click on that and
8 you'll see a list of projects filed during that
9 period, and then you can get right into all of
10 the filings this docket. So, with that, I'm
11 going to turn --

12 MS. MONROE: I just want --

13 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: Oh, I'm
14 sorry. Go ahead, Pam.

15 MS. MONROE: I just wanted to add
16 that we have at this point received a petition
17 to intervene from the Town of Durham, as well
18 as from the University of New Hampshire, and
19 also from the Town of Newington.

20 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: So, at
21 this point I'm going to turn the dais over to
22 Jim Jiottis from Eversource, and he's going to
23 make a presentation on behalf of Eversource and
24 tell you a little bit more about what the

1 Project actually includes.

2 MR. JIOTTIS: Good evening. My name
3 is Jim Jiottis from Eversource. I want to
4 thank everybody for coming out tonight to hear
5 about our project. We really appreciate it,
6 given the weather and the AC in here. We
7 appreciate you sitting through this.

8 First off, I think we really need to
9 do a little bit of a refresher of what this
10 project is and where it came from and why we're
11 here tonight. As Mike mentioned, we actually
12 had initial hearings, our initial public
13 information sessions on this back in April of
14 2015, over a year ago. We presented the
15 Project, and we think that the Project
16 proceeded as it should after those hearings.
17 We got feedback, and we took the feedback and
18 actually did something with it. It took us
19 over a year to do stuff with it, but we
20 actually did consider the feedback and utilized
21 a lot of the feedback. So, where we are
22 tonight is the Seacoast Reliability Project is
23 a 13-mile transmission line. This is our first
24 public information session after filing. And I

1 guess, as Mike mentioned, there's a series of
2 information sessions after this. There's
3 another one, a 90-day session, and then get
4 into some of the other parts of the hearings.

5 So, again, just to review, we're
6 talking about a transmission line. This is
7 115 kV line. Where does that sit in your
8 electric system? How does that affect you as a
9 homeowner? The easiest way to think about it
10 is like a super highway, the federal highway,
11 the I-95 of the electric system. It's designed
12 to move significant amounts of power either
13 around the state or across the region. In this
14 case, it's really moving power across the
15 Seacoast Region. It's not moving power in from
16 other states. It's not moving power from other
17 generators. It's moving power from within the
18 Seacoast Region. As you can see on the map
19 there, there's generation on one side and the
20 customer on the other side. The transmission
21 really sits in the middle. It's that tie
22 between generation and the distribution system
23 that serves the individual customers.

24 So, kind of taking a high-level look

1 at the Project itself and why we need it,
2 really, this project is all about load growth.
3 It's all about serving our customers in the
4 region. It's about serving demands. It's
5 about serving it reliably. What happens with
6 the system is, down at the bottom there you see
7 a statement about ISO New England. They're
8 responsible for the transmission system. They
9 look out, they do the studies, they do the
10 operation. In this case, they've done studies.
11 They've looked at the region. They looked at
12 projected growth. They factored in things like
13 rooftop solar. They've factored in things like
14 energy efficiency. And they've still come back
15 and said, Well, the system as it's built today
16 can't reliably serve the load in the area under
17 certain conditions. Day in and day out we're
18 good; the lights are going to stay on. But
19 what we start looking at is what happens if we
20 lose a line? What happens if we lose a
21 generator? All those "what if" statements.
22 You know, even when those happen, we're still
23 responsible for keeping the lights on, and
24 that's what these studies looked at. In this

1 case, we can't guarantee keeping the lights on
2 if we start losing certain elements in the
3 system. When we talk about the Seacoast
4 Region, it's not just, you know, the Portsmouth
5 area. It's not just Rye. It's a fairly broad
6 area. You know, we consider the general
7 Seacoast Region. It extends from Rochester to
8 the north, all the way down to almost to the
9 Massachusetts border and extends to the west
10 out towards Epping, Nottingham, Deerfield, and
11 then back to the seacoast. So it's a fairly
12 broad area. Again, if you live in this area
13 and you spend time here, you can see what's
14 going on. There's just a tremendous amount of
15 growth. If you happen to go out towards 125
16 and 101 in Epping, look at all the added
17 businesses there. If you go down to
18 Portsmouth, you can see all kinds of new growth
19 in downtown Portsmouth. Even in Durham, when
20 you come in -- I live over in Nottingham. When
21 I come in, there's all kinds of new housing and
22 whatnot that's built there. So there's a lot
23 going on. Like anything, when we start getting
24 of growth, you need infrastructure to support

1 it, whether it's roads or bridges. In this
2 case, it's the electrical system. So what
3 we're doing is upgrading or adding to our
4 infrastructure to support the growth that's
5 going on and to support the growth that we see
6 for the future.

7 So, let's talk a little bit about the
8 specifics of the Project. As I mentioned, it's
9 a 13-mile, 115 kV transmission line,
10 115,000-volt line. It's really designed to
11 connect our Madbury Substation, which is in
12 Madbury, to our Portsmouth Substation, which is
13 in Portsmouth. The Project is designed to
14 utilize the existing right-of-way. When we
15 first put the Project together, that was one
16 of our criteria was to try to use the existing
17 rights-of-way, existing corridors so we didn't
18 have to acquire any new real estate. We tried
19 to minimize the disturbance to the area. We
20 tried to stay in places where there already was
21 something. In this case, we've used an
22 existing corridor that currently has a
23 distribution line in it, you know, the same
24 type of line that would serve your house. And

1 that line pretty much runs in the same place.
2 It runs from Madbury into Portsmouth. We're
3 using the same corridor. In some cases, we're
4 keeping the existing distribution line there
5 and in other cases we're moving it out. It
6 starts in Madbury. And just to kind of step
7 you through it, you're familiar with the
8 railroad tracks that run through Durham.
9 Predominantly it runs down along those railroad
10 tracks until you get south of Durham proper to
11 the Packer's Falls area. From there, it turns
12 to the east and heads towards Little Bay. The
13 Project will go under Little Bay, come up in
14 Newington, again work its way through existing
15 corridors off the Spaulding Turnpike through
16 the mall parking lots and end up at our
17 Portsmouth Substation. When we initially
18 proposed this project, we proposed this as an
19 all-overhead option, really using a lot of our
20 standard transmission designs. After working
21 with our stakeholders, working with the towns,
22 working with residents, taking that feedback
23 after that first set of information sessions,
24 the Project's been significantly modified. The

1 Project now includes some additional sections
2 of underground, primarily through downtown
3 Durham, under Main Street and through the UNH
4 campus. Just before the line enters Little
5 Bay, there's a section of underground that
6 allowed us to get the structure transitioned
7 from overhead to underground off of the bay, to
8 get it out of some of the view sheds to address
9 a lot of issues of having a structure right
10 next to the water. The line goes under Little
11 Bay, as I said, and pops up in Newington.
12 There's a little bit of underground in
13 Newington, and then continues on towards
14 Portsmouth. This is really a time line of
15 where we've been. It may seem like a long
16 time. Frankly, it is. It's a long time for a
17 project. As I mentioned, this one we think
18 worked the way it should have. We had that
19 first information session in 2005 -- in 2015 --
20 I'm sorry -- and we took that feedback and we
21 did something with it.

22 So, in this case, back in 2013 we
23 started making initial outreaches to the
24 municipalities. 2014, we continued that and,

1 actually, during this time did a route
2 analysis. We looked to see, did we pick the
3 right route? Are there other routes available?
4 Really reinforcing it. We spent most of 2014
5 doing that study and looking at alternative
6 ways to get from essentially Madbury to
7 Portsmouth. In 2015, I would call that the
8 year of collaboration. I don't know. It
9 was -- most of the time was spent working with
10 the municipalities, working with stakeholders
11 to adjust the design of the line. For example:
12 In Durham, I think we were meeting with
13 representatives from the town almost on either
14 a monthly basis or sometimes twice a month to
15 go over it. We would show up with a design.
16 They provided feedback. We made adjustments
17 accordingly. We talked about why we could or
18 couldn't do something. At that table we had
19 folks from the town, folks from UNH. We really
20 tried to get a cross-section of the town
21 leaders to really get that input into our
22 project. And we continued the same thing in
23 Newington, meeting with them on a monthly
24 basis, going over designs, trying to refine the

1 designs. We also held a series of public
2 sessions to try to get people more informed of
3 it. We'll talk about some of the specifics a
4 little bit later. But, again, tried to reach
5 out, trying to let people know, trying to talk
6 to all the stakeholders. So we get to 2016, we
7 finally submitted our application. And really,
8 that's where we are today is starting that
9 process.

10 So I mentioned our outreach efforts.
11 And I think this project really is about
12 outreach: 120 different types of meetings with
13 stakeholders. I mean, that includes
14 legislators, municipal groups, you know, a
15 whole group of folks there. And as I
16 mentioned, it wasn't just to have one meeting
17 and walk away. In the case of Durham, it was
18 meetings with Town of Durham and UNH monthly or
19 sometimes twice a month. Same thing in
20 Newington. It was continued meetings,
21 continued refinement, continued input. Over
22 80-plus residential meetings. That's going out
23 to the folks who are on this line, folks who
24 are directly impacted, talking with them,

1 understanding their concerns, explaining what
2 we are doing with them, talking about how the
3 Project's going to look in their back yard. We
4 had bus tour in the Town of Durham for the
5 folks in Durham. We took them around the line.
6 I think we also did a video as a result of that
7 bus tour, too. Again, we worked with a lot of
8 our stakeholders. I think because of the
9 outreach, we got various letters of support
10 from other groups. We also got, I guess
11 something we're very proud of, is the
12 collaboration up in Durham. It's not that they
13 support it. It's not that they oppose it.
14 It's just that we've been there talking. We've
15 been trying to work together on this thing.

16 So, as a result of those meetings --
17 again, if you remember back in 2015 when we
18 started the line, it was overhead design. It
19 was pretty much a vanilla transmission line.
20 We've made a lot of adjustments. In every town
21 the Project goes through, we made some type of
22 adjustment. Starting in Madbury, when we first
23 met with the folks in Madbury, the selectmen
24 and the planning board, their primary concern

1 was structure heights and visibility. What we
2 did is we left Madbury Substation and actually
3 acquired a wider right-of-way. The project as
4 designed would have fit in the existing
5 right-of-way. In this case, we got a little
6 bit wider. That allowed us to reduce the
7 number of structures and also reduce the
8 structure height. What that did, a big plus
9 for us, is where that crosses Madbury Road --

10 (Court Reporter interrupts.)

11 MR. JIOTTIS: With the line crossing
12 Madbury Road, if we had stayed with the
13 original design, the structures would have been
14 tall. By getting the extra right-of-way width,
15 we were able to drop it over 20 feet, which is
16 fairly significant.

17 When we move into Durham, there's a
18 lot of activity in Durham. We continued that
19 idea of widening the right-of-way down to we
20 where we got to the UNH parking lots. Working
21 with UNH, we got a little bit wider
22 right-of-way, which allowed us to lower the
23 structures and limit the number of structures.
24 We really tried to adjust visibility issues.

1 When we got to downtown Main Street,
2 that was really -- with the feedback we got,
3 that was an extremely important area for the
4 town, for the college. It's described as "the
5 gateway to Durham." You know, we took that and
6 we went through a lot of designs, and we landed
7 on an underground design through there,
8 underground through -- starting in the UNH
9 parking lot, continuing under Main Street and
10 coming up into the UNH campus further down.
11 That was not in the original design. That was
12 as a result of feedback.

13 When we got to the neighbors in
14 Durham that are particularly close to the
15 lines, these are the ones on the east side of
16 108, again, when we presented the initial
17 design, it was a very vanilla design. In this
18 case, we went out and spoke with the residents
19 and almost gave them an option of what type of
20 structure, what type of design do you want. We
21 could have built either design. We solicited
22 feedback from the folks on the line as to what
23 would they prefer. It was essentially a single
24 monopole structure or a structure side-by-side,

1 and they selected a monopole.

2 (Court Reporter interrupts.)

3 MR. JIOTTIS: Thank you. I
4 apologize.

5 Okay. So we actually talked to the
6 folks next to the line. I don't say we gave
7 them carte blanche on what they could have, but
8 we gave them some input on what type of
9 structures we could use there.

10 When we got to Little Bay, that was
11 another area where we got a lot feedback from
12 the town. A lot residents didn't want the
13 structure right on the water. To be honest, we
14 didn't want it on the water either. It just
15 happened that Eversource owns a piece of
16 property right on the shore. So, working with
17 our engineers, working with the landowner, we
18 were able to secure property rights to move
19 that structure off the bay, which really does a
20 number of things for us: It gets it out of the
21 view shed for the most part. It also gets it
22 off the bay. So when you picture storms and
23 things like that, it's better to have the
24 facilities off the bay. So it really works out

1 as kind of a win for everybody on that one.

2 Various individual structure
3 relocations, again, those meetings where we
4 went out and talked to structures [sic], one of
5 the things we can do is slide our structures up
6 and down to really -- you know, we can't do it
7 to any great distance, but we do have some
8 flexibility. So what we tried to do is what I
9 call "get the structure out of somebody's
10 kitchen window." In other words, if you look
11 out your kitchen window and you see a
12 structure, we can slide it so that it's not
13 there. And we've done that with a lot of the
14 folks out there, meeting with them and getting
15 them to adjust the structure a little bit,
16 structure distance.

17 Another area where we got a lot of
18 feedback from the town was road crossings.
19 They really wanted us to do what we could with
20 our designs to limit what these things look
21 like when you cross roads, particularly across
22 108. So we adjusted our designs, and we did
23 some very different designs to really keep the
24 lines low and keep them hidden as well as

1 possible. So we looked at that.

2 And one of the last items is upgrades
3 to local distribution. When we build this line
4 in the existing right-of-way with the existing
5 distribution, we have to do something with the
6 circuit that's there. We can't just shut off
7 and do our work. So we were going to do a lot
8 temporary relocations. Instead, we looked at
9 it and said, well, why don't we upgrade what's
10 on the road, make it permanent. That lets us
11 have our -- lets us do our work. When the
12 Project's over, that remains and it actually
13 becomes an improvement, particularly along
14 Durham Point Road. What the Project allows us
15 to do now is, when we're completed, we'll be
16 feeding Durham Point Road from both ends.
17 Again, that's a lot of the feedback we got from
18 the town, that Durham Point Road, given the
19 tree cover on it, the way it's built, it's seen
20 a number of outages. This should significantly
21 help that. Just doing this project allowed us
22 to advance those distribution upgrades.

23 Another area where we really
24 solicited a lot of consultation and a lot of

1 feedback was on Little Bay. As I mentioned, we
2 have to cross Little Bay. We spoke with a lot
3 of folks. We really tried to reach out to all
4 the stakeholders who had some interest on the
5 bay, whether it's strictly the environmental
6 groups, whether it's oyster farmers, whether
7 it's DES, we really tried to hit everybody and
8 get some kind of feedback into the design we
9 were proposing. And we did that. We reached
10 out to all these folks here and talked with
11 them, got feedback, showed them our designs,
12 showed them our thinking behind the designs. I
13 think at least, and maybe everybody doesn't
14 agree with the Project, but I think they're
15 comfortable with what we've presented.

16 In Newington, it's very much the same
17 story as Durham. Again, we met with the town
18 on a regular basis. We got a lot of feedback.
19 Some of the things we did with the line comes
20 out of the bay on the Newington side. We again
21 acquired new rights-of-way to move it from its
22 original location. If we used the original
23 location where the line used to come up, that
24 line was originally put in in 1902. If we had

1 used that, it would have been a pretty
2 significant disturbance. Instead, we were able
3 to really go around that to limit the
4 disturbance, again, working with the landowner
5 where it was going to make landfall, to kind of
6 get it out of the way.

7 Similar to Durham, we're doing some
8 distribution work. In this case, moving we're
9 a distribution line off a historic site, and
10 moves it out of a view shed. It allows our
11 design to get lower so that we can again
12 address the visibility issues. It allows us to
13 limit the number of structures out there. And
14 also, it allows us to make some upgrades on the
15 existing distribution circuit, similar to what
16 we're proposing in Durham, that would have just
17 been temporary upgrades; instead we ended up
18 creating a permanent solution out there.

19 As mentioned, you know, there's a
20 historic district in Newington. We did a lot
21 of the structure heights to try to limit as
22 much as visibility as possible. Where we cross
23 into the mall, we really tried hard to work
24 with the mall owners to not use parking spaces,

1 even though the parking spaces are in our
2 right-of-way. We really adjusted our design to
3 either try to use the islands or try to use the
4 driveways to not affect their parking spaces,
5 to not potentially affect their business.

6 One other thing in Durham -- I mean,
7 sorry, Newington. Again, similar to Durham,
8 we're talking a lot with them about the
9 underground section of the line. Still working
10 through that. Still working on the rights to
11 do that. It's on the table. It's something --
12 it's our desire to do it, and we're working
13 hard to try to get that done.

14 Some of the other benefits that would
15 go with this, in addition to what I just spoke
16 about, the first one is the reliability issue.
17 You know, I mentioned that right now we're
18 susceptible to outages under given conditions.
19 Building this project takes care of that. It
20 helps ensure a reliable supply of electricity
21 into the future. The local distribution
22 upgrades I mentioned, that when the Project's
23 done, it not only will address transmission
24 issues, but it will better the distribution

1 system.

2 There's jobs, both direct and
3 indirect. With this project, part of our
4 agreement is to try to utilize New Hampshire
5 labor to construct it. So, hopefully we'll be
6 able to find jobs for local folks, regional
7 folks. And then there's the indirect; those
8 people who obviously are buying lunches,
9 needing to stay somewhere. Those are indirect
10 things that go with it.

11 Then there's the investment in the
12 towns. The Project right now is about
13 \$77 million. It crosses four towns, so that
14 investment is broken up across the towns. You
15 can see it there. You can see the lion's share
16 is in Durham and Newington: \$41 million
17 investment in Durham, \$28 million investment in
18 Newington. Those are taxable investments. We
19 pay the property tax on our stuff. So those
20 are eligible for property taxes.

21 A little bit of discussion about the
22 time line of the Project. That first section
23 of the screen Mike talked about is the process
24 with the SEC. And we talked about the

1 statutory times -- having a little seeing the
2 white letters. But that gives you an idea.
3 What we're looking to do is hopefully start
4 construction in the third quarter of 2017.
5 It'll take roughly a year to construct. A lot
6 of that construction is really bound by a lot
7 of constraints we have with building. For
8 example: We're limited to when we can work on
9 Little Bay. We're limited around UNH campus.
10 We can't work there during the school year. We
11 don't want to cause a disturbance. So we have
12 very short window to do that. So there's a
13 number of those things across the line that
14 really govern that schedule.

15 So, that wraps up presentation on the
16 line. That first line, that we're available
17 for comments and questions, we're really
18 sincere about that. We haven't stopped getting
19 feedback. We haven't stopped soliciting input.
20 You know, if you have something that you'd like
21 to discuss with us, feel free to either hit the
22 web site or make a phone call, and we'll get
23 back to you, reach out and talk to you, talk
24 about what's going on with the Project, explain

1 to you what's going on, you know, and see what
2 we can do to address your concerns.

3 So, that's the end of the
4 presentation.

5 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: Okay.
6 So we'll move into the next part of the meeting
7 tonight, and that is to take questions from the
8 public. Anybody who wants to present a
9 question to either the staff or the Committee
10 or to the Applicant should write it on the
11 green sheets. We have about three. And the
12 first one is for the Applicant.

13 So, Mr. Jiottis, the first question
14 is: How much would it cost to bury 2100 feet
15 in downtown Durham, and why isn't the whole
16 thing being buried?

17 MR. JIOTTIS: Okay. The underground
18 issue comes up quite a bit. The cost to bury
19 this section in Durham is actually baked into
20 that \$77 million cost. To give a specific
21 number on that is not going to mean much. When
22 we look at underground, in terms of just
23 standing back and saying what's it going to
24 cost for underground, X-amount of overhead

1 line, the number that we typically use is
2 \$10 million a mile. There's a lot that goes
3 into that. And the folks here on the
4 right-of-way, it's just hard to believe, but
5 there's a lot that goes into essentially
6 putting a trench in for a mile. Dig up a
7 trench, obviously put a cable in. The reels
8 are limited, so we have to put --

9 (Court Reporter interrupts.)

10 MR. JIOTTIS: We have to put splice
11 vaults in. In other words, we can't get a
12 cable to go one mile. It comes in pieces. So
13 we have to splice it together. We can't just
14 do that in the road. You have bury a vault.
15 Those vaults are the size of small houses,
16 roughly 30 by 10 by 8. So, there's a lot
17 behind the numbers. Again, sometimes folks
18 have trouble grasping that \$10 million, but
19 that's what it works out to. Why can't we bury
20 the entire line? It really is about cost.
21 These projects are paid for by all the
22 ratepayers in New England, which includes New
23 Hampshire. The way the Project is designed
24 now, we'll be submitting it for what we expect

1 to be regional recovery -- so, in other words,
2 it's paid for by all of New England. If we
3 were to underground the entire project for,
4 say, aesthetic reasons, or reasons that are not
5 considered good utility practice, that really
6 are just to make us happy, that project would
7 be paid for locally. So, instead of paying
8 \$77 million, instead of paying 9 percent of
9 that, which is New Hampshire's share, you would
10 pay 100 percent of that underground cost. So
11 that's really the driver behind it. It's about
12 cost. What we've tried to do is, you know,
13 with input from our stakeholders, talking with
14 our experts, internally talking with our
15 engineers, is judiciously using underground
16 makes sense.

17 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: Thank
18 you. The next question is actually for the
19 Committee, and I'll take a crack at it. I'll
20 read the question first: I would like you to
21 please cover the details and deadlines for
22 filing with the Site Evaluation Committee so
23 that anyone who would like the status to be a
24 speaker, intervenor status, when is the

1 deadline to become an intervenor and how to do
2 it.

3 I went over that a little bit in my
4 presentation at the beginning of the meeting
5 tonight. The deadline to file a motion to
6 intervene, and motions to intervene must be
7 filed in writing, is July 22. If you have any
8 questions about how to file it, you can call
9 Pam Monroe. But we do have administrative
10 regulations that also tell you how to file it,
11 and those are located at New Hampshire Code of
12 Administrative Rules, Site 200 and 300. It has
13 all the rules in them for what should be
14 contained. As I indicated before, in that
15 motion you should make sure to put in the
16 details about what is your substantial right to
17 claim, title or interest in the outcome of the
18 proceeding so that the chairperson of the
19 Committee knows what your interest is. And
20 also address that you would not disrupt the
21 orderly process of the proceedings. In terms
22 of other details, the motions to intervene, in
23 the first instance, are ruled on by the
24 Chairman of the Subcommittee. And if somebody

1 is unhappy with that ruling, they can ask for
2 reconsideration by the entire Subcommittee. So
3 those are sort of pretty much the details of
4 how and when to file as an intervenor, if you
5 wish to do so.

6 Okay. The third question, and I
7 think half of this question is for us and half
8 is for you. I'll do our half first: The first
9 30 minutes is all about the process. No real
10 information for the audience to really
11 evaluate. It's legal and state information
12 about process.

13 That's true. And the reason that
14 that's the first 30 minutes is because that's
15 what the statute requires to be done at these
16 meetings. We are here to explain the process
17 to the public and obviously take questions like
18 this. But that's why the first 30 minutes is
19 from staff of the Committee is all about the
20 process. I have no view, Pam has no view on
21 whether this application should be granted or
22 denied, or what the Subcommittee should
23 eventually do with it. In fact, I can pretty
24 much guarantee you that each member of the

1 Subcommittee has no opinion on that yet because
2 they haven't heard the evidence. So all we can
3 really present you with at this stage is what
4 the process is and how you can get involved.

5 Now, the second part of the question
6 I'm going to throw to the Applicant, and it's
7 sort of a statement, sort of a question. But
8 this particular questioner wants to know --
9 wants you to know that people care about will
10 this negatively impact my town? Will this be
11 ugly to look at? And were residents considered
12 in the plan? Because Eversource doesn't even
13 try to explain. "We looked at the issues, took
14 them seriously, incorporated them into our
15 design."

16 And then there's an admonition to the
17 Applicant that says, "Sell the Project. Don't
18 just talk process."

19 So it sounds to me like there's three
20 questions there, Mr. Jiottis. "Will this
21 negatively impact my town?" I don't know what
22 town the questioner is from because it's not on
23 here. But there's only four involved, so you
24 can address that. And then, "Will it be ugly?"

1 And then, "Were residents considered?"

2 MR. JIOTTIS: I guess, first, to
3 start off with, will it affect the town. We
4 think we've taken steps to minimize that
5 effect. I can't tell you that putting
6 something in is not going to have an effect.
7 But I think we've addressed a lot of design
8 issues to really minimize that by using
9 underground, by varying structure designs,
10 looking at things like plantings and things
11 like that. I think we've taken steps to
12 minimize it. As far as it being ugly, I think
13 that's a rather subjective question that as a
14 designer I'm not sure I can answer that because
15 it would probably be different than what other
16 folks might look at. But, again, we've taken
17 steps to try to minimize that. We solicited
18 feedback from town residents on the types of
19 structures. We've been open on what we plan to
20 use there, what we can do. So I don't think
21 it's going to be ugly. But, again, I think
22 it's a very subjective description of it.

23 And the last one, Mike? Sorry.

24 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: The last

1 one is, were the residents considered in the
2 planning?

3 MR. JIOTTIS: Yes. I mean, as I
4 said, when we first rolled the design out in
5 2015, as I mentioned, it was a very vanilla
6 design. If you looked at a textbook on how to
7 design a transmission line, that's what you'd
8 build. We spent the last year what I would say
9 in getting feedback from the residents, really
10 through their town leaders, on what we can do,
11 and reaching out to residents along the line,
12 residents who were impacted by the line, and
13 adjusting our designs. Again, whether that's
14 moving structures, whether that's putting
15 things underground, or at least explaining why
16 we can't do something, we've tried not to leave
17 people in the dark. So I think we have
18 considered residents. I think we've made
19 adjustments based on residents' feedback and
20 the town feedbacks.

21 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: Okay.
22 The next question for the Committee: Is this
23 PowerPoint and the information contained within
24 it on your web site?

1 Not right now, but it will be. In
2 the next couple days, both the PowerPoint that
3 I presented, as well as the PowerPoint that
4 Eversource has presented, will both be up on
5 our web site, and it will be available -- they
6 will be available to the public. Give us a
7 couple days to get them up there. The
8 information that's in at least the Site
9 Evaluation Committee's PowerPoint that I went
10 through with you, all of that is on the web
11 site because our statute and our rules and our
12 process are all contained in various sections,
13 not in the same format as the PowerPoint. But
14 the information is there if you need it.
15 Tonight, you can probably, with a little
16 research get it down. But the PowerPoint will
17 be online within the next few days, both of
18 them.

19 Next question, looks to be three of
20 them, for the Applicant. I'll take them one at
21 a time, Mr. Jiottis. The first one is: What
22 is the least environmentally disruptive way to
23 cross Little Bay, and are you doing it?

24 MR. JIOTTIS: Yeah, I'll start with

1 that. We feel we are. Again, we've consulted
2 with a lot of groups that have a stake in the
3 bay. As far as the least environmental impact,
4 I think we're doing it. That's what placing
5 the cable in the bottom of the bay, plowing it
6 in -- and "plowing" sounds far worse than it
7 is. It's a way of putting -- using
8 high-pressure water to put it underneath the
9 mud. It really limits the type of silt that
10 goes around it. It's a very sound process. We
11 did look other ways to get across the bay. We
12 looked at going overhead. We even looked at
13 doing horizontal directional drilling under the
14 bay. We felt those would end up with more
15 environmental impacts. Both of those designs
16 have applications in other locations. This one
17 we really felt, going under the bay into, call
18 it "bottom of the bay," was the more
19 environmentally sound design.

20 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: Next
21 question is about the environment as well:
22 What environmental experts have reviewed this
23 plan, and what are their objections to it?

24 MR. JIOTTIS: I guess I can refer to

1 the groups that were on the screen there.
2 Those were all groups that were consulted. I
3 guess we solicited some input from some of the
4 folks who came here. In addition to myself,
5 there's a number of folks from the Project who
6 are our subject matter experts. Maybe we can
7 get Sarah Allen to talk about it. Sarah is
8 from Normandeau. She's part of our
9 environmental group.

10 MS. ALLEN: Hi. As Jim said, I'm
11 Sarah Allen. I'm a wetlands and wildlife
12 scientist by trade. I'm also the project
13 manager for Normandeau, supporting Eversource.

14 We did look at a number of options
15 for this design, as Jim mentioned. Once we
16 came up with a design that seemed the most
17 appropriate, and in our terms that needs to be
18 the least environmentally damaging, we
19 developed the design far enough along that we
20 could speak with the experts who typically
21 review it. And as Jim alluded, that includes a
22 lot of the environmental reviewing agencies,
23 both at the state and federal level, including
24 Department of Environmental Services, the U.S.

1 Army Corps of Engineers, the Environmental
2 Protection Agency, National Marine Fisheries
3 Service, Fish & Game. We've had a number of
4 meetings with those organizations and received
5 their input and addressed it where we felt we
6 could, or where it was important to. We've
7 also reached out with a number -- to a number
8 of local stakeholders, including the oyster men
9 who have aquaculture farms in Little Bay, and
10 particularly those close to the Project. We've
11 talked to a number of residents. We've spoken
12 with as many organizations as we can reach and
13 are willing to talk with us.

14 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: Okay.
15 Part of the question was what are the
16 objections. So, do any of those groups have
17 remaining objections to your plan to go into
18 Little Bay, or through Little Bay?

19 MS. ALLEN: Well, I'm not sure we're
20 quite at that stage yet. We're at the very
21 early stages of environmental review. Some of
22 the concerns, of course, have been water
23 quality; what will the jet plowing do to water
24 quality in Little Bay? And we have looked at

1 that very carefully and gone forward with a
2 quality model. I hope a lot of you saw it in
3 the open house. And the purpose of that was to
4 be able to identify both the concentration of
5 sediment going up into the water column and the
6 extent that that plume would travel as the tide
7 carried it around the bay, and the duration of
8 it. So we understand all of those factors and
9 can look at the various resources in Little Bay
10 and determine how it might affect that. And in
11 doing so, so far we have not gotten significant
12 negative feedback from the agencies. Most have
13 asked questions. And when we've described the
14 process, they agreed to it. They thought our
15 model was very reasonable. They thought the
16 approach was very reasonable. And to date, I'm
17 not aware of significant concerns from them.

18 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: Next
19 question is: What are the dangers of this
20 higher voltage line to residences close to the
21 line?

22 MR. JIOTTIS: Okay. I guess as far
23 as dangers, well, first off, the line is
24 designed to not be dangerous. I mean, it's

1 designed with proper clearances, designed at
2 proper heights. In other words, we would
3 follow a lot of the codes, follow the line
4 standards to ensure it's not dangerous. I'm
5 not sure how to go into what's dangerous. If
6 somebody does something -- we've seen people
7 parachute into lines. I guess that makes it
8 dangerous. Inherently, the lines are designed
9 not to be dangerous.

10 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: Next
11 question: What tree height is used in your
12 illustrations of the various sections in the
13 project?

14 MR. JIOTTIS: Okay. As far as the
15 cross-sections that are in there, it's a
16 typical tree height. It's not at tree height
17 everywhere. If you're concerned about a
18 specific area, we do have that. We've got the
19 tree heights near structures and we can talk
20 about the specifics. I think the height that
21 we use is 75, 65. The average over the entire
22 project is 85-foot trees. But, again,
23 obviously that's going to vary with some places
24 where there's no trees. So if it's a

1 particular structure that you're interested in,
2 get together with one of the folks afterwards
3 to go to that exact location and talk about
4 tree heights there.

5 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: Next
6 question is: Can you tell us more about the
7 changes that will happen to upgrade Durham
8 Point Road? What will these changes look
9 like?

10 MR. JIOTTIS: Okay. Sure. The
11 primary change that's going to happen there is
12 the voltage is going to be upgraded to
13 34,000 volts, which is the voltage you see
14 along most of the roads. A lot of the poles
15 and wires there are old. I mean, there's no
16 other way to describe it. If you look at it,
17 they're old. Wires are probably green. It's
18 also only single phase. So that's going to be
19 converted to a three-phase line. Almost all
20 the poles are going to be replaced. Poles will
21 be slightly taller, about 5 feet or so taller
22 than what's there today. The wire design will
23 be a Hendrix wire design. That's a spacer
24 cable wire design. It's a much more compact

1 design. Trying to think. I think there is
2 some installed in town if you drive around. If
3 you look up, it looks like a cross; you know,
4 in other words, a bracket with wires in it.
5 It's held that way. There will be some tree
6 trimming to do the initial construction. But,
7 again, it's a scenic road, so we do have
8 certain requirements for trimming. It's not
9 going to be hack everything down. We work our
10 normal process of working on scenic roads. I
11 guess it's going to be essentially a new
12 distribution line down there on that section
13 connected to it. It will allow the line to be
14 fed from Route 108 and also from the end of the
15 right-of-way on Durham Point Road back and
16 forth.

17 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: Thank
18 you.

19 Any other questions? Any other green
20 sheets? We don't have any more up here.

21 [No verbal response]

22 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: Okay.
23 We'll move into the next part of our -- oh,
24 wait. Okay. We have some more questions.

1 Okay.

2 Next question is: Along the railroad
3 right-of-way, how much clear-cutting will take
4 place? Please tell us the width and the length
5 of that clear-cutting.

6 MR. JIOTTIS: I guess if you want a
7 specific answer, I have to look that up. It
8 varies across the railroad. So if you give us
9 a minute, we can look it up, Mike. Or do you
10 want me to --

11 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: How long
12 do you think it will take? Can he look it up
13 while I will read the next question to you?

14 MR. JIOTTIS: Sure.

15 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: Okay.
16 The next question is: Why isn't directional
17 boring less obtrusive?

18 MR. JIOTTIS: Okay. That's a good
19 question. The HDD is a process that's used a
20 lot. We initially considered that. What we
21 did is we brought in a company that's done long
22 and large HDD processes. To go underneath
23 Little Bay, we're talking about 6,000 feet of
24 HDD, which is approaching the world record HDD

1 for the size that we need. We'd be drilling a
2 hole approximately 42 inches in diameter. So
3 it's a fairly good-size hole. So we brought in
4 folks who are specialists at that to look at
5 it. And they did a tabletop review of what
6 would be required. A couple things they came
7 on to really quick is there's two geologic rock
8 formations there between Eliot and Kittery.
9 I'm not a geologist. But anyway, those are --

10 (Court Reporter interrupts.)

11 MR. JIOTTIS: Those are geologic
12 formations that are probably 30,000 psi rock,
13 which, again, I'm not a geologist, but
14 apparently that's extremely hard. And when
15 they looked at that with their drilling
16 process, they estimated it would be a three- to
17 six-month drilling process, drilling from both
18 ends continuous. Once you start the drilling
19 process, you can't stop. You can't not have
20 the thing turning; otherwise, it gets stuck.
21 So we looked at that and said, okay, that's
22 going to be fairly impactful to the folks there
23 that have to listen to the drilling process for
24 three to six months continuously. Also, when

1 they did their review, there's a fault line in
2 where those two rock formations come together
3 that they identified. And there's concern that
4 when you drill through a fault line, there's a
5 higher chance that you could have something
6 called "frack out," where essentially as you're
7 drilling through, it breaks out. And the fluid
8 that you use to drill is a bentonite fluid.

9 It's a lubricant to keep the drill going. It
10 actually could go up into the bay. And one of
11 the concerns that we had was, if that were to
12 happen, the very properties that bentonite
13 would be coating smooth would be awful to get
14 on the bottom of the bay; it would essentially
15 cover everything that's there. So that was the
16 concern. When you do a HDD process like that,
17 there is rather large set-ups on both sides.
18 Again, when we looked at this and what would it
19 take to set up, we're talking roughly 100-by-
20 200 to 100-by-300-foot areas on either side as
21 set-ups. And that's for drilling and pulling.

22 One of the other items we learned --
23 learned a lot about HDD drilling from these
24 folks. When they drill a hole, they have to

1 pull a plastic sleeve back through. When they
2 pull that sleeve through, you can't pull a
3 little bit and stop. You got to put together
4 6,000 feet of sleeve on one or the other and
5 pull that through in one continuous motion. So
6 if you can imagine on one side of the bay to
7 the other would be a 6,000-foot, 42-inch copper
8 sleeve on either side. It's the same thing
9 with the conduits that the cable would be in.
10 So, again, there's just a lot of the impact on
11 both sides. And then also with bentonite, when
12 they drill with it, they have large pools on
13 either side that they store it. Again, they
14 can typically manage those things well. But
15 there's always that chance of what happens if
16 that were to break. Again, we looked at it,
17 and the feedback we got from the bay is things
18 like shellfish are extremely important. And if
19 this were to get into the bay, it's not toxic,
20 but it really could cause a lot of damage.

21 So that's what we really put in to
22 looking at why we didn't select the HDD process
23 to go under the bay.

24 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: Just

1 because I think the question was actually --
2 thank you for the answer about under the bay.
3 I think this questioner was asking why isn't
4 the directional drilling used to go underground
5 in the railroad way.

6 MR. JIOTTIS: Okay. I'm sorry. I
7 apologize.

8 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: Nothing
9 to apologize about.

10 MR. JIOTTIS: HDD has an application.
11 It could have been considered. We're actually
12 using a form of HDD for part of that to go
13 under Main Street. We're using jack and bore.
14 It's similar, in that it's a hole that's
15 drilled and that you pull the cable through
16 instead of digging a trench. For the rest of
17 it, again, we looked at the economics of what
18 to do there. And trenching works. It should
19 be simpler than that. Again, you don't have
20 the setup for the HDD process on either ends.
21 We have a fairly tight area. We've got a
22 parking lot on one side that we can't use up a
23 lot of spaces with. On the other side, it's
24 right, I don't want to say the heart of the UNH

1 campus, but it's a very congested area that we
2 would be tying up using this. So it was
3 really -- there's similar reasons why we didn't
4 select HDD through the -- along the railroad
5 bed.

6 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: Do we
7 have the data on the width and length yet? I
8 can go to the next question if you'd like.

9 MR. JIOTTIS: Hold on. Okay. From
10 Route 4 down to the Madbury station --

11 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: Why
12 don't you give him the microphone.

13 MR. PLANTE: I was trying to avoid
14 that.

15 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: Sorry.

16 MR. PLANTE: My name is David Plante.
17 I'm the project manager for Eversource in New
18 Hampshire.

19 To respond to the question about the
20 amount of clearing along the railroad, there's
21 two separate widths that are proposed to be
22 cleared, starting at the Madbury Substation and
23 proceeding south to Route 4. That width will
24 be approximately 75 additional feet. That's

1 about a distance of a little over 2,000 feet.
2 And from Route 4 south to the UNH parking lots,
3 that distance is about 3,000 feet. And the
4 width of additional clearing there would be
5 approximately 25 feet.

6 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: Thank
7 you.

8 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Excuse me. But
9 what about south? What about south of --

10 (Court Reporter interrupts.)

11 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: I think
12 the question is what about south of Durham,
13 south of the, after it goes under Main Street
14 you're talking about?

15 MR. PLANTE: We're not in the
16 railroad there. From there it's in the
17 right-of-way easement where we would be
18 proposing to clear to the edge of the existing
19 easement.

20 AUDIENCE MEMBER: So, how wide is the
21 easement and how much is the clearing --

22 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: The
23 question is: How wide is the easement and how
24 much is cleared currently?

1 MR. PLANTE: The easements are
2 normally 100 feet. There are some variances
3 throughout the right-of-way, throughout the
4 Project length. But approximately 100 feet is
5 a good average, if you will. Those sections of
6 right-of-way have over the years encroached on
7 that edge, and so they're cleared to
8 approximately 60 feet now. We would be
9 proposing to clear to the edge, so, on each
10 side, about 20 additional feet from where the
11 edge of taller trees is at the present.

12 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: Next
13 question is: When crossing Little Bay, how
14 will the recreational uses of the bay -- for
15 instance, sailing -- be impacted or disrupted,
16 and for how long will this disruption take
17 place?

18 MR. JIOTTIS: Again, our intent is
19 not to disrupt it. To cross Little Bay, we'll
20 be doing it in the fall, late fall, so the
21 amount of recreational boat traffic goes down
22 significantly. But in doing the work, we'll be
23 obviously coordinating closely with the Coast
24 Guard, the harbormaster. And probably the

1 biggest issue with that is this isn't a fast
2 crossing. It takes almost 13 hours to go
3 across there with the cable. So we're not
4 talking about something that's moving really
5 fast, where it's got to stop to allow a boat to
6 go by should be sufficient time to do.
7 However, given the channel width there -- it's
8 not particularly wide on the Newington side --
9 there may be some times where we may have to
10 close it while the boats are going through
11 there. Again, it's later in the year. We'll
12 be coordinating closely with the agencies
13 involved, whether it's the harbormaster or the
14 Coast Guard to coordinate that.

15 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: Are
16 there any other questions? Any other green
17 sheets? Do you have a green sheet?

18 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Well, I'm trying.
19 Could I just say --

20 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: The
21 problem is we can't get you on the record when
22 you talk back there. So why don't you write it
23 out and take it up. Take a minute to let you
24 do that.

1 Are there any other -- anybody else
2 have any questions that they're writing out,
3 other than the gentleman in the red shirt?

4 [No verbal response]

5 MR. JIOTTIS: Mike, could I make just
6 one clarification?

7 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: Sure.

8 MR. JIOTTIS: The question was asked
9 about what the distribution circuit would look
10 like on Durham Point Road. I had said 5-foot
11 structures. It's more like 5 to 10 feet,
12 upwards of 10 feet for a new structure from
13 what's there today.

14 (Pause in proceedings)

15 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: Okay.
16 Next question: Clearing limits stated was
17 25 feet, plus or minus, along the railroad
18 right-of-way. The man just said the clearing
19 will be on both sides. Is this true? East or
20 west, or both?

21 MR. PLANTE: Relative to the railroad
22 clearing, our work is only on the west side of
23 our proposed center line of construction, which
24 is on the west side of the railroad. Does that

1 answer the question?

2 AUDIENCE MEMBER: When you get out of
3 Durham --

4 (Court Reporter interrupts.)

5 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: What the
6 man is suggesting is that when you get south of
7 Durham, the right-of-way is on the east side of
8 the railroad. So --

9 MR. PLANTE: Yes. Once you cross the
10 railroad, we're in the Eversource easement as
11 opposed to being in the railroad easement or
12 railroad corridor for our line construction.
13 So, once we're there we will be clearing both
14 sides of the right-of-way to its full limits.

15 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: Any
16 other green sheets?

17 [No verbal response]

18 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: We're
19 now going to move into that portion of our
20 public information session where the public is
21 invited to make comments. We only have one.
22 Is that is a green sheet or a yellow card?

23 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: It's a green sheet.

24 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: All

1 right. Let's hold on for a minute. I'll come
2 get it then and start asking the question from
3 the back of the room.

4 (Pause in proceedings)

5 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: Thank
6 you, sir. Okay. The question is -- I mean, we
7 can both answer it -- what is the probability
8 that the Application will be approved?

9 The answer from the staff of the
10 Committee is we don't know because we have not
11 gone through our process yet, and that process
12 is going to dictate whether or not the
13 Application will be approved. Again, the
14 process is we have public meetings such as
15 this, followed by public hearings where the
16 Subcommittee actually comes and we go through a
17 similar process. We get the input from all the
18 state agencies, and then we go into a regular
19 adjudicative-type process, just like a trial.
20 It's at the end of that that the Subcommittee
21 will close the record and begin deliberating.
22 By the way, they deliberate in public. They
23 sit there, and they discuss all of the
24 statutory factors that they have to consider.

1 They discuss the evidence that they've heard,
2 what's been filed with the Application, what
3 may be missing from the Application, what they
4 like, what they don't like about the Project,
5 whether they accept what is said by a witness
6 or don't accept it. All of that is done in
7 public. They're not allowed to go out in the
8 back room and hash it out. And they'll vote at
9 the end of all the deliberations. They'll vote
10 on whether or not to grant or deny the
11 certificate. And if they do grant it, they'll
12 also vote on what conditions they should apply
13 to the certificate, if any. So I can't give
14 you odds. I'm not an odds maker. But I can
15 tell you that that process will occur. It's
16 occurred numerous times over the years since
17 I've been involved with the Site Evaluation
18 Committee. And it's a process that generally
19 comes up with a decision that, for the most
20 part, people have accepted. So I don't know if
21 you want to give odds on whether the
22 Application will be approved or not.

23 MR. JIOTTIS: I don't think I'll give
24 odds. But I feel we've submitted a valid

1 application, met all the requirements of the
2 application. And we think we have a sound
3 project. But I'll defer to Mike's explanation
4 on that rather than provide odds.

5 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: If
6 there's no further green sheets, we'll now move
7 into that portion of the meeting where the
8 public can make statements. We only have one.
9 If you want to make a public statement, fill
10 out one of these yellow sheets. We only have
11 one right now, and that is a Mr. Bill Hall.
12 You can come right up to the microphone at that
13 brown podium over there.

14 MR. HALL: May I hold and wait --

15 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: I'm
16 sorry?

17 MR. HALL: May I wait until later in
18 the meeting?

19 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: This may
20 be the end of the meeting. You're the only
21 speaker card we have. So if you want to speak,
22 it will be now because you're the only speaker.

23
24 MR. HALL: Couple of comments. I

1 noticed that Maine just revised their average
2 use for residential customers from
3 500 kilowatts to 550. I suspect that if we
4 haven't done it, we're going to be doing that
5 soon. That is probably an indication of how
6 much electricity people are using with
7 appliances, particularly air conditioners.
8 This project is about 250 megawatts to support
9 the seacoast and an alternative fee per
10 situation. And the usage of the seacoast has
11 not gone up two-plus percent as it does -- as
12 it has been a couple years ago. It went up
13 four and a half percent, which is driving this
14 issue. So I think we can't put our heads in
15 the sand unless we think the seacoast is going
16 to appreciate brownouts.

17 The other thing you were commenting
18 on, the jetty, which is probably the best way
19 to go across the bay. Remember that Great Bay
20 is 6,000 acres. Five feet of water for
21 40,000 square feet which would be
22 200,000 square feet per acre; so, 1 foot of
23 jetty would dissipate theoretically into
24 200,000 square cubic feet of tide going either

1 way. Great Bay probably exchanges more than 10
2 billion gallons per -- southwest of Adams Point
3 per tide, which would be 20 billion gallons
4 every 25 hours. And the jetty wouldn't put
5 anything in the water column that isn't already
6 there in the mud. And the fresh water coming
7 down, for instance, Lamprey, at
8 6 billion gallons a day, the color of chocolate
9 milk, in the spring would be far more
10 detrimental than any jetty would do. If you
11 want, you can do the jetty on the outgoing
12 tide. Thank you very much.

13 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: Thank
14 you, sir. Anybody else wish to make a public
15 comment?

16 Yes, sir. Why don't you -- and if
17 you could, before you leave, fill out a yellow
18 card so we have your name and everything in the
19 record, okay. And identify yourself when you
20 reach the podium.

21 MR. GLOVER: I'm Michael --

22 (Court Reporter interrupts.)

23 MR. GLOVER: Michael Glover, 10
24 Hemlock Way, Durham, New Hampshire. Basically,

1 my backyard's on some of these lines you're
2 talking about, or close to. My biggest
3 question is it appears that there's a very wide
4 right-of-way that goes up through Dover and
5 then comes down north of Route 4. Why not use
6 that? If you have a traffic problem, you tend
7 to double down on an existing road, like an
8 interstate corridor, and you leave the
9 beautiful scenic ways as they were. So why are
10 you guys installing a big line through a bunch
11 of otherwise pristine areas?

12 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: That's a
13 question. I guess we'll take it as a
14 rhetorical question because --

15 MR. GLOVER: It's a rhetorical
16 question, but it's actually to the point. Why
17 do you need to do this? Why can't you do it
18 another way? There's a cost here. Nobody
19 wants to see Great Bay plowed up. I actually
20 have reliability problems. I'm, you know,
21 close enough to the UNH campus. I can hear the
22 football games and hear the roar. Maybe one
23 year in three we lose our power for the better
24 part of a week in the winter. That's perhaps

1 over the past 10 years. This project is titled
2 a reliability project, but it really won't fix
3 that because it's the local lines that are
4 getting knocked down by the trees. I am not --
5 I don't mind -- I'm off Mill Road, and Mill
6 Road does not appear to be scheduled for an
7 upgrade. Maybe the problem is fundamental, and
8 so be it. But like I said, is there a better
9 way to do this? I'm not excited about seeing a
10 hundred-foot-tall structure a couple of hundred
11 feet from my property. I'm concerned about my
12 property boundaries. Thank you.

13 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: Thank
14 you, sir.

15 Is there anybody else who wishes
16 to -- and sir, if you could just fill out one
17 of those yellow cards so we have your name in
18 the record. I think someone left one right on
19 your seat for you there.

20 Anybody else wish to make a public
21 comment? Do we have any other yellow cards in
22 the back?

23 [No verbal response]

24 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: Okay. I

1 guess we will be adjourned. I guess -- yes,
2 Mr. Hall.

3 MR. HALL: I want to clear up the
4 confusion about the one-week outages that the
5 person just brought up, which was, I think, to
6 the point. This project won't affect our
7 outages in Durham. Our outages in Durham are
8 created because we fought the power company for
9 many years to keep them from cutting. We've
10 just had an improvement on Madbury Road, but
11 the cutting there isn't done. Some people
12 think that a spacer cable will solve the
13 problem. But the real issue is, on our
14 one-week outages, it's because in one case we
15 had 40 poles knocked down. Spacer cable won't
16 fix that. The trees coming down on the lines
17 will knock down the poles, whether it's spacer
18 cable or some other kind of cable. Until
19 Durham is smart enough to systematically cut
20 along its roads, that's going to continue to be
21 a problem. And heaven help us if we get an ice
22 storm like they had in Montreal. And there's
23 so many poles around, we won't get our power
24 back until July. So I think it behooves Durham

1 to do much more aggressive cutting. Thank you.

2 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: Thank
3 you, sir. Any further public comments?

4 (No verbal response)

5 PRESIDING OFFICER IACOPINO: Seeing
6 none, we will be adjourned. Our next meeting
7 is the 21st at the Newington Town Hall at
8 6:00 p.m. Thank you all.

9 (Whereupon the Public Information Session
10 was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.)

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SEC DOCKET NO. 2015-04 Application of Public Service Company of NH, d/b/a Eversource

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