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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE

August 29, 2018 - 9:25 a.m. DAY 1  
49 Donovan Street Morning Session ONLY  
Concord, New Hampshire

{Electronically filed with SEC 09-11-18}

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.  
(Adjudicative Hearing)

PRESENT FOR SUBCOMMITTEE/SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE:

Patricia Weathersby (Presiding Officer)	Public Member
David Shulock, Esq.	Public Utilities Commission
Elizabeth Muzzey, Dir.	Div. of Historic Resources
Charles Schmidt, Admin.	Dept. of Transportation
Christopher Way, Dep.Dir.	Div. of Economic Dev.
Michael Fitzgerald, Dir.	Dept. of Env. Services
Susan Duprey	Public Member

ALSO PRESENT FOR THE SEC:

Michael J. Iacopino, Esq., Counsel for SEC  
(Brennan, Lenahan, Iacopino & Hickey)  
Pamela G. Monroe, SEC Administrator

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

## 1 APPEARANCES:

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

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

7 Reptg. Town of Durham and UNH:  
8 Douglas L. Patch, Esq.  
(Orr & Reno)

9 Reptg. Durham Residents:  
10 Marcia Brown, Esq. (NH Brown Law)

11 Reptg. Conserv. Law Foundation:  
12 Thomas F. Irwin, Esq.

13 Reptg. Town of Newington:  
14 Susan S. Geiger, Esq.  
(Orr & Reno)  
John Ratigan, Esq.  
(Donahue, Tucker...)

15 Reptg. Crowley-Joyce Rev. Trust:  
16 Justin C. Richardson, Esq.  
(Upton Richardson)

17 Reptg. Durham Historic Assoc.:  
18 Janet Mackie

19 Reptg. Darius Frink Farm:  
20 Helen Frink

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## I N D E X

WITNESS:

WILLIAM J. QUINLAN

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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Okay.

3 Good morning. I'm Patricia Weathersby. I'm  
4 the latest and hopefully last presiding  
5 officer over this docket. Thank you for your  
6 patience this morning. We were meeting in a  
7 non-public session with our counsel to just  
8 review a few things, but now we're going to  
9 proceed with the public hearing.

10 So, welcome to the public hearing  
11 of the Subcommittee of the New Hampshire Site  
12 Evaluation Committee. This subcommittee  
13 presides over the Application of Public  
14 Service Company of New Hampshire, d/b/a  
15 Eversource Energy, for a Certificate of Site  
16 and Facility. It's Docket 2015-04. Our  
17 purpose for meeting today is to begin the  
18 adjudicative hearings on the Application.  
19 We've reserved a number of days for this  
20 hearing.

21 Before starting the hearing, I  
22 would ask the Subcommittee members to  
23 introduce themselves.

24 MR. FITZGERALD: Good morning,

1 Michael Fitzgerald. I'm the assistant  
2 director of the Air Resources Division of the  
3 Department of Environmental Services.

4 DIR. MUZZEY: Elizabeth Muzzey,  
5 director of the Division of Historical  
6 Resources.

7 MR. WAY: Christopher Way, deputy  
8 director of the Commission on Economic  
9 Development and Department of Business and  
10 Economic Affairs.

11 MR. SHULOCK: Good morning. David  
12 Shulock, general counsel at the Public  
13 Utilities Commission.

14 MS. DUPREY: Susan Duprey, public  
15 member.

16 MR. SCHMIDT: Chuck Schmidt. I'm  
17 the administrator of right-of-way for the  
18 Department of Transportation.

19 PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Also  
20 with us is Attorney Mike Iacopino, to my  
21 right, and our administrator, Pam Monroe, on  
22 the far right. If I didn't mention it before,  
23 I'm a public member of the Site Evaluation  
24 Committee.

1                   For the convenience of everyone  
2 present, I'm going to review some of the  
3 relative history of this docket.

4                   On April 12th, 2016, Public Service  
5 Company of New Hampshire, d/b/a Eversource  
6 Energy, applied to the Site Evaluation  
7 Committee to construct a new 115-kilovolt  
8 electric transmission line, approximately  
9 12.9 miles in length between existing  
10 substations in Madbury and Portsmouth. The  
11 Application was amended on March 29, 2017.  
12 Over the course of the docket, the Applicant  
13 also filed various supplements to the  
14 information contained in the Application. We  
15 also received reports from state agencies  
16 with jurisdiction or other regulatory  
17 authority over portions of the Application.

18                   On February 19, 2015, the  
19 Subcommittee received a letter from the state  
20 fire marshal indicating there was no reason  
21 for that agency to be involved in the  
22 planning process.

23                   On March 10, 2017, the Public  
24 Utilities Commission issued an order granting

1 the Applicant's request to construct the  
2 transmission line across and over the Oyster  
3 River and under Little Bay in the Town of  
4 Durham and over Pickering Brook and under  
5 Little Bay in the Town of Newington. That  
6 order is on file with the Subcommittee.

7 On June 14, 2018, the PUC granted  
8 the Applicant's petition for seven additional  
9 licenses to construct and maintain electric  
10 lines, neutral wire and fiber optic cable  
11 over and across public lands owned by the  
12 State of New Hampshire in Durham.

13 On August 1, 2017, the Department  
14 of Natural and Cultural Resources, Division  
15 of Historical Resources, filed a final report  
16 with recommendations and conditions.

17 On November 21, 2017, the  
18 Department of Transportation filed a progress  
19 report with the Subcommittee. That report  
20 sought additional information from the  
21 Applicant. As of today, the DOT has not  
22 filed a final report or decision,  
23 recommendation or proposed conditions.

24 On February 28, 2018, the New

1 Hampshire Department of Environmental  
2 Services issued a final decision on parts of  
3 the Application related to a wetland permit,  
4 alteration of terrain permit, a 401  
5 water-quality certificate and a shoreland  
6 permit. Each of the DES permits contained a  
7 number of conditions. In addition to the  
8 conditions applicable to these permits, DES  
9 recommended the Subcommittee consider  
10 requiring additional studies and conditions  
11 pertaining to the submarine construction in  
12 Little Bay.

13 On April 20, 2018, the SEC issued a  
14 Notice of Adjudicative Hearings. The  
15 Attorney General has appointed Chris Aslin as  
16 Counsel for the Public in this matter.

17 A number of people and agencies  
18 were permitted to intervene in this  
19 proceeding. The intervenors are: Town of  
20 Newington, Town of Durham and UNH jointly,  
21 the Conservation Law Foundation, Durham  
22 Historical Society, the Nature Conservancy,  
23 the Durham Residents Group, Helen Frink,  
24 Keith Frizzell, Fat Dog Shellfish and the

1 Crowley-Joyce Trust.

2 The final prehearing conference  
3 occurred on August 22, 2018. A prehearing  
4 conference report was issued. That report  
5 contains the order of presentation and the  
6 order of examination that we will follow  
7 during the adjudicative hearing.

8 At this point I will take  
9 appearances from the parties who are present  
10 here today, and then we will begin with the  
11 Applicant's presentation.

12 MR. NEEDLEMAN: Good morning. Barry  
13 Needleman from McLane Middleton, representing  
14 the Applicant. And with me is also Adam  
15 Dumville from McLane Middleton. And next to  
16 Adam is Beth Maldonado, who is in-house  
17 counsel at Eversource.

18 PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Thank  
19 you.

20 Mr. Aslin.

21 MR. ASLIN: Good morning. Chris  
22 Aslin, senior assistant attorney general,  
23 acting as Counsel for the Public.

24 MR. PATCH: Good morning. Doug

1 Patch from the law firm Orr & Reno,  
2 representing the Town of Durham and the  
3 University of New Hampshire. And with me at  
4 the table is Todd Selig, who is the town  
5 administrator in Durham. Next to him is Wayne  
6 Burton, who is a town councilor in Durham, and  
7 also a state representative.

8 PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Thank  
9 you.

10 MS. BROWN: Marcia Brown,  
11 representing Donna Heald. And also as  
12 spokesperson for the Durham Residents, with me  
13 today is Matthew Fitch, who's at the table  
14 behind me, and Regis Miller and Vivian Miller.  
15 Thank you.

16 PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Thank  
17 you.

18 MR. IRWIN: Good morning. Tom Irwin,  
19 Conservation Law Foundation. With me today is  
20 Leslie Ludtke, who also has filed an  
21 appearance on behalf of Conservation Law  
22 Foundation.

23 MS. GEIGER: Good morning. Susan  
24 Geiger from the law firm of Orr & Reno,

1 representing the Town of Newington. And with  
2 me today is Mr. Denis Hebert, who is chairman  
3 of the Newington Planning Board.

4 MR. RATIGAN: Good morning. John  
5 Ratigan representing --

6 PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Mr.  
7 Ratigan, could you repeat and use the mic.

8 MR. RATIGAN: Oh, yes. I'm sorry.  
9 John Ratigan from the law firm of Donahue,  
10 Tucker & Ciandella, representing the Town of  
11 Newington.

12 MR. RICHARDSON: Good morning, Ms.  
13 Chair and Committee Members. Justin  
14 Richardson here representing the Crowley-Joyce  
15 Trust. With me at the table is Mark Joyce,  
16 who's a trustee.

17 I apologize. It appears that we're  
18 short a microphone, so I hope we might be  
19 able to address that or find a place where I  
20 can sit and speak. Thank you.

21 PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: I'll  
22 speak to the mic issue in just a moment.

23 Is there anyone else who would like  
24 to file an appearance? Yes, ma'am.

1 MS. MACKIE: I'm Janet Mackie,  
2 representing the Durham Historic Association.  
3 And with me here today is Nancy Sandberg, our  
4 museum curator.

5 PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Thank  
6 you.

7 Mrs. Frink.

8 MS. FRINK: Helen Frink,  
9 representing the Darius Frink Farm in  
10 Newington.

11 PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Thank  
12 you.

13 Is there anyone else who would like  
14 to make an appearance? Mr. Frizzell? Is Mr.  
15 Frizzell here? Mr. Baker?

16 [No verbal response]

17 PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Okay.  
18 Concerning the microphones, we are --  
19 Mr. O'Brien, Nature Conservancy?

20 Concerning the microphones, we are  
21 short a few. If you do have something to  
22 speak, it does need to be made into a  
23 microphone. We can try and pass microphones  
24 or move to a seat where there is a

1 microphone. And if you want to speak or  
2 question a witness, you can always come up  
3 and use the microphone here at the lecturn.  
4 We are hoping to get more microphones for the  
5 future days of hearings and apologize for  
6 any inconvenience today.

7 The Applicant will now present its  
8 first witness.

9 MR. NEEDLEMAN: Thank You.

10 WHEREUPON, WILLIAM J. QUINLAN was duly  
11 sworn and cautioned by the Court Reporter.

12 DIRECT EXAMINATION

13 BY MR. NEEDLEMAN:

14 Q. Could you state your name and position,  
15 please.

16 A. Yes. I'm William J. Quinlan. I'm the  
17 President of Eversource New Hampshire,  
18 formerly Public Service of New Hampshire.

19 Q. And you have three exhibits in front of you:  
20 Applicant's Exhibit No. 2, which is your  
21 April 12th, 2016 prefiled testimony;  
22 Applicant's Exhibit No. 69, which is your  
23 March 29th, 2017 amended prefiled testimony;  
24 and Applicant's Exhibit 138, which is your

1 July 27, 2018 supplemental prefiled  
2 testimony; is that correct?

3 A. That's correct.

4 Q. Do you have any changes or corrections to any  
5 of those three pieces of testimony?

6 A. I do not.

7 Q. Do you then adopt and swear to all three of  
8 those pieces of testimony today?

9 A. I do.

10 MR. NEEDLEMAN: All set, Madam  
11 Chair.

12 PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Thank  
13 you.

14 Town of Durham/UNH. Mr. Patch, do  
15 you have questions?

16 MR. PATCH: Good morning. Thank  
17 you.

18 CROSS-EXAMINATION

19 BY MR. PATCH:

20 Q. Good morning. My name's Doug Patch. I am  
21 counsel representing the Town of Durham and  
22 the University of New Hampshire.

23 A. Good morning.

24 Q. Could you tell us where this project began?

1 You know, what was its inception?

2 A. Its inception really was a study of system  
3 reliability that happens from time to time  
4 for the entire regional electric grid here in  
5 New England and the need identified in the  
6 Seacoast Region of New Hampshire as a result  
7 of load growth over the last many years.

8 Q. And can you give us a time frame for that?

9 A. The initial study was, I believe, in the  
10 2012-2013 time frame. You can direct that  
11 question later to Robert Andrew, who is one  
12 of our system planners and also a witness in  
13 the case. But it was roughly in the  
14 2012-2013 time frame at which point the need  
15 was identified.

16 Q. And do you know when it was first filed with  
17 the ISO?

18 A. Approximately 2013, I believe. In 2014 it  
19 went through the ISO-New England review  
20 process and was confirmed as a needed  
21 upgrade, again, subject to check. And I  
22 would direct the questions to Mr. Andrew for  
23 specifics.

24 Q. Okay. I would just point out for the record

1           that I think in the Application, Page E-2,  
2           there's a footnote that cites to a report  
3           from the ISO in April of 2012. So,  
4           presumably it was filed sometime before that.  
5           I didn't see an exact date, but I'm thinking  
6           it was 2011 or so. Would that be contrary to  
7           your understanding?

8    A.    Again, I would direct that question to  
9           Mr. Andrew. He would know the specifics.  
10           But it was roughly in that time frame that  
11           the need was first identified. Again, these  
12           are ongoing studies that have been  
13           periodically for the entire tier of the New  
14           England grid.

15   Q.    Your original testimony, which I believe has  
16           been identified as Exhibit 2, at Page 10,  
17           Line 8, you said, and I'm quoting, "Since the  
18           Project inception, PSNH has been committed to  
19           working with the towns... potentially  
20           impacted by the Project." Did I say that  
21           correctly? Do you have that in front of you?  
22           I left out a few words between "towns,"  
23           but --

24   A.    I was going to say you left out a clause in

1           the middle, "including municipal officials,  
2           residents and businesses."

3       Q.    And do you know when you first, or when  
4           Eversource first contacted local officials in  
5           Durham?

6       A.    There may have been contact prior to my  
7           involvement. My involvement in the Project  
8           was in the 2014 time frame. I met directly  
9           and personally with town officials.

10      Q.    And what about the University of New  
11           Hampshire?

12      A.    Approximately the same time frame. I think  
13           they were contemporaneous, 2014.

14      Q.    I have an exhibit that I guess I would like  
15           to put in the record and show to you if you  
16           haven't seen it already.

17                       MR. PATCH: In the marking of  
18           exhibits, I'm just a little bit confused on  
19           that. We didn't mark this in the electronic  
20           version that we sent to you, and I have marked  
21           it today. But in our list, it was -- it's an  
22           article, a recent article. In our list it was  
23           Exhibit 8. And I didn't know if you were  
24           going to be marking exhibits sequentially. So

1           this would be the first exhibit. But at the  
2           prehearing conference, we gave you five  
3           exhibits. And yesterday we e-mailed around an  
4           additional six exhibits. And so on that list  
5           that we sent yesterday, it's marked as  
6           Exhibit 8. But I don't know if you want to  
7           stick with that identification or not.

8                           PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: We're  
9           going to use the exhibit numbers that are on  
10          the list submitted.

11 BY MR. PATCH:

12 Q.       Okay. So this would be Exhibit 8. And I  
13       don't know if you have what I e-mailed in  
14       yesterday electronically, Mr. Quinlan.

15 A.       I do not.

16 Q.       Okay. I'm going to show you this article.

17                           MR. IACOPINO: Mr. Patch, there is  
18       an Elmo here if you want to display it.

19 BY MR. PATCH:

20 Q.       And the real reason I'm showing you this  
21       article is so I can direct your attention to  
22       a comment that was made in the article by a  
23       spokesperson for PSNH. It's actually, I  
24       believe, on the second page of the article.

1           And the spokesperson's name in the article is  
2           Kaitlyn Woods. And the third paragraph up  
3           from the bottom on the second page says,  
4           "Asked what Eversource learned from Northern  
5           Pass that it used in the Seacoast Project,  
6           Woods said Eversource, in 2013, started  
7           reaching out to affected communities to  
8           discuss the Project." Is that consistent  
9           with your understanding?

10        A.    Again, my personal involvement I believe  
11           began in 2014. But I have no reason to doubt  
12           that this is correct -- you know, the point  
13           being that outreach commenced well in advance  
14           of the filing of the Application, and we took  
15           very seriously input from all stakeholders,  
16           including communities.

17        Q.    And so when you said in Exhibit 2, "Since the  
18           Project inception, PSNH has been committed to  
19           working with towns," that actually -- working  
20           with towns didn't happen when the Project was  
21           pending before the ISO, did it, when it was  
22           originally filed and when meetings were held  
23           with the ISO?

24        A.    The Application wasn't filed until 2016.

1 Q. With the ISO or with the Site Evaluation  
2 Committee?

3 A. With the Site Evaluation Committee.

4 Q. Okay. But my question was about working with  
5 towns, which you identified in your testimony  
6 when the Project was filed with the ISO and  
7 while you were presenting information to the  
8 ISO. Do you know whether any of the towns  
9 were contacted at that point in time?

10 A. Again, I would direct some of these questions  
11 to Mr. Andrew. But we don't file a project  
12 with the ISO. There's an ongoing system  
13 study that looks at reliability needs for the  
14 entire New England grid. They identified the  
15 Seacoast in the 2012 or 2013 time frame as an  
16 "immediate need." The ISO-New England then  
17 reviews and considers alternatives for  
18 addressing the need. So we don't file the  
19 Seacoast Reliability Project with the ISO-New  
20 England for their consideration. They  
21 determine what the best solution is to  
22 address the need.

23 Q. So you don't give them options then?

24 A. Sure. It's a collaborative process. We and

1 other stakeholders have an opportunity to  
2 share thoughts and options. But we do not  
3 identify a preferred option, to my knowledge.  
4 Again, I would direct that question to Mr.  
5 Andrew.

6 Q. So when you say "other stakeholders," are the  
7 towns part of that stakeholder group?

8 A. I believe there is an opportunity for the  
9 towns to be involved in the ISO process.  
10 There's certainly a wide number of  
11 stakeholders involved at ISO-New England --  
12 generators, transmission owners, retail  
13 marketers, the New England Power POOL --  
14 which does hold open, public meetings where  
15 towns, state commissioners and others are  
16 involved. So there's certainly a dialogue  
17 and opportunity for a lot of stakeholder  
18 input.

19 Q. Are the towns notified about those meetings?  
20 Does Eversource notify towns of those  
21 meetings, or to your knowledge, does the ISO  
22 notify towns?

23 A. Any notice of an ISO meeting would be by the  
24 regional grid operator itself. And I'm not

1           aware whether there is a public notification  
2           to towns.

3    Q.    So in your testimony, Page 4, Line 17,  
4           Exhibit 2, you say that stakeholder input --

5    A.    I'm sorry. Which page?

6    Q.    Page 4, Line 17.

7    A.    Yes.

8    Q.    You say that stakeholder input into the ISO  
9           process is critical and ongoing; correct?

10   A.    Yes.

11   Q.    And you say at Line 21 that local communities  
12           are participants; correct?

13   A.    They are participants in the NEPOOL Planning  
14           Advisory Committee, which is what I think I  
15           just said.

16   Q.    So how can communities and participants in  
17           that committee -- I guess I don't understand.  
18           They have one representative for all  
19           communities in New England? Or how, for  
20           example, could the Town of Durham be a  
21           participant, you know, with knowledge of the  
22           fact that Eversource was developing a project  
23           that would affect them?

24   A.    Well, the point of that answer to the

1 question was that the meetings are open to  
2 the public. Any community, for any project,  
3 is welcome to attend those meetings and  
4 provide input. And again, the PAC Committee  
5 doesn't focus on any one particular project.  
6 They're considering projects across all of  
7 New England, and it's an open and public  
8 process. Your earlier question was about  
9 notice, and I personally am not familiar with  
10 the notice process to communities.

11 Q. The reality is, though, isn't it, that there  
12 is no meaningful participation from affected  
13 communities because they're not aware of  
14 what's going on?

15 A. I believe there is an opportunity for  
16 community input, so I would not agree with  
17 that.

18 Q. Okay. But only if they're notified. If they  
19 don't know about it, they can't participate;  
20 right?

21 A. Presumably, yes.

22 Q. Are you familiar with the ISO process that  
23 was used to review alternative ways to  
24 address the need for this project? In your

1           prefiled testimony, Page 2, Exhibit 2, you  
2           said that the ISO process was to serve  
3           current and projected electric loads in the  
4           Seacoast Region. So it sounds like you're  
5           not totally familiar with how that process  
6           works.

7       A.    I am not an expert in the ISO processes;  
8           however, Mr. Andrew is. I'm generally aware  
9           of how ISO identifies needs, evaluates  
10          solutions and determines what the best  
11          project is to address and identify the need.  
12          But I don't participate in that process  
13          directly. And it's been a long time since  
14          I've attended a committee meeting with ISO.

15       Q.    So I'm focusing on Page 4, Line 14 of  
16           Exhibit 2, your original testimony. You said  
17           that the ISO identified a suite of projects,  
18           of which the Seacoast Reliability Project was  
19           a part; is that correct?

20       A.    That's correct. And what I was referring to  
21           was the so-called "Seacoast Solution." So,  
22           ISO-New England first evaluated the need, and  
23           then they identified the necessary projects  
24           to address that identified need. The

1           Seacoast Reliability Project, which is the  
2           project we're talking about today, is one of  
3           several other system upgrades required to  
4           address the need. I believe all of the other  
5           upgrades at this point have now been  
6           constructed and are in service.

7    Q.    You said in your testimony at Page 4,  
8           Line 14, approximately, that it was the  
9           lowest cost and best overall option; correct?

10   A.    Yes.

11   Q.    And you said that resulted from a  
12           collaborative process; is that correct?

13   A.    Yes. That's the stakeholder process that I  
14           was referring to earlier. It is  
15           collaborative, and they seek views and  
16           opinions from many stakeholders.

17   Q.    Could you tell the Committee what the other  
18           projects in that suite are?

19   A.    I cannot. I would direct that question to  
20           Mr. Bowes. I know there are some line  
21           upgrades and some substation work. But Mr.  
22           Bowes and/or Mr. Andrew can provide the  
23           details.

24   Q.    To your knowledge, were the other projects in

1 the suite ever submitted to the Site  
2 Evaluation Committee for review and approval?

3 A. No, they were not because they are -- they do  
4 not rise to the level of a project requiring  
5 siting approval here in New Hampshire. So,  
6 they are smaller in nature and don't trigger  
7 the need for a certificate for their  
8 construction.

9 Q. That may be the case individually. But I  
10 thought part of what Eversource has been  
11 saying in its testimony and in its  
12 Application is how these projects are all  
13 interconnected, and so I guess I don't  
14 understand. If they're so interconnected,  
15 and part of your argument is, well, gee, we  
16 did all these other projects, now you should  
17 approve this, then why didn't you send the  
18 whole suite of projects to this Committee?

19 MR. NEEDLEMAN: Objection. This  
20 calls for a legal conclusion.

21 MR. PATCH: I think the witness is a  
22 lawyer.

23 MR. NEEDLEMAN: But the witness is  
24 not testifying as a lawyer.

1 MR. PATCH: Well, but he certainly  
2 has that background and training.

3 PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Mr.  
4 Quinlan, if you know the answer to that  
5 question, you can answer it.

6 A. I did not use the word "interconnected." I  
7 used the word "suite." You know, as I said,  
8 ISO identified the suite of projects that  
9 were necessary. I don't believe -- and  
10 again, Mr. Bowes and Mr. Andrew are the  
11 experts -- that they are technically  
12 interconnected. And as I said, those other  
13 projects and upgrades did not rise to the  
14 level of requiring SEC review and approval  
15 prior to construction.

16 BY MR. PATCH:

17 Q. Do you know how the ISO evaluates what is the  
18 best overall option? You know, you, your  
19 testimony, as we noted a couple of questions  
20 ago, said "lowest cost and best overall  
21 option." What are the criteria that they  
22 use?

23 A. Yeah, first and foremost, it's reliability.  
24 I mean, the reason we're here today and the

1 reason this project was approved is that  
2 there was an identified reliability need back  
3 in 2012, which means that ISO-New England  
4 determined that this project and this  
5 solution was necessary to ensure the grid  
6 reliability in the Greater Seacoast Region.  
7 So it starts their review with what is the  
8 project that is the best technical solution  
9 for that identified reliability need. That's  
10 first and foremost.

11 Q. It sounds like, though, you don't know any  
12 more specific than that what criteria the ISO  
13 uses.

14 A. Well, I do. There are thermal and voltage  
15 criteria that need to be satisfied, both of  
16 which are right now compromised, which means  
17 that under certain system conditions and  
18 configurations we would either have a low  
19 voltage situation or an overload situation,  
20 in which case, we, as the transmission  
21 operator, New Hampshire grid would have to  
22 shed load in the region to ensure that the  
23 grid did not collapse. So there are specific  
24 technical criteria that are used to identify

1           need. In this instance, both were  
2           compromised. Both are compromised today,  
3           both thermal and voltage. So that is the  
4           ISO-New England's primary criteria is need  
5           and reliability. Beyond that, they do look  
6           at cost.

7    Q.    And so when they look at cost, presumably do  
8           they develop the cost estimate, or does  
9           Eversource?

10   A.    We develop the cost estimate for the various  
11           solutions that have been identified.

12   Q.    And do they hold you to that cost estimate in  
13           any way, or is it just that, an estimate, and  
14           then whatever it ends up costing they let you  
15           pass on to ratepayers?

16   A.    Ultimately, any reliability project that we  
17           complete we will have to submit the final  
18           costs to ISO-New England for review,  
19           consideration and determination as to whether  
20           the costs were prudently incurred and should  
21           therefore be borne by customers. And for a  
22           project such as this, which is a reliability  
23           project, it is what we refer to as a  
24           "socialized" or "regionalized" cost, meaning

1 customers across New England would pay for  
2 these upgrades necessary to New Hampshire.  
3 We, as New Hampshire, constitute about  
4 9 percent of New England's total load. So  
5 New Hampshire customers would pay  
6 approximately 9 percent of these regionalized  
7 costs, and customers across New England would  
8 pick up the balance. So there is a very  
9 formal process where the actual costs are  
10 reviewed and scrutinized by ISO-New England  
11 to ensure they're consistent with Good  
12 Utility Practice.

13 Q. When you were listing the criteria that ISO  
14 uses, I didn't hear you say "impact on the  
15 environment" or "impact on local communities"  
16 or "impact on historic resources" or the  
17 kinds of things that this Committee really  
18 reviews. Is that fair to say?

19 A. Those are considerations and decisions that  
20 ISO would defer to the siting board -- in  
21 this case, the Site Evaluation Committee.

22 Q. In your testimony, Exhibit 2, Page 5, Line  
23 19, you say --

24 A. I'm sorry. Which page?

1 Q. Page 5, Line 19.

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. You say that PSNH chose to use submarine  
4 construction because there is an existing  
5 underwater utility corridor in Little Bay;  
6 correct?

7 A. That's one of the reasons we chose jet plow  
8 for submarine crossing, yes.

9 Q. And when was that underwater utility corridor  
10 first approved? Do you know?

11 A. I do not know. But it's been there since the  
12 early 1900s. I'm not certain of the precise  
13 year it was approved and constructed.

14 Q. And is it a distribution or transmission  
15 utility corridor? Do you know?

16 A. It's a distribution line which is no longer  
17 in service.

18 Q. Do you know when it went out of service?

19 A. I do not.

20 Q. Do you know whether there are any concrete  
21 mattresses in Little Bay currently covering  
22 any of those lines?

23 A. I do not know whether there are concrete  
24 mattresses used.

1 Q. In terms of the need for the project, in your  
2 testimony in April of 2016, I believe it's  
3 Page 2, Line 29, you said there was an  
4 "immediate need" for the project. Do I have  
5 that correct?

6 A. Can you give me the reference again, please?

7 Q. Page 2, Line 29.

8 A. Of the original testimony?

9 Q. That's right, Exhibit 2.

10 (Witness reviews document.)

11 A. Correct. As I said, ISO-New England, when  
12 they did their system study, determined that  
13 the year of need I believe was 2012, which  
14 means that as of 2012, their thermal and  
15 voltage criteria were no longer satisfied.  
16 So with the load growth since 2012, that need  
17 has just grown. The problem has been  
18 exacerbated, and the risk to customers has  
19 gone up.

20 Q. So if this project is approved, it appears  
21 that it will be at least three, maybe four  
22 years after you said there was an "immediate  
23 need" before the Project is completed; is  
24 that correct?

1 A. Yes, at least three or four years.

2 Q. So when you said "immediate," I guess I'm  
3 trying to put that together with the timing  
4 of the --

5 A. Well, it is immediate. As I said, their  
6 thermal and voltage criteria were not  
7 satisfied as of 2012. It doesn't mean we are  
8 immediately going to be shutting off  
9 customers or doing load shedding, what we  
10 refer to as "load shedding." It essentially  
11 says that as of 2012, the criteria weren't  
12 satisfied, and there is a risk under certain  
13 system configurations that we would have to  
14 do so. Thankfully, that risk has not become  
15 a reality in the intervening years. That's  
16 never a step that as a system operator we  
17 want to take. Hopefully, it can be avoided  
18 through the construction of this project.

19 Q. And so the other projects in the suite, has  
20 construction on those been completed?

21 A. I believe so, yes. I believe all of them are  
22 complete and in service.

23 Q. And the fact that they're complete and in  
24 service, does that reduce the need for this

1 project? In other words, are we in a better  
2 situation than we were when you filed this  
3 testimony in 2016, now with the completion of  
4 the other projects in the suite?

5 A. The suite in its entirety is needed to  
6 address the need. This project is probably  
7 the single, most significant contributor to  
8 the risk reduction. There is no doubt that  
9 those other projects are beneficial and  
10 important, and that's why we've constructed  
11 them. But this project is the linchpin of  
12 the total package.

13 And I would also say that loads have  
14 continued to grow in the Seacoast Region of  
15 New Hampshire. So that identified need in  
16 2012 has grown as a result of more customer  
17 demand in the region, which generally is a  
18 good thing. It's a sign of a healthy economy  
19 in the Seacoast.

20 Q. So I don't think you answered my question.  
21 Maybe if I ask it a different way -- my  
22 question was basically, given the completion  
23 of the other projects in the suite, are we in  
24 a better place than we were in 2016?

1 A. I think I did answer, but let me try again.

2 The completion of those projects are  
3 beneficial and should improve reliability,  
4 each and every one of them. But ISO-New  
5 England has determined that this project,  
6 along with those, are required to address the  
7 need and to get us out of the situation we're  
8 in where we have violations of their design  
9 criteria. So there is incremental benefit of  
10 those projects, but we really do need this  
11 project. And the reason I talked about load  
12 growth is that pushes us in the other  
13 direction. It just exacerbates the need.  
14 So, while it's true we've completed those  
15 upgrades, loads have grown, and that net-net  
16 may have increased the overall need. I would  
17 defer that to Mr. Andrew and perhaps Mr.  
18 Bowes.

19 Q. So, along these lines, at Exhibit 2 again,  
20 Page 4, Lines 2 to 3, I believe you said  
21 that --

22 A. I'm sorry. Page 4?

23 Q. Page 4, Lines 2 to 3.

24 A. Yes.

1 Q. I believe you said that the existing capacity  
2 of the electric system in this region must be  
3 enhanced to meet current and growing customer  
4 electrical demand; correct?

5 (Witness reviews document.)

6 A. Correct.

7 Q. And in conclusion to your testimony at  
8 Page 14, Line 11 -- I'll let you get there.

9 A. Thank you. Yes.

10 Q. You refer to the "projected electrical demand  
11 growth."

12 A. That's correct. As I say, demand continues  
13 to grow in the Seacoast Region.

14 Q. Do you have any specifics on the growth in  
15 the region? I mean, do you have anything  
16 that you could offer to this Committee,  
17 either today or through a record request, of  
18 exactly what the demand growth is in the  
19 Seacoast Region, say over the last ten years?

20 A. We can certainly provide that. I do not have  
21 that information with me here today. But we  
22 look at every region across New Hampshire  
23 and, as a company, across New England for  
24 pockets of load growth. I happen to know,

1           because I look at this frequently, that the  
2           Seacoast continues to grow at a fairly strong  
3           rate. But we could certainly provide that in  
4           a record request.

5                       MR. PATCH: Okay. I would like to  
6           make that record request. So if you want me  
7           to repeat it again, I will. It's the demand  
8           growth in the Seacoast Region over the last  
9           ten years.

10                      PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Okay.  
11           So noted.

12                      Attorney Needleman, you got that?

13                      MR. NEEDLEMAN: Yes.

14                      PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Thank  
15           you.

16 BY MR. PATCH:

17 Q.    What's your understanding of what is  
18        happening generally --

19                      (Court Reporter interrupts.)

20                      MR. IACOPINO: Mr. Patch, I want to  
21        just make sure. With respect to that record  
22        request, you've used two different terms, and  
23        I think they probably mean the same thing. He  
24        was talking about "demand growth" and you were

1 talking about "load growth" --

2 WITNESS QUINLAN: I'm using them  
3 interchangeably --

4 (Court Reporter interrupts.)

5 MR. IACOPINO: Are you both talking  
6 about the same thing?

7 MR. PATCH: As far as I'm concerned,  
8 yes. And I think Mr. Quinlan confirmed that.

9 WITNESS QUINLAN: Yes. Yes.  
10 "Customer demand" and "load" that we have to  
11 serve in the region generally are synonymous.

12 PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Thank  
13 you. You may continue.

14 BY MR. PATCH:

15 Q. What is your understanding of what's  
16 happening to electrical demand generally in  
17 New England in recent years? Is it growing?  
18 Is it leveling off? Is it decreasing?

19 A. In New England?

20 Q. Yes.

21 A. By "recent years," do you mean last two or  
22 three years?

23 Q. Well, I'd probably go a little bit further  
24 back. Maybe five.

1 A. In general, over the last five years across  
2 New England, load has been flat to declining  
3 in New England. And just to provide a little  
4 color on that, that does not include load  
5 necessarily served by distributed energy  
6 resources.

7 So, one of the reasons why the ISO-New  
8 England load may be declining is that there  
9 are customers who are generating power behind  
10 the meter, and that wouldn't show up in a New  
11 England load number. But generally flat  
12 across New England.

13 Q. I have a couple of exhibits I'd like to show  
14 you, and I think they basically confirm this.  
15 I don't want to spend a lot of time on them,  
16 but they are what I had premarked in what I  
17 sent out yesterday as Exhibits 6 and 7. And  
18 they're excerpts from ISO reports from this  
19 year, from 2018. And I would just ask you to  
20 take a look at those, and I just have one or  
21 two quick questions about them.

22 MR. IACOPINO: Doug, can you use the  
23 Elmo so folks can know what you're talking  
24 about?

1 MR. PATCH: I don't know how to use  
2 the Elmo. I've never used it.

3 MS. MONROE: I'll show you.

4 MR. IACOPINO: Pam will show you.

5 MS. MONROE: I'm here to help.

6 MR. PATCH: Okay.

7 (Pause in proceedings)

8 BY MR. PATCH:

9 Q. I mean, this is an ISO report. It's  
10 identified on the first page. And on the  
11 second page it has the language that I think  
12 you see there about, you know, with regard to  
13 the growth and load. This one, and then also  
14 the next exhibit which I identified as an  
15 excerpt, "Peak Demand and Overall Electricity  
16 Use," that may be more relevant to the  
17 question I just asked you. But that  
18 includes, I believe, some information there  
19 with regard to electric load growth or not,  
20 really, in New England, which I think you  
21 just discussed. I don't know if you could  
22 just read what it says there.

23 A. "The annual growth rates for summer peak  
24 demand and overall electricity use are

1           0.1 percent and negative 0.6 percent,  
2           respectively, when energy efficiency and  
3           behind-the-meter solar are factored into the  
4           forecast."

5   Q.    I think it's that bottom bullet there that  
6           you just read; correct?

7   A.    That's what I just read, yes.

8   Q.    Yup. Thank you.

9           And then on the other exhibit which I  
10          gave you, the one with the two charts at the  
11          top, could you just read what the words below  
12          that say basically about, you know, the  
13          impact that energy efficiency has had. And I  
14          think this is what you were talking about  
15          when you said "behind the meter."

16  A.    Well, it wasn't, but this is the other factor  
17          that I can certainly speak to.

18          It says, "The New England states are  
19          national leaders in energy efficiency, or  
20          'EE.' Four are ranked in the top ten,  
21          including Massachusetts at No. 1."

22          You want me to continue?

23  Q.    That's okay. I mean, the point --

24  A.    Yeah, so the point being, and I probably can

1           agree to this, that the combination of energy  
2           efficiency and solar, which is  
3           behind-the-meter generation, have flattened  
4           what would otherwise be load growth in New  
5           England. And, you know, there's a note on  
6           the first exhibit you showed me that said  
7           without energy efficiency and solar, the  
8           region's peak demand is forecasted to grow  
9           1 percent annually, and the region's overall  
10          electricity demand is forecasted to grow 0.9  
11          percent annually -- so the point being that  
12          those two factors, solar and energy  
13          efficiency, have reduced the growth of the  
14          peak demand in New England, which is  
15          interesting and it's true for New England,  
16          but that's not true for the Seacoast. And I  
17          think the exhibit we provide to you will  
18          demonstrate that the Seacoast area has  
19          continued to grow while overall demand in New  
20          England is flat.

21        Q.    So there certainly can be pockets within the  
22              New England grid that grow at a different  
23              rate than other pockets. And I guess what  
24              you're saying is that in the Seacoast Region,

1           what is generally true in New England has not  
2           happened; correct?

3       A.     That is correct.

4       Q.     Do you have an explanation as to why that's  
5           the case, or do you have some logical --

6       A.     Generally, it's a function of economic  
7           activity. You know, over the last decade or  
8           so there's been a lot of business growth in  
9           the Greater Seacoast Area. A lot of  
10          manufacturers have located in the region, and  
11          others, and those are generally  
12          energy-intensive operations. So as the  
13          economy has grown in the region, demand for  
14          electricity has also grown, notwithstanding  
15          the fact that we have some very effective  
16          energy-efficiency programs across New  
17          England.

18                You know, this note that you shared  
19                suggests that Massachusetts has the No. 1  
20                energy-efficiency programs in the country.  
21                We happen to run those in Massachusetts, and  
22                they're very similar to the programs we run  
23                here in New Hampshire, which are also, in my  
24                mind, among the best in the country.

1           So, energy efficiency has clearly had an  
2           impact on load growth in New Hampshire and  
3           the Seacoast. It's just that the economic  
4           activity has grown more quickly than those  
5           programs.

6    Q.    It would be surprising to me that the  
7           economic activity in the Seacoast Region -- I  
8           could be incorrect -- but that it would be  
9           different than, say, New England-wide.  
10          There's been good economic activity in  
11          Boston, and probably in Hartford, probably in  
12          Providence, probably in various places around  
13          New England; yet, the region-wide numbers  
14          don't indicate that there's demand growth.

15    A.   Well, we happen to operate the electric grid  
16          in most of those cities that you just named,  
17          and I will tell you that Boston loads  
18          continue to grow, and Stamford, Connecticut,  
19          loads continue to grow. And it's a function  
20          of economic activity. Hartford -- right now  
21          the economy is not growing in Connecticut.  
22          Loads are actually trending downward in  
23          Hartford. Greater Seacoast Area in New  
24          Hampshire is the area of growth in this

1 state. I think my testimony refers to the  
2 fact that the Seacoast Region, if trends  
3 continue, it will consume about 25 percent of  
4 the energy for the entire state of the New  
5 Hampshire in the coming years. And it really  
6 is a function of economic activity and the  
7 number of businesses that are located in the  
8 region.

9 Q. And along these lines in your testimony,  
10 Exhibit 2 at Page 7, Line 23, you said that  
11 SRP will support future economic growth in  
12 this expanding region.

13 A. That's correct. So when we complete these  
14 upgrades, it will provide redundancy and  
15 additional, new capacity to allow the economy  
16 in the Seacoast Region to continue to grow  
17 without violating the design criteria. So we  
18 are building margin into that portion of the  
19 grid.

20 Q. Do you know if there was another option in  
21 the alternatives that the ISO and Eversource  
22 looked at collaboratively that would have  
23 done a better job of preparing that region  
24 for future economic growth?

1 A. I don't believe there is any better  
2 alternative, which is why ISO-New England  
3 chose this alternative. They believed it was  
4 the best technical solution to address the  
5 reliability need. I know they studied  
6 extensively the so-called "Gosling Road  
7 autotransformer" as an alternative and  
8 determined that was not as good a solution.

9 Q. Too expensive? Not technically a solution?

10 A. Well, as I said earlier, their first focus  
11 area is on reliability. And I believe, as a  
12 technical matter, the Seacoast Solution was a  
13 preferred alternative to Gosling Road. It's  
14 also a lower cost alternative.

15 Q. In your testimony at Page 7, and again it's  
16 Exhibit 2, Lines 18 to 19, you said that this  
17 project, and I'm quoting, "provides an  
18 alternate parallel path for the transmission  
19 of electricity."

20 A. That's correct. That's the redundancy that  
21 I'm referring to. So as I said earlier, you  
22 know, these overloads occur under certain  
23 system configurations. As a grid operator,  
24 we'd like to have multiple paths into our

1 region, so if one line is out for whatever  
2 reason, maintenance or otherwise, we can  
3 continue to meet the demands of customers.  
4 And that's the "parallel path" that's  
5 referred to here.

6 Q. Have there been any outages, to your  
7 knowledge, in the Seacoast Region over the  
8 last, let's say six years, since the Project  
9 was first discussed, six or seven years at  
10 the ISO level? Are there any outages in the  
11 Seacoast Region that can be attributed to the  
12 failure to construct this project sooner?

13 A. Thankfully, no. To my earlier point,  
14 however, there is a risk of that occurring.  
15 And we never as a grid operator want to be in  
16 a situation where customers are out for that  
17 reason, insufficient capacity.

18 Q. In your testimony, and I believe it's  
19 Page 13, I think in the area of Lines 10 to  
20 12, this gets back to a point you made  
21 previously. If the SEC approves a design  
22 with features deemed by the ISO to exceed  
23 reasonableness standards, the cost of such  
24 features would be recovered from New

1 Hampshire customers or a subset of those  
2 customers; correct?

3 A. You're paraphrasing, but generally correct.

4 Q. And the example of that is the undergrounding  
5 in that Connecticut project that happened a  
6 number of years ago. At least that's what I  
7 hear most of the people in the industry cite  
8 as the example of that. Is that correct?

9 A. I believe you're referring to the  
10 Middletown-Norwalk project, which was a line  
11 connecting Middletown, Connecticut, to  
12 Greater Norwalk, intended to serve a very  
13 similar purpose as this project. In that  
14 instance, through a portion of Fairfield  
15 County we determined to place the facilities  
16 underground. And ultimately, ISO-New England  
17 determined that those costs should not be  
18 borne by New England customers, but should be  
19 localized. I believe Mr. Bowes was directly  
20 involved in that project, so I would defer  
21 specific questions to Mr. Bowes.

22 Q. And so your reference to "reasonableness  
23 standards by the ISO," can you tell us what  
24 those "reasonableness standards" are?

1 A. The standard is one of a reasonable man or  
2 reasonable person, often referred to as "Good  
3 Utility Practice." So it is the decisions  
4 made by a reasonable person, given everything  
5 they know at the time they make the decision  
6 without the benefit of hindsight.

7 Q. On that same page you cite to guidelines. I  
8 think it's Lines 21 and 22. Is that what  
9 you're referring to, or is that something  
10 different?

11 (Witness reviews document.)

12 A. No, the "reasonable person standard" and  
13 "Good Utility Practice" is a legal standard.

14 Q. Okay. So is that codified in any way in ISO  
15 tariffs, or is it -- are you just saying  
16 generally that's what they use? Is there  
17 anywhere that you can cite to that  
18 specifically says what those standards are or  
19 the fact that the ISO uses that standard?  
20 And you can take this as a record request if  
21 you don't know.

22 A. A record request would be appropriate.

23 MR. PATCH: Okay. I can repeat it  
24 if necessary.

1 MR. IACOPINO: Thank you.

2 MR. PATCH: It's a request that  
3 Eversource, or Mr. Quinlan, provide the  
4 citation to where in the ISO tariffs or other  
5 documents the reasonableness standards which  
6 he refers to on Page 13 of his testimony in  
7 Exhibit 2, where those standards are either  
8 spelled out or referred to in those ISO  
9 documents.

10 A. Just let me refer you to Page 6 and 7 of my  
11 testimony, my prefiled testimony. It's where  
12 I cite the Good Utility Practice standard and  
13 the associated ISO-New England tariff  
14 language. You can see the footnote.

15 Q. I do see that.

16 A. "Good Utility Practice" and the "reasonable  
17 person" -- or "reasonable standard" are, in  
18 my view, synonymous.

19 Q. Is there anything other than that that you're  
20 aware of? I mean, we can eliminate the  
21 record request if that's all you're referring  
22 to?

23 A. Other than precedent and case law, I think  
24 those are commonly used in the industry as

1           being one and the same, "reasonable standard"  
2           and "Good Utility Practice." But perhaps we  
3           can do a review and provide additional  
4           citations. But that is the cite to the  
5           ISO-New England Tariff that contains the  
6           standard.

7    Q.    So the record request, I guess, we would  
8           still like to make.

9    A.    Sure.

10   Q.    And then what about the guidelines that I  
11          asked you about on Lines 21 and 22? I mean,  
12          I tried to go to that citation that you gave  
13          to see if I could look at the guidelines, and  
14          I couldn't find anything that was specific to  
15          what you're referring to. I guess I would  
16          like to make another record request, unless  
17          you can identify more specifically --

18   A.    Those are guidelines on transmission cost  
19          allocations? Is that what you're referring  
20          to?

21   Q.    Yes.

22   A.    You're saying there was no information when  
23          you checked?

24   Q.    Well, it refers you to a very general site,

1 and it's kind of hard to know -- I mean, I'm  
2 65 years old, so maybe part of the problem is  
3 not being as technologically savvy as I could  
4 be. But I wonder if you could provide those  
5 guidelines in a hard copy or a specific site  
6 that would be more useful than just that  
7 general citation.

8 PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Mr.  
9 Needleman.

10 MR. NEEDLEMAN: I suppose we can.  
11 But I'm wondering why, if this is 2016  
12 testimony, we're getting record requests today  
13 for this information. Seems to me this is all  
14 things that could have been worked out long  
15 ago in the discovery process.

16 PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Mr.  
17 Patch.

18 MR. PATCH: Well, I think it's  
19 typical for when you go through  
20 cross-examination and you hear answers to  
21 questions you haven't heard before to then ask  
22 for a follow-up record request. And I don't  
23 think it's a huge burden on the Applicant.

24 THE WITNESS: We can provide the

1 guidelines.

2 MR. PATCH: Thank you.

3 BY MR. PATCH:

4 Q. I just have a few more questions, and they're  
5 a little bit more general in nature. I mean,  
6 presumably you know the level of interest  
7 this project has generated from local  
8 residents, and I'm thinking particularly in  
9 Durham. Correct?

10 A. Generally, yes.

11 Q. And this project, from the perspective of  
12 people who live in Durham, is about impacts  
13 on their community. I mean, it's not a large  
14 urban community. It's a community that takes  
15 a lot of pride in its surroundings and has a  
16 number of very precious resources, including,  
17 but not limited to, Little Bay. But I want  
18 to make sure that you and Eversource have an  
19 understanding of why the people in Durham are  
20 concerned about the Project. Do you share  
21 that concern? Do you understand that  
22 concern?

23 A. I do. And I think it's certainly a valid  
24 concern. I've personally spent a lot of time

1 in the town of Durham, meeting with municipal  
2 officials in the right-of-way, looking at the  
3 Little Bay crossing area. And I know we've  
4 got an entire team of folks who have been  
5 working with stakeholders to address concerns  
6 and mitigate them where possible. And I  
7 believe the team has done an extraordinary  
8 job, in my mind, in that collaboration to try  
9 to address the concerns that I do think are  
10 valid. Anytime you're building large  
11 infrastructure, you know, I believe there are  
12 going to be questions and concerns that need  
13 to be addressed, and that's part of the  
14 process. But the mitigation efforts on this  
15 particular project, in my experience, are  
16 extraordinary.

17 Q. And do you -- I'm sorry. I didn't mean to  
18 cut you off.

19 A. I was finished, yeah.

20 Q. Do you realize that people in the community  
21 want there to be as little trace as possible  
22 left once the Project is completed?

23 A. By "trace," I'm not sure I understand.

24 Q. Well, as little visual impact or

1 environmental impact or any sort of impact,  
2 and as little as possible once the Project is  
3 complete.

4 A. I do think there's a balance that has to be  
5 struck whenever you're building  
6 infrastructure. You have to balance those  
7 legitimate concerns that, you know, local  
8 residents and others may have with the  
9 overall need for the project. And ultimately  
10 there's a cost component to factor into the  
11 equation. And our goal is to strike an  
12 appropriate balance, which I believe we have  
13 done here, and we're going to continue to  
14 work on in our outreach locally in the towns  
15 of Durham and Newington and Madbury and  
16 Portsmouth.

17 Q. And do you realize how disruptive it can be  
18 to a municipality, how many calls it can  
19 generate from residents to town officials?

20 A. I don't personally know what the number of  
21 contacts here are, but I suspect there could  
22 be inquiries, and undoubtedly are.

23 Q. And if the Project impacts on an individual  
24 resident's property -- I mean, you've cited

1 to the fact that some of the Eversource  
2 officials have been trying to work with  
3 them -- can you tell this Committee that they  
4 will be well taken care of? Obviously,  
5 within reason. But can you tell the  
6 Committee that you're working with those  
7 residents to try to do that?

8 A. Absolutely. And I think the changes we have  
9 made to the Project thus far evidence our  
10 commitment to work with all stakeholders to  
11 mitigate impacts.

12 Q. And are there specific individuals within the  
13 Eversource team that are watching out for the  
14 interests of residents and interacting with  
15 them? Can you give us names or --

16 A. Well, I won't name individuals by name. But  
17 we have an entire community relations team  
18 that works with individuals on a statewide  
19 basis. We have a construction services team  
20 that's part of our transmission business that  
21 is keenly focused on this project and working  
22 with individuals and other stakeholders. But  
23 it actually goes right up to me. I mean,  
24 oftentimes potential mitigation steps are

1 brought to my attention for a decision. And  
2 I take them very personally. We're doing  
3 what we can to mitigate impacts, both to  
4 individuals, to municipalities and to others.  
5 And I think many of the changes have been  
6 made as a result of that input. This project  
7 has changed significantly from when it was  
8 first envisioned, and it was largely based on  
9 attempts to mitigate impacts.

10 Q. And in an earlier question, when I mentioned  
11 "precious resources within Durham," that  
12 includes historic resources. And so the  
13 impacts on historic resources are an  
14 obviously significant concern to a number of  
15 residents of Durham. So what you just said  
16 about working with residents on their  
17 property would also include impacts to  
18 historic resources?

19 A. Yes. And that process is generally, as I  
20 understand it, governed by the Division of  
21 Historic Resources. And I know we've been  
22 working very closely with DHR to identify and  
23 address both cultural and historic resources,  
24 an important part of the process.

1 Q. The only thing I will say about that is, and  
2 I want to make sure you recognize this, is  
3 that what the division recognizes as historic  
4 impacts in this particular case at least  
5 hasn't always been the same as what some  
6 local residents identify. Some local  
7 residents have identified additional historic  
8 resources. And so is your team sensitive to  
9 that and aware of that and willing to work in  
10 light of that?

11 A. I am not personally aware of that. But if  
12 you suggest that that's the case, I'm sure  
13 our team is aware of it. And that's  
14 something we will work with not only with the  
15 stakeholders again, but with DHR.

16 Q. That's all the questions I have. Thank you,  
17 Mr. Quinlan.

18 A. You're welcome. Thank you.

19 PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Next  
20 questions will come from the Town of  
21 Newington. Attorney Ratigan.

22 CROSS-EXAMINATION

23 BY MR. RATIGAN:

24 Q. Good morning. My name is John Ratigan. I

1 represent the Town of Newington. I have a  
2 few questions for you.

3 I don't have the exhibit in front of me  
4 that compares the Gosling Road  
5 autotransformer comparison -- I have it in  
6 front of me, but I don't have it so I can  
7 show you. But in looking at that exhibit,  
8 compared to the Madbury Road option that's  
9 been chosen, other than cost, it looks as  
10 though the autotransformer option was rated  
11 more highly in the comparison that was done  
12 by the ISO. Do you share that recollection?

13 A. I'm not aware of the exhibit you're referring  
14 to. My understanding, however, is that when  
15 ISO-New England looked at the two  
16 alternatives, they determined that the  
17 Seacoast Solution was the better technical  
18 solution and the lower cost solution.

19 Q. Do you have an understanding of whether the  
20 suite of projects that support this  
21 particular transmission line, the Seacoast  
22 Solution, also works technically with the  
23 autotransformer solution?

24 A. Again, I would direct that question to either

1 Mr. Bowes or Mr. Andrew. I believe there are  
2 some of those upgrades that would be required  
3 in both solutions and others which are unique  
4 and specific to one solution or the other.  
5 So I think it's a mix. But the specifics can  
6 be provided by Mr. Andrew or Mr. Bowes.

7 Q. And, you know, drawing upon I think the  
8 heightened sensitivity that we now have, that  
9 perhaps the ISO-New England was not aware of  
10 back when it made that decision, impacts upon  
11 the Great Bay have now been recognized to be  
12 considerable; the impacts through the  
13 historic and developed area of Durham, and  
14 also through Newington, I think have been  
15 recognized to be greater impacts than perhaps  
16 when ISO looked at this. Would you agree  
17 with me that, were this Committee to see the  
18 merits in the autotransformer because of  
19 these options, because of these impacts, that  
20 impacts to Newington, impacts to Durham and  
21 impacts to the Great Bay would largely go  
22 away from that option? Would you agree with  
23 that?

24 MR. NEEDLEMAN: Object to the

1 question. It's full of premises that are not  
2 in the record and we believe incorrect.

3 PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY:  
4 Sustained. Could you rephrase.

5 MR. RATIGAN: Sure. Be happy to.  
6 Apologize.

7 BY MR. RATIGAN:

8 Q. The autotransformer option doesn't involve  
9 any impacts to Great Bay, does it?

10 A. I believe that's correct, yes.

11 Q. And the autotransformer option would involve  
12 no impacts to the town of Newington and no  
13 impacts to the town of Durham.

14 A. Again, I would direct specific questions  
15 around that alternative to Mr. Bowes and Mr.  
16 Andrew. There would certainly be impacts to  
17 the towns in which those upgrades would be  
18 located. They may or may not be in Newington  
19 and Durham. There would not be at Little Bay  
20 Crossing.

21 Q. Right. But there would be a transmission  
22 line in the full length of the current route.

23 A. No, but there would be another transmission  
24 line elsewhere.

1 Q. That's right. I'm sure everyone appreciates  
2 hearing Eversource's commitment to continue  
3 to work with the communities. And Newington  
4 certainly appreciates that.

5 Can you please confirm my understanding  
6 that Eversource developed a property owner  
7 guaranty program that was proposed for  
8 property owners who had properties that were  
9 abutted or near the Northern Pass  
10 Transmission Line project?

11 A. Correct. I believe it was a property value  
12 guaranty.

13 Q. And do you have an understanding of how that  
14 worked?

15 A. Generally, yes.

16 Q. Could you please explain for the benefit of  
17 the Committee.

18 A. Yeah. So, Northern Pass being not a  
19 reliability project, in contrast to the one  
20 we're talking about here, was what we refer  
21 to as an "elective transmission project," so  
22 the cost of Northern Pass would not be borne  
23 by customers. In that instance, we, as the  
24 project developer, have greater flexibility,

1           if you will, to consider things such as  
2           property value guaranty, which we did offer  
3           in that project. First time that Eversource  
4           has ever considered such a program. In fact,  
5           I'm not aware of any other utility in New  
6           England or beyond who's ever had such a  
7           program. But it was something that we  
8           attempted to introduce in Northern Pass. We  
9           did introduce it as a way to try to address  
10          concerns with landowners who might believe  
11          that the value of their property was  
12          diminished as a result of the project. And  
13          there were certain criteria that were  
14          considered: Generally, proximity to the  
15          transmission corridor, as well as whether the  
16          property's viewshed had changed significantly  
17          as a result of the construction. But for  
18          landowners where those criteria were  
19          satisfied, we were proposing an approach to  
20          try to compensate them, if you will, for the  
21          diminished value of the property. Again, it  
22          was unique, something we've never done  
23          before, and specific for an elective  
24          transmission project.

1 Q. And I take it that's in recognition that  
2 there can be impacts to property values from  
3 high-tension transmission line projects.

4 A. Yeah. I'm certainly not an expert in the  
5 field. I would refer those questions to Dr.  
6 Chalmers. But my understanding is there's  
7 very little empirical or other evidence of an  
8 actual correlation between proximity to a  
9 transmission line and impacts on property  
10 values. Now, this is again paraphrasing, but  
11 I believe Dr. Chalmers, after studying an  
12 extensive amount of research in the field,  
13 has determined that in very limited  
14 instances. I think generally if you're  
15 within 200 feet of a new transmission line,  
16 your viewshed changes materially, and your  
17 property actually is crossed by the  
18 transmission line, in isolated instances he  
19 has been able to identify an effect. But my  
20 understanding is those instances are rare.  
21 Again, I would defer the questions to Dr.  
22 Chalmers.

23 Q. So it sounds like, from your perspective,  
24 accepting Dr. Chalmers's conclusions, that

1           there's not a big economic impact to the  
2           Company being able to make an offer like that  
3           because, from your perspective, you really  
4           don't think this happens very often.  Would  
5           that be fair to say?

6    A.    Can you restate that question?  I'm not  
7           sure --

8    Q.    Yeah.  In other words, what I think I heard  
9           you describe is that the Company doesn't  
10          believe that these impacts are really  
11          significant or that they happen very often.  
12          And if that's true, then it's a good business  
13          practice to make a decision like this because  
14          you're really not going to trigger a lot of  
15          payments out to people if you don't really  
16          think it happens very often or that it's  
17          significant.

18   A.    I agree with the first part of your  
19          statement, that we don't believe that these  
20          instances are widespread and significant,  
21          based upon the study performed by experts.  
22          We believe they are rare.  For a reliability  
23          project like the one we're talking about here  
24          today, as discussed earlier, we have to

1 exercise Good Utility Practice. And the  
2 costs that we incur associated with this  
3 project are borne by customers. To my  
4 knowledge, there's been no reliability  
5 project in New England where a property value  
6 guaranty has been offered. So that would  
7 certainly be a change, and one that I'm not  
8 certain how ISO-New England would view from a  
9 cost-recovery perspective.

10 Q. Well, you anticipated my next question, which  
11 is would Eversource be willing to extend such  
12 a program to the homeowners of these  
13 properties adjacent, that fit these criteria,  
14 particularly -- and what we're particularly  
15 talking about is the Town of Newington,  
16 where, you know, we have a very small,  
17 concentrated, quintessential, rural New  
18 England town. There aren't many homes that  
19 are impacted by this, but the ones that are  
20 impacted seem to be significantly impacted.  
21 I can't speak with similar knowledge and  
22 background about Durham, but I assume there  
23 are some properties like that. And it would  
24 seem to me that an offer like that would

1 demonstrate the Company's continuing  
2 willingness to work with the community. And  
3 I'd like to know if you're willing to  
4 consider that.

5 A. The approach we're planning here is the one  
6 we've used extensively throughout New  
7 England. You know, we've developed thousands  
8 of miles of transmission projects across the  
9 three states that we serve. We're the  
10 largest transmission owner and operator in  
11 New England, and we've got extensive  
12 experience dealing with property owners along  
13 reliability projects. And I can tell you in  
14 the vast majority of instances, we are able  
15 to work with those individual landowners to  
16 mitigate impacts. I think in this case we've  
17 taken some very significant steps to do so,  
18 which in my view are all in accordance with  
19 Good Utility Practice.

20 You mentioned the Newington Historic  
21 District. That's probably a good example  
22 where, as a result of the issue you're  
23 raising, you know, we elected to place the  
24 line underground and actually move our

1 distribution facilities from the current  
2 right-of-way over to the roadway. That's  
3 just one example. There are any number on  
4 this project. So I do believe we're already  
5 demonstrating good faith in working through  
6 these types of issues, and will continue to  
7 do so on a landowner-by-landowner basis.  
8 That's the approach we're proposing and the  
9 one we're comfortable with for a reliability  
10 project, which is to work one-on-one with  
11 parties who believe their property values  
12 have been impacted. And again, I think our  
13 track record is very solid on this, not only  
14 on this project but across New England.

15 Q. Thank you. I have no further questions.

16 A. Okay. Thank you.

17 PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Thank  
18 you. I think we're going to take a ten-minute  
19 break, and when we resume we'll hear from Mr.  
20 Irwin from the Conservation Law Foundation.

21 (Recess was taken at 10:44 a.m.  
22 and the hearing resumed at 11:01 a.m.)

23 PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: We  
24 will proceed with Attorney Irwin, Conservation

1 Law Foundation.

2 CROSS-EXAMINATION

3 BY MR. IRWIN:

4 Q. Thank you. Good morning, Mr. Quinlan.

5 A. Good morning.

6 Q. We've met each other. My name is Tom Irwin,  
7 Conservation Law Foundation.

8 From your testimony, prefiled and today,  
9 it sounds like from the beginning, the 2013  
10 time frame when this came up in the context  
11 of ISO-New England's review, this was a  
12 Seacoast matter from the beginning; is that  
13 correct?

14 A. Can you clarify what you mean by "Seacoast  
15 matter"?

16 Q. Talking about the Seacoast Region reliability  
17 issues.

18 A. So, as I say, ISO-New England looks at grid  
19 reliability for the entire New England grid,  
20 and then they look at regions -- in this  
21 case, New Hampshire, and identified the  
22 particular need in the Seacoast Region, yes.

23 Q. And so Eversource proposed a Seacoast  
24 Solution suite of projects. It also proposed

1 a Gosling Road autotransformer option. Both  
2 on the Seacoast obviously.

3 A. As I say, ISO-New England looks at the  
4 options for addressing an identified need.  
5 Those were two of the options that were  
6 considered.

7 Q. And those were options that were presented to  
8 ISO-New England by Eversource; is that  
9 correct?

10 A. I would direct that question to either Mr.  
11 Andrew or Mr. Bowes as to how those potential  
12 solutions and suites were identified and  
13 whether it was something the Company  
14 affirmatively proposed to the ISO-New  
15 England.

16 Q. You testified, I believe in response to  
17 questions from Attorney Ratigan, that whether  
18 it's the Seacoast Solutions option or the  
19 Gosling Road option, there would be an impact  
20 on a community or communities; is that  
21 correct?

22 A. Correct. In both instances there would be  
23 infrastructure that's being constructed,  
24 different types of infrastructure in

1 different communities. But yes,  
2 infrastructure being constructed in  
3 communities.

4 Q. And referring to your prefiled testimony,  
5 Exhibit 2, Page 4, as I believe Attorney  
6 Patch referenced, your testimony is that  
7 stakeholder input is a critical and ongoing  
8 part of the ISO-New England process; correct?

9 A. Can you refer me to a particular line? I  
10 certainly see where you're talking about  
11 stakeholder input and collaboration with  
12 ISO-New England.

13 (Witness reviews document.)

14 A. I see the language you're referring to,  
15 Line 17.

16 Q. Thank you.

17 A. Got it.

18 Q. Did I read that correctly?

19 A. Generally, yes.

20 Q. To your knowledge, did Eversource reach out  
21 to any Seacoast community to participate in  
22 the process that was underway before ISO-New  
23 England?

24 A. I am not aware of any outreach, but I would

1           again refer that question perhaps to Mr.  
2           Andrew or Mr. Bowes who are closer to this.  
3           I can tell you that we have reached out  
4           extensively to all the municipalities  
5           impacted by this project early and often.

6    Q.    I'm talking about the 2013 time frame.  And  
7           you don't know if ISO-New England reached out  
8           to any Seacoast communities at the time --

9    A.    As I said earlier, I'm not aware of a formal  
10           notice provided by ISO-New England to  
11           municipalities.  I'm not familiar with that  
12           portion of the ISO world.

13   Q.    Is it fair to say that no Seacoast community  
14           participated in the discussion that took  
15           place before ISO-New England comparing the  
16           Seacoast Solutions suite of projects to the  
17           Gosling Road autotransformer option?

18   A.    I'm not aware of whether any municipalities  
19           participated in those.

20   Q.    So the ISO-New England process that took  
21           place did not include an assessment of  
22           environmental or community impacts; isn't  
23           that correct?

24   A.    As I said, I'm not aware of who participated

1 specifically in those discussions.

2 Q. No, that wasn't a question about who  
3 participated. This was a question about the  
4 topic of review. Did ISO-New England, in the  
5 context of that review, engage in an  
6 assessment of community impacts or  
7 environmental impacts from the Seacoast  
8 Solutions suite of projects or the Gosling  
9 Road autotransformer option?

10 A. I would defer the details of that question to  
11 Mr. Andrew and Mr. Bowes. As I say, I  
12 believe ISO-New England's focus is primarily  
13 on grid reliability, secondarily on the cost  
14 of a particular solution. As to whether they  
15 focus on environmental impact and community  
16 impacts, I'm not aware of the answer to that  
17 question.

18 Q. And are you aware that at the time ISO-New  
19 England was comparing those projects, there  
20 had not been a route identified for the  
21 Seacoast Reliability Project?

22 A. Again, I would defer that question. I know  
23 there were three alternative routes that were  
24 evaluated: The one that is currently

1 proposed and then an alternative route that  
2 would have gone from New Hampshire to Maine  
3 and back, and a third route which would have  
4 taken a more southerly direction than the  
5 current route. I believe those route  
6 alternatives were certainly considered, and I  
7 believe with ISO-New England. Again, I would  
8 defer the details of that to Mr. Bowes and  
9 Mr. Andrew.

10 Q. But an actual selected route across Little  
11 Bay at that time had not been selected; isn't  
12 that correct?

13 A. Again, I defer that question. Just to cut  
14 this off, I was not personally involved in  
15 those discussions with ISO-New England. I  
16 think folks who I deferred to can provide the  
17 details.

18 Q. I assume it's not Eversource's position that  
19 ISO-New England's determination with respect  
20 to the Seacoast Solutions suite of projects  
21 somehow limits or constrains the Site  
22 Evaluation Committee's authority to approve  
23 or disapprove a certificate for this project.

24 A. I would agree with that, certainly. You

1 know, as I say, ISO-New England is  
2 responsible for grid reliability, ensuring  
3 the lights stay on, and identifying solutions  
4 to identified needs. The siting of the  
5 requisite infrastructure is not the  
6 jurisdiction of ISO-New England; in this  
7 case, it's the jurisdiction of the Site  
8 Evaluation Committee.

9 Q. Earlier today you testified that most, if not  
10 all, of the other Seacoast Solutions projects  
11 are in service, and you testified that the  
12 Seacoast Reliability Project is the  
13 "linchpin" of that suite of projects. But  
14 those projects have independent utility;  
15 correct?

16 A. I'm sorry. They have?

17 Q. The projects that have been built and are in  
18 service have independent utility, independent  
19 of the Seacoast Reliability Project.

20 A. Yes. Individually they each serve an  
21 important purpose, a reliability purpose --  
22 to use your vernacular, "utility."

23 Q. And I'll ask a similar question. I assume  
24 it's not Eversource's position that the fact

1           that Eversource proceeded with those projects  
2           in any way limits or constrains the Site  
3           Evaluation Committee's authority to either  
4           grant or deny a certificate for this project.

5   A.    Correct.  The Site Evaluation Committee's  
6           jurisdiction and focus is over this specific  
7           project, regardless of those other upgrades  
8           which were deemed necessary.

9   Q.    Thank you.  I have nothing further.

10                           PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY:  Thank  
11           you.  Attorney Brown.

12                           CROSS-EXAMINATION

13   BY MS. BROWN:

14   Q.    Good morning, Mr. Quinlan.

15   A.    Good morning.

16   Q.    I understand you have Exhibit 138, which is  
17           your July 27th, 2018 testimony in front of  
18           you.

19   A.    Yes, I do.

20   Q.    And on Page 4, you had, on Lines 17 and 22,  
21           talked about the protocols and mitigation  
22           strategies.

23   A.    I'm sorry.  Which lines?

24   Q.    This is on Page 4.

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Line 17 for protocols --

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. -- and Line 22 for mitigation strategies.

5 A. Correct.

6 Q. Can you please explain a little bit more what  
7 these protocols are or mitigation strategies,  
8 or whether you're referring to perhaps other  
9 people's testimony?

10 A. Yeah. So, protocols are really, generally  
11 the Company's overall goal of mitigating  
12 impacts, to the extent possible, consistent  
13 with Good Utility Practice. Lines 22 and  
14 continuing beyond are some of the techniques  
15 we oftentimes use to mitigate those impacts.  
16 Whether it's design alternatives, you know,  
17 instances where we would use screening to  
18 reduce a visual impact, routing changes,  
19 there are a host of mitigation measures that  
20 are possible in any given project. And we  
21 have essentially a team comprised of folks I  
22 referred to earlier who work with individual  
23 landowners and other interested parties on  
24 pursuing mitigation. And that's all designed

1 to mitigate impacts. In some cases it could  
2 be impact on a business, in other instances  
3 impact on a property owner, whether it's a  
4 diminution of value question or a property  
5 damage question.

6 Q. So it sounds like you're just referring in  
7 general when you use those terms to the other  
8 witness testimonies that have more specifics;  
9 is that correct?

10 A. Generally, yes. But, you know, the  
11 overarching premise in the Company's protocol  
12 or policies is to mitigate, to the extent  
13 possible, these impacts, and to do it in a  
14 collaborative way.

15 Q. Okay. With respect to the mitigation  
16 plans -- and I'd like to give you a  
17 hypothetical, applying a mitigation plan to  
18 an instance where soil may be compressed on  
19 land and property.

20 A. Soil would be --

21 Q. Soil would be compressed by the equipment and  
22 after the Project become wet longer in the  
23 season. Is there a way to mitigate that kind  
24 of damage to a landowner's property?

1 A. A soil-compression issue?

2 Q. Correct.

3 A. I'm certainly not an expert in mitigation of  
4 that type of impact, but I suspect there  
5 probably are alternatives to mitigate that  
6 type of impact. Could the soil be tilled,  
7 for example, and uncompressed, if you will?  
8 Could be reseeded, depending on what's on top  
9 of the soil, whether it's grass or vegetation  
10 or otherwise. So I suspect there are  
11 mitigation techniques. But the details of  
12 how you mitigate soil compression I'm not  
13 familiar with.

14 Q. So if I had more specific follow-ups, which  
15 witnesses would you direct me to?

16 A. On soil compression?

17 Q. The construction panel or --

18 A. I'd start with the construction panel. Yes,  
19 that would be a good starting point. Maybe  
20 our environmental panel might be another  
21 alternative. I'd start with the construction  
22 panel. I think they're up next.

23 Q. Thank you.

24 Now, I can't remember if it was with

1 CLF, but within the past hour you brought up  
2 the term "property value guaranty" as  
3 something new you had implemented from  
4 Eversource's experience with Northern Pass.  
5 Similar to my question with the protocols, is  
6 this specifically defined somewhere? Can you  
7 give me a little more specifics?

8 A. The term "property value guaranty"?

9 Q. When you're referring to that phrase.

10 A. Yeah, there's actually testimony that we  
11 filed in the Northern Pass Application -- we  
12 can get you a copy -- in which we first  
13 introduced the concept of a property value  
14 guaranty. And I believe there was an exhibit  
15 to my testimony in that matter that had some  
16 details as to how the program was proposed to  
17 operate. We could certainly make that  
18 available to you.

19 Q. I'm going to just defer on a record request  
20 until I get my hands on that --

21 A. Sure.

22 Q. -- to see its usefulness. But thank you very  
23 much for letting me know about that.

24 MS. BROWN: Actually, given my

1 technical difficulties with the exhibits and  
2 maps, I can either use the Elmo -- oh, okay.  
3 Thank you.

4 MR. IACOPINO: Thank you for using  
5 the screens. But if you could also, for the  
6 record, make reference for the record of what  
7 exhibit we're looking at. Thank you.

8 BY MS. BROWN::

9 Q. Just a few more questions. I may be diving  
10 down into the weeds too much with you, Mr.  
11 Quinlan. But I had a question on the map, or  
12 Exhibit 148, which are the environmental  
13 maps, and in particular, drawing the  
14 Committee's attention to Map 18 of 31, which  
15 should show the property of Donna Heald.

16 In your testimony, you had referenced  
17 there were structures that were moved from  
18 the original application to the present  
19 application. And I'm wanting to know if you  
20 know of any -- if any of the structures that  
21 were within or near Long Marsh Road were  
22 subject to any of the moving that you were  
23 describing in general.

24 A. So I would refer those detailed questions to

1 Mr. Bowes. He can go over the design  
2 details. But there were certainly structures  
3 that were relocated to mitigate impacts.  
4 There were also structures that were  
5 eliminated from our original design. In some  
6 instances, the structure design was changed.  
7 We went through a monopole structure to an  
8 H-frame to further mitigate impacts. So  
9 there were a number of design changes made  
10 with respect to individual structures. I'm  
11 not familiar with those, but Mr. Bowes would  
12 be.

13 Q. I assumed, but I just needed to get that from  
14 you. Thank you.

15 MS. BROWN: We have more questions,  
16 but I need to go back to the table.

17 (Pause in proceedings.)

18 MS. BROWN: Sorry for the  
19 last-minute coordination on the Durham  
20 Residents, but Matthew Fitch has a few pointed  
21 questions that he would probably be better to  
22 ask, if you don't mind.

23 And this is, Mr. Quinlan, regarding  
24 your testimony in cross-examination regarding

1 the ISO-New England materials.

2 A. Okay.

3 MR. FITCH: Hello. Thank you.

4 PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Mr.  
5 Fitch, I'm sorry to interrupt. Could you just  
6 state your name just for the record.

7 MR. FITCH: Sure. My name's Matthew  
8 Fitch. I'm part of the Durham Residents  
9 intervenor group.

10 CROSS-EXAMINATION

11 BY MR. FITCH:

12 Q. Mr. Quinlan, I was hoping that if you  
13 could -- when referencing the suite of  
14 projects associated with the Seacoast  
15 Solution, if the suite of projects  
16 represented a hundred percent, the projects  
17 that are already completed aside from the  
18 Seacoast Reliability Project, can you  
19 quantify that percentage that's already been  
20 completed?

21 A. Off the top of my head, I cannot. I will  
22 tell you, again, Mr. Bowes and Mr. Andrew  
23 would be the right people to ask this  
24 question to. I think the entire suite of

1 projects was roughly estimated to cost \$135  
2 million. This project is an \$85 million  
3 project. So that's one basis for giving a  
4 percentage. But if you're looking for, you  
5 know, cost percentage or reliability  
6 percentage, you might want to ask those two  
7 witnesses. They would know the details. But  
8 it's a significant part of the overall  
9 solution I referred to earlier as the  
10 "linchpin." It's probably the single most  
11 significant and most impactful upgrade of the  
12 suite.

13 Q. Lastly, and I don't mean to repeat it, but  
14 Attorney Patch has already requested this  
15 information. The public information from  
16 ISO-New England dates back to 2014 for the  
17 overview of New Hampshire and the reliability  
18 needs, which I believe, as I understood it,  
19 the Seacoast Reliability Project was premised  
20 on. In that document, at least the  
21 publicly-released document, it referenced  
22 that the New Hampshire -- the state of New  
23 Hampshire's overall electricity demand is  
24 expected to grow at a rate of 1.2 percent

1           annually over the next decade, which I'm  
2           quoting here, is "above the 1.1 percent rate  
3           projected for New England." Do you know if  
4           these numbers still hold true today?

5       A.    Yeah, so load projections change every year,  
6           and there are a lot of variables. And we  
7           talked about a couple of them earlier this  
8           morning: Energy efficiency and the  
9           penetration of distributed energy resources  
10          for solar generation. You know, the one  
11          thing I do know to be true, the Seacoast  
12          Region of New Hampshire continues to grow.  
13          And it's growing certainly at a much faster  
14          rate than the region of New England, if you  
15          will. So it is a relatively high growth area  
16          as compared to the balance of the grid. And  
17          New Hampshire as a whole is growing more  
18          quickly than I believe all of the other New  
19          England states in the aggregate. I would  
20          have to check that. But generally, New  
21          Hampshire is a relatively high growth portion  
22          of the territory.

23       Q.    Lastly, again referencing this same document.  
24           As I understand it, the Seacoast Reliability

1 Project is premised on, when speaking  
2 directly to energy efficiency, the document  
3 says, "The results for New Hampshire shows  
4 slowing growth rate for peak demand and a  
5 dampened, but modest increase in energy use  
6 between 2017 and 2023."

7 So, again, I believe you have referenced  
8 that you can't necessarily state exact  
9 figures. But does information exist to  
10 verify that this information is still  
11 accurate? Or is it possible that it has  
12 decreased from what was predicted back in the  
13 2012 to 2014 time period?

14 A. I think there was a earlier record request  
15 that we committed to which will actually  
16 provide load growth data. What you're  
17 referring to there is a forecast of the  
18 future. And again, there are a lot of  
19 variables, so it will undoubtedly be wrong in  
20 one direction or the other. But I think the  
21 general trends are as I stated. New England  
22 as a whole is flat to declining. New  
23 Hampshire as a whole is growing modestly.  
24 And the Seacoast Region of New Hampshire is

1 growing at a faster pace than the balance of  
2 the state and is, therefore, exacerbating the  
3 issue and the need identified by ISO-New  
4 England back in 2012.

5 Q. Excellent. Thank you very much. I  
6 appreciate it.

7 MS. BROWN: I think that's it for  
8 Durham Residents. Appreciate it.

9 WITNESS QUINLAN: Thank you.

10 PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Thank  
11 you, Attorney Brown and Mr. Fitch.

12 The following intervenors have  
13 indicated that they do not have any questions  
14 for Mr. Quinlan: Durham Historic Society,  
15 Keith Frizzell, Helen Frink, Fat Dog  
16 Shellfish, Nature Conservancy, the  
17 Crowley-Joyce Revocable Trust.

18 MR. RICHARDSON: May I revise my  
19 prior --

20 PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: I was  
21 just going to ask is there any change to that.  
22 Attorney Richardson, do you have some  
23 questions? And Ms. Frink, you do as well?  
24 Okay. We'll have Attorney Richardson go ahead

1 first.

2 CROSS-EXAMINATION

3 BY MR. RICHARDSON:

4 Q. Good morning.

5 A. Good morning.

6 Q. Mr. Quinlan, I assume it goes without saying  
7 that you're responsible for making the  
8 management decisions concerning the Project.

9 A. Generally, yes.

10 Q. And how does that work with Eversource? Is  
11 there a team that you work with at the  
12 management level about making decisions about  
13 how the Application is filed, what it  
14 contains? What's the process that you use  
15 for that?

16 A. There is no documented or formal process. We  
17 certainly have a project team whose  
18 responsibility is to develop and site and  
19 ultimately construct this project. You know,  
20 as the president of the Company, ultimately,  
21 you know, if there are material issues or  
22 questions, they would be brought to my  
23 attention, and we would discuss them and  
24 decide. But, you know, most of the activity

1 really is at the project team level.

2 Q. And so if I understand correctly, then,  
3 without a committee or something like that,  
4 when problems or issues arise, they come to  
5 your desk and to you to make a determination  
6 or decision about how to proceed.

7 A. Generally that's true, yes. And we do have  
8 an informal steering committee, of which I'm  
9 a member, if you will, that helps to get  
10 cross-functional input into those key  
11 decisions.

12 Q. And so who's on that committee?

13 A. There are vice-presidents from our real  
14 estate department, our purchasing department,  
15 our siting and environmental departments.  
16 From time to time we'll have an engineering  
17 officer attend. It varies. But it's a  
18 cross-functional group that represents all  
19 the key disciplines.

20 Q. And you serve on that committee as well in  
21 some capacity?

22 A. Generally, yes. And as I say, it's an  
23 informal committee intended to help guide the  
24 Project, but certainly not second-guess, if

1           you will.

2       Q.    So as part of this Application, I assume one  
3           of the decisions you had to make, and the  
4           Committee's rule requires, is showing that  
5           Eversource has sufficient property rights to  
6           proceed with the Project; right?

7       A.    Correct.  So-called "site control," yes.  
8           That's generally left to the project team and  
9           our lawyers to confirm we have all the real  
10          estate rights necessary to construct the  
11          facility.

12       Q.    And it's your role as well to make sure that  
13           they get it right because it's important to  
14           have as part of this process.

15       A.    It's certainly important to have as part of  
16           the process.  It's not my role to review the  
17           details of the site control.  I rely very  
18           heavily on the project team and our legal  
19           counsel in that regard.

20       Q.    So it's important, though, you have  
21           confidence in the determinations that your  
22           project team is making; right?

23       A.    Yes.

24       Q.    And one of the options if you don't have

1 sufficient property rights is to acquire the  
2 necessary property.

3 A. Correct. Yes.

4 Q. And you can do that by eminent domain. Does  
5 Eversource have a preference to go under  
6 federal law or state law, or do you just  
7 determine -- was there ever determination  
8 that you didn't need to do that in this case?

9 A. We generally prefer not to exercise eminent  
10 domain authority. My understanding is, in  
11 this instance, we have not exercised eminent  
12 domain authority. I think the rights that we  
13 needed to acquire were done with arm's-length  
14 transactions with the appropriate counter  
15 party. I'm not aware of any instance in this  
16 project where there was a taking.

17 Q. And the Committee's rules in fact, if you're  
18 aware, require if you're going to have to  
19 acquire property rights by eminent domain,  
20 you have to kind of include information on  
21 that as part of your filing. And I'll refer  
22 you to Rule 301.03(c)(6).

23 A. I'm not familiar with the rule. But as I  
24 say, I don't think it's relevant because I

1 don't believe we required any eminent domain  
2 action on this project.

3 Q. And how confident are you in that  
4 determination that you just referred to?

5 A. To the best of my knowledge, that's true.

6 Q. Have you read the petition to intervene and  
7 other information that the Crowley-Joyce  
8 Trust has provided concerning the covenants  
9 for the Project?

10 A. No.

11 Q. Let me ask you a question then. And I want  
12 to show you -- let me refer to what's been  
13 premarked as Joyce-Crowley Trust, JCT  
14 Exhibit 1. And I'll give you a copy because  
15 I assume you don't have one there. I can put  
16 one up on the screen as well for others to  
17 follow along.

18 A. Thank you.

19 Q. So I want to ask you questions about the area  
20 that's shown as Lot 5 and 6 on JCT Exhibit 1.  
21 And while the administrator is getting this  
22 into focus, have you ever seen this plan  
23 before?

24 A. No.

1 Q. Are you aware, if you look at JCT 1, what's  
2 shown as Lot 5 -- and it says "Public Service  
3 Co. of New Hampshire easement." That's the  
4 Beswick property. And Eversource is  
5 proposing to construct its project on the  
6 Beswick property; right?

7 MR. NEEDLEMAN: Objection. Mr.  
8 Quinlan testified that he hasn't seen this  
9 document, and he testified that he had not  
10 seen the Crowley petition. And he's not a  
11 witness who has been designated with respect  
12 to property rights in this case; that's Mr.  
13 Bowes. So I don't believe any of these  
14 questions are relevant with respect to Mr.  
15 Quinlan's testimony.

16 MR. RICHARDSON: Where I'm going  
17 with this is I want to find out what the  
18 Company's position is if they don't have the  
19 property rights. Will they try to take them  
20 by eminent domain? And I think that the  
21 president of the company is really the only  
22 person who can speak for that. I don't think  
23 the land agent can speak as the executive.

24 MR. NEEDLEMAN: Well, Mr. Bowes is

1 not a land agent. He's the vice-president of  
2 the Company. He's the designated witness for  
3 this issue. And this is an argument about a  
4 legal matter, anyway, because we disagree with  
5 the assertion that we don't have the property  
6 rights. And the Committee, in another docket,  
7 has already determined that it doesn't  
8 litigate or decide property rights disputes  
9 between parties.

10 PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY:

11 Attorney Richardson, if you can  
12 perhaps rephrase the question so it's not  
13 specific to this property, but in general, do  
14 they intend to exercise eminent domain, their  
15 thought process, that sort of thing, but not  
16 specific to the information that Mr. Quinlan  
17 indicated he hasn't seen.

18 BY MR. RICHARDSON:

19 Q. So what I wanted to just draw your attention  
20 to was that where it's shown on Lot 5 there  
21 is a property line shown here, that goes down  
22 to the shoreline, and that's the Beswick  
23 property. But as I understand it, you aren't  
24 aware of that, so you probably can't answer

1 any questions about it; is that right?

2 MR. NEEDLEMAN: Same objection.

3 PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Get  
4 to your point about eminent domain not  
5 specific to the Beswick property.

6 MR. RICHARDSON: Sure. So I'm  
7 hoping to get to that, but I need to lay a  
8 foundation for where things are so this  
9 Committee is aware and the witness is aware at  
10 the same time.

11 PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: I  
12 think you'll have a chance to do that with the  
13 witnesses that can speak to the property  
14 rights.

15 BY MR. RICHARDSON:

16 Q. Okay. Let me ask you this then: If  
17 Eversource is confident in its determination  
18 as to the property rights that it has and  
19 that it has the necessary property rights, is  
20 the Company willing to agree it won't have to  
21 use eminent domain if part of the project is  
22 located on my client's property?

23 A. I can certainly agree to the first part of  
24 the question, which is we are confident that

1 we have all the necessary property rights.

2 As to the second part of the question, I  
3 believe we have all the necessary property  
4 rights, and my understanding is none of them  
5 were acquired through eminent domain.

6 Q. Okay. Certainly. And I'm more concerned  
7 about what's going to happen in the future.  
8 Because if I read the Committee's rules  
9 correctly, an application to acquire the  
10 property to construct a project has to go  
11 before the Public Utilities Commission and  
12 then potentially come back before this  
13 Committee. Are you saying that you're  
14 confident you won't need to do that?

15 A. I believe we have all the property rights  
16 necessary to construct this facility --

17 Q. Okay.

18 A. -- therefore, I'm not aware of any need to  
19 exercise our eminent domain right.

20 Q. Okay. I'm going to show you, and I'll read  
21 this for the record so that Committee members  
22 can catch up to it, out of the Applicant's  
23 exhibit -- and it's 122, and it's on Page 28.  
24 It's a big file. It's the construction and

1           engineering drawings. I'll bring that over  
2           to you, and I'll provide a copy for your  
3           attorney as well.

4                         (Document handed to witness.)

5 BY MR. RICHARDSON:

6 Q.    Are you familiar with this document?

7 A.    No.

8 Q.    Okay.

9                                 PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY:

10        Attorney Richardson, is that something you can  
11        put on the Elmo for us?

12                         MR. RICHARDSON: Absolutely. What I  
13        want to do is this is -- I'll represent to you  
14        it's part of the revised or updated  
15        engineering documents. And I believe I said  
16        it was Applicant's Exhibit 123, Page 28,  
17        although there's different versions of this.

18 BY MR. RICHARDSON:

19 Q.    So if you'll turn and look, I've put it up on  
20        the Elmo for you. What I did is I marked in  
21        a red dashed line where the property line is  
22        shown. And then you can also see there's a  
23        depiction of the access easement. You can  
24        see that goes right up to the property line.

1 A. Yes, I see that.

2 Q. Okay. And it looks like there's a property  
3 pin that I've circled in red there. Do you  
4 see --

5 A. I'm sorry. A property what?

6 Q. It looks like there's an iron pin or some  
7 type of property monument that's been circled  
8 for you.

9 A. I see the circle. I'm not familiar with the  
10 dot, whether it's a property pin or --

11 Q. So my question is: The Beswick property,  
12 I'll represent to you, shown in JCT 1, the  
13 one you haven't seen before, is going down to  
14 the shoreline. If you look at this document,  
15 you see where it says "surveyed edge of  
16 water." And if you were to extend this  
17 property line that Eversource has shown and  
18 you go all the way down to the edge of the  
19 water, it actually appears to cross the  
20 proposed transmission line.

21 MR. NEEDLEMAN: Same objection.

22 PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: I  
23 didn't even hear a question.

24 BY MR. RICHARDSON:

1 Q. Well, did I show that correctly on this  
2 exhibit?

3 MR. NEEDLEMAN: Same objection.

4 MR. RICHARDSON: I'd like him to  
5 answer the question. And if he can't say,  
6 then that's an answer, too. That's fine.

7 MR. NEEDLEMAN: Again, this is not  
8 the proper witness for this issue.

9 MR. RICHARDSON: I'm getting back to  
10 if we are correct and this project is actually  
11 being proposed on my client's property and  
12 constructed immediately adjacent to it, then  
13 we want to know is there going to be a taking.  
14 Is it going to have to come back to this  
15 Committee? This is a very challenging  
16 situation both for the Applicant and for my  
17 client, and I think the Committee needs to  
18 hear what's going to happen.

19 (Discussion between Presiding Officer  
20 Weathersby and Attorney Iacopino)

21 PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: So  
22 I'm going to sustain the objection. Mr.  
23 Quinlan hasn't seen this. He's not familiar  
24 with it. This is a question that should be

1 asked to Mr. Bowes. You'll have a chance to  
2 get this information in front of the Committee  
3 through a different witness.

4 MR. IACOPINO: Can I ask Mr.  
5 Richardson a question?

6 Did you say this is Exhibit 123?

7 MR. RICHARDSON: Yes, and on Page 28  
8 of the PDF.

9 MR. IACOPINO: Because when I look  
10 at what we've been given as Exhibit 123, it's  
11 the revised environmental maps. Is it 122?

12 MR. RICHARDSON: I must have written  
13 it down incorrectly. I apologize for that. I  
14 mean, it's tough because all of the exhibits  
15 that we were given have only the exhibit  
16 number on the first page. So I'm having to  
17 print them out and then print out 20 things,  
18 and then I don't know which document they came  
19 from. It's a difficulty I ran into yesterday,  
20 so...

21 BY MR. RICHARDSON:

22 Q. So, Mr. Quinlan, you've never seen this  
23 document that Eversource prepared; right?

24 A. That's correct.

1 Q. All right. But does seeing this cause you to  
2 have any concerns about whether your team has  
3 correctly found the property lines?

4 MR. NEEDLEMAN: Same objection.

5 PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: I'm  
6 going to overrule the objection. He can  
7 answer as to his present impression.

8 A. Can you restate the question?

9 BY MR. RICHARDSON:

10 Q. Sure. Does this suggest there might be a  
11 concern to you about whether this project  
12 might require disturbing my client's  
13 property?

14 A. No.

15 Q. Okay. Now, what's shown there is a  
16 construction of a transmission line. And  
17 that's going to be in a trench, and that's  
18 going to require construction space, removal  
19 of materials. You're aware of all that;  
20 right?

21 A. I'm aware that it is in a trench. Yes,  
22 that's correct.

23 Q. Okay.

24 A. A temporary trench in the sediment on the

1 Little Bay floor, if you will.

2 Q. And I believe the cover is shown on the  
3 bottom of that. We can't see it on the Elmo.  
4 But I believe there's about 42 inches of  
5 cover. That's how deep it's going to have to  
6 be constructed; right?

7 A. Yes. Our desired depth is three and a half  
8 feet at minimum.

9 Q. Okay. So let's look at another document.  
10 And I believe it's Exhibit 148. I think it  
11 kind of shows the same thing. It's  
12 environmental maps, and I'm looking at Page  
13 23 of 32.

14 Before we move into -- I probably should  
15 have asked to mark the exhibit with the red  
16 lines drawn on it as Exhibit 13, which is --  
17 obviously it's in the Applicant's documents  
18 as well, but I think it's important that we  
19 have a record of what was shown. So we'll  
20 call that JCT Exhibit 13.

21 MR. IACOPINO: And at a break, would  
22 you please speak with the court reporter about  
23 getting it actually marked.

24 MR. RICHARDSON: Yes, absolutely.

1           Absolutely.

2                           (The document, as described, was  
3                           herewith marked as Exhibit 13 for  
4                           identification.)

5 BY MR. RICHARDSON:

6 Q.    So, Mr. Quinlan, do you recognize this as  
7           another plan that your company prepared -- or  
8           your team prepared, I should say?

9 A.    No, it's not something I would be familiar  
10           with. But it certainly has the Eversource  
11           logo on it. Looks like it is something we  
12           prepared or was prepared by one of our  
13           consultants, Normandeau Associates.

14 Q.    So when you made a determination that there  
15           were sufficient property rights, did you not  
16           look at any documents, or you never attended  
17           a meeting where your team was providing you  
18           what they were proposing and showing you,  
19           yes, we're all good, we're all within  
20           existing rights-of-way on our property?

21 A.    Again --

22                           MR. NEEDLEMAN: Objection. This is  
23                           beyond the scope of the witness's testimony.

24                           MR. RICHARDSON: I'm asking him what

1 he was shown when they made the decision to  
2 proceed with this project. He's the  
3 president, and he's testified that he was the  
4 one overseeing it.

5 MR. NEEDLEMAN: He actually  
6 testified that he deferred to the team for  
7 these types of issues.

8 MR. RICHARDSON: I think we're  
9 getting into what his answer was, and I think  
10 he should answer the question and then we'll  
11 know the answer.

12 PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY:  
13 Sustain the objection.

14 BY MR. RICHARDSON:

15 Q. All right. So this document shows another  
16 bit of information or plan showing the  
17 Crowley-Joyce property. And if you look, you  
18 can see the property lines are shown, and  
19 they disappear under that green area. You  
20 have no idea what that green area is? Isn't  
21 that the limit of construction?

22 MR. NEEDLEMAN: Same objection.

23 PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY:  
24 Sustained. He's testified that he hasn't seen

1           this document. This is something for the  
2           construction panel.

3                         MR. RICHARDSON: Okay.

4 BY MR. RICHARDSON:

5 Q.    So, given that you're the president of the  
6           Company, and the rules require you to, if  
7           you're going to use eminent domain to acquire  
8           property, you have to submit it with your  
9           application, what's going to happen if a  
10          court determines that this project trespasses  
11          on my client's property?

12                        MR. NEEDLEMAN: Objection. Calls  
13                        for a legal conclusion.

14 BY MR. RICHARDSON:

15 Q.    Well, I'm sorry. My question is this: Are  
16          you going to tell this Committee that you'll  
17          take it by eminent domain, or are you going  
18          to say we'll stick with whatever the court  
19          determines?

20                        MR. NEEDLEMAN: Same objection.

21                        PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY:  
22                        Sustained.

23                        MR. RICHARDSON: Okay.

24 BY MR. RICHARDSON:

1 Q. Mr. Quinlan, you talked about outreach to  
2 landowners. And I believe that's also in  
3 your prefiled testimony. Do you know when  
4 your land agents would have first approached  
5 my client?

6 A. I don't know the specifics of when that would  
7 have taken place. I'm generally familiar  
8 with this area of the project. This is on  
9 the Newington side of Little Bay, so-called  
10 "Gundalow Landing." I personally visited  
11 Gundalow Landing in the 2014 time frame and  
12 have been there a number of times since. I  
13 know we had extensive outreach to every  
14 landowner in this area. I know we changed  
15 the route as a result of this outreach. I  
16 believe the landing area that you're speaking  
17 to was altered based upon input from  
18 landowners in Gundalow Landing. So I know  
19 there were extensive outreach efforts here.  
20 It led to significant changes in the overall  
21 project design. And, you know, my  
22 understanding, based upon the representation  
23 of the project team and our counsel, is that  
24 we had all the associated land rights to

1 build what we were proposing to build,  
2 including those required by the design  
3 change.

4 Q. But this plan showing where the environmental  
5 impacts of construction are appears to show  
6 the green area going over my client's  
7 property line.

8 A. Again, I'm not familiar with this particular  
9 drawing.

10 Q. Okay. But this is -- are you aware of some  
11 other plan that shows where the construction  
12 impacts are?

13 A. Again, I generally don't review the detailed  
14 construction drawings for any project.

15 Q. All right. Let me ask you this: If it turns  
16 out that my client is -- if this is actually  
17 on their property and they don't want to  
18 agree to have concrete mattresses, is  
19 Eversource willing to cause those mattresses  
20 to be placed down at the grade level so they  
21 can't be seen?

22 A. I'm not familiar with the details of the  
23 design in this area. But, you know, if we're  
24 proposing to build facilities on your

1 client's property, I am assuming we have the  
2 necessary land rights to do so.

3 Q. I know that's your assumption. But what I'm  
4 trying to ask you is, if it turns out, as we  
5 believe the exhibits you've shown show, that  
6 this is going to be on my client's property,  
7 would Eversource be willing to put the  
8 Project down at grade?

9 A. I'm not in a position to make that  
10 representation. I would have to know the  
11 details of what you're talking about, which I  
12 don't.

13 Q. Would it surprise you that my client would  
14 have been told a year ago that the Project  
15 was going to be -- so this is in 2017 -- that  
16 all of the project was going to be on the  
17 Beswick property, and it was all going to be  
18 below ground?

19 A. I have no knowledge of that representation.  
20 I do know, however, that through this area we  
21 are underwater across Little Bay. And I  
22 believe the transition to overhead  
23 construction happens, if you will, in that  
24 direction, at the so-called "Flynn Pit,"

1           which was another change that we made to  
2           accommodate local feedback. The transition  
3           structure was going to be adjacent to the  
4           road. And because of visual concerns, we  
5           worked with the Town of Newington to acquire  
6           land rights to Flynn Pit. So my  
7           understanding is we are going underground  
8           from this point to Flynn Pit, and that's when  
9           it will transition to overhead.

10        Q.    Understood. But you're also aware that there  
11           are concrete mattresses proposed in this  
12           area. In fact, you can see them shown right  
13           on this exhibit.

14        A.    Yes. Concrete mattresses are necessary where  
15           we are not able to get sufficient burial  
16           depth for the line to be reliable and safe.  
17           And as I said earlier, we are attempting to  
18           get 42 inches of burial at all points. Where  
19           we're not able to do that, we use a concrete  
20           mattress to protect the facility from anchor  
21           strikes and other interruptions.

22        Q.    And I assume you'd agree with me, looking at  
23           this, the existing right-of-way has been  
24           moved from across the Beswick property. You

1 see where the former cable house is on that  
2 diagram?

3 A. I'm not certain which structure is the cable  
4 house. I'm familiar with the cable house on  
5 the Durham side of Little Bay.

6 Q. Okay.

7 A. Is there one -- I don't believe there is one  
8 today on the Newington side.

9 Q. So you don't know if there is one or not.

10 A. A cable house?

11 Q. Yes.

12 A. I don't believe there is on the Newington  
13 side.

14 Q. You would agree with me, though, based on  
15 this exhibit, that it looks like the entire  
16 project has been shifted from where the  
17 former right-of-way was on the plan that was,  
18 I believe, Exhibit JCT 13 that we just looked  
19 at, to directly in front of the Joyce-Crowley  
20 residence.

21 MR. NEEDLEMAN: Objection. This is  
22 all beyond the scope of this witness's  
23 testimony.

24 PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY:

1 Sustained.

2 BY MR. RICHARDSON:

3 Q. Okay. But you're aware that your  
4 representatives met with my client and told  
5 them that it was all going to be below ground  
6 and they weren't going to see it. And in  
7 fact, as you can see here, it's directly in  
8 front of them.

9 MR. NEEDLEMAN: Same objection, and  
10 also asked and answered.

11 PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY:

12 Sustained.

13 BY MR. RICHARDSON:

14 Q. You indicated to me -- or excuse me. You  
15 indicated in response to questions from  
16 Attorney Ratigan, from the Town of Newington,  
17 about circumstances in which Eversource, in  
18 the Northern Pass docket, was willing to  
19 offer property rights guaranties. And I  
20 believe there were three criteria. One is  
21 that the Project crosses the property; right?  
22 That was one of them?

23 A. Yes. So, just for clarity, it was referred  
24 to as a "property value guaranty."

1 Q. Okay. Property value guaranty. So one of  
2 the three criteria was that it physically  
3 crossed the landowner's property.

4 A. We're kind of mixing two things. I was  
5 referring to Dr. Chalmers' testimony as to  
6 what are the factors that could lead in  
7 limited circumstances to a diminution in  
8 property value. That was one of the three.

9 Q. Okay. So that's one.

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. If this exhibit is correct, and those  
12 property lines are in fact covered by the  
13 construction area, which I think you said you  
14 don't know, but that's one that could be met  
15 in this case.

16 A. No, because he's referring to -- his study  
17 was of overhead transmission lines, which  
18 means a structure with --

19 Q. Okay. So you're --

20 A. -- a transmission line across it. That's not  
21 what's being proposed here.

22 Q. Right. So this one might be crossing it  
23 below ground, but not above ground. So you  
24 think it wouldn't comply.

1 A. Yeah. His conclusion is very specific on  
2 underground transmission facilities and there  
3 being no --

4 Q. So let me ask you about the next criteria,  
5 the one with the change in the view. And  
6 would you agree that this project here  
7 directly in front of my client's property is  
8 going to affect their view if these concrete  
9 mattresses are above grade?

10 A. That I don't know. I would defer that to Mr.  
11 Bowes and others. I know in the instances  
12 where we need to use concrete mattresses to  
13 protect the facility, we do everything we can  
14 to minimize the view impacts. So we try to  
15 get them as deep into the sediment as we can  
16 so that they're not visible. You know, there  
17 are things you can do with the color of the  
18 mattresses as well to also have them blend  
19 in. But I can't speak to the specific view  
20 impacts on this property.

21 Q. But still, even with that, Eversource has not  
22 found a way to move these mattresses down so  
23 they are at grade and they won't stick out  
24 when it's at low tide.

1 A. Again, I don't have an answer to that. I  
2 would defer that to the technical and  
3 construction panel. But we will do  
4 everything we can in construction to minimize  
5 the impacts of that, including, as I said,  
6 submerging them to the maximum extent  
7 possible, preferably into the sediment.

8 Q. It strikes me that your management role is a  
9 very broad one and that you don't appear to  
10 be paying much attention to whether the plans  
11 show it's on one property or the other,  
12 whether the projects may be above ground or  
13 below ground. I'm a little troubled that you  
14 are not really able to answer these  
15 questions.

16 MR. NEEDLEMAN: Objection.

17 PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY:  
18 Sustained. It's argumentative, and there was  
19 not even a question.

20 MR. RICHARDSON: Okay. Well, I  
21 meant to say, you know, why is that or what's  
22 your response to that was really what I was  
23 trying to get at. May I ask that question?

24 PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: No.

1 It's been sustained. Rephrase. Let's move  
2 on.

3 MR. RICHARDSON: Okay. I don't have  
4 any other questions. Thank you.

5 PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Okay.  
6 Thank you.

7 Ms. Frink.

8 (Discussion off the record)

9 CROSS-EXAMINATION

10 BY MS. FRINK:

11 Q. Mr. Quinlan, I'm representing the Darius  
12 Frink Farm in Newington. So I just want to  
13 make clear where I'm coming from. But I have  
14 a couple more general questions.

15 In the Eversource filing of Stipulated  
16 Facts, the very end, on Page 6, there's a  
17 part of a sentence that says, "The Seacoast  
18 Reliability Project will provide 115-kilovolt  
19 transmission ties to Maine to better address  
20 reliability concerns in the New Hampshire  
21 Seacoast Region."

22 I've read a little bit about the  
23 Avangrid Clean Energy Connect New England  
24 Project, and I'm wondering if the Seacoast

1 Reliability Project has any role as a line  
2 between that project and the state of  
3 Massachusetts?

4 A. No. No, it doesn't. So the Project that  
5 you're referring to, the Avangrid Project, is  
6 a HVDC project that's intended to bring  
7 hydropower from Quebec to the Boston load  
8 pocket. That is not related to this project.  
9 What you're referring to there, the excerpt  
10 that you read from, relates to the ties  
11 between Maine and New Hampshire.

12 Q. Does it anticipate that the Seacoast will  
13 receive some power coming from Maine?

14 A. Certainly possible. Anytime there's an  
15 inter-tie between two regions or two states,  
16 generally power can flow in either direction,  
17 depending on system conditions. Maine  
18 happens to be a region that has "surplus  
19 generation," meaning there's more power  
20 generated in the state of Maine than Maine  
21 customers consume. So, oftentimes they are  
22 an exporter of power, if you will. So, flows  
23 generally flow from Maine outward.

24 Q. The Frink Family began negotiations with

1 Eversource back in 2015, and we had a meeting  
2 at the farm. I think the date was  
3 September 1st of 2015. And we spoke with an  
4 engineer named Jim Jiottis, who I think is no  
5 longer with the Company. And we asked him  
6 about the possibility for expanding the  
7 voltage of the Seacoast Reliability Project,  
8 and he said that would not be possible. And  
9 the phrase he used was, "This project is a  
10 dead end." Could you explain that a little  
11 better?

12 A. I would defer that question to either Mr.  
13 Bowes or Mr. Andrew. You know, for me, it is  
14 essentially a redundant path into the  
15 Portsmouth substation from Madbury. By "dead  
16 end," I don't know what he was alluding to.

17 And when you said "upgrade," you mean to  
18 a higher voltage or --

19 Q. Yes, that was my question.

20 A. Okay. Yeah, I'm not familiar with any  
21 analysis of increasing the voltage of the  
22 Project. You know, when ISO-New England  
23 studied the solution, they determined a new  
24 115-kilovolt source was what was necessary.

1           And that cross-tie between Madbury and the  
2           Portsmouth substation certainly should not be  
3           a dead end.

4   Q.    And could the voltage of the Seacoast  
5           Reliability Project be expanded?

6   A.    "Expanded" meaning increased?

7   Q.    Increasing the voltage.

8   A.    It would require a different design to do so.  
9           But I don't believe there's a need to  
10          increase the voltage.  Again, I would defer  
11          that question to Mr. Bowes or Mr. Andrew.

12  Q.    The last name, if you would repeat, please?

13  A.    Bowes, B-O-W-E-S.

14  Q.    Yes.

15  A.    He's on the construction panel, which is the  
16          next panel who will be testifying today.

17  Q.    Good.  Thank you.

18                 Who among the Eversource team is  
19                 responsible for historic resources?  I met a  
20                 gentleman named Mark Doperalski at the  
21                 Schiller Plant, at a meeting.  And I believe  
22                 he's now with the Division of Historical  
23                 Resources.  So is there someone who's your  
24                 specialist for historic resources?

1 A. Yes, we have a -- so it's true, Mark  
2 Doperalski was the Company expert, and he's  
3 since moved on and has joined DHR, which was  
4 fairly recent. So, currently, our director  
5 of environmental, Catherine Finneran is the  
6 person I speak to about cultural and historic  
7 resources.

8 Q. Have you visited the right-of-way in  
9 Newington? Have you walked that area?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. And so you're somewhat familiar.

12 A. Generally, yes.

13 Q. And are you aware that among the impacts, the  
14 historic resources impacts, that the Seacoast  
15 Reliability Project would locate a transition  
16 structure estimated to be 75 feet high within  
17 the Newington Center Historic District?

18 A. I'm certainly aware that there are transition  
19 structures on either end of the historic  
20 district. One of the changes that we made in  
21 2017 was to place the facility underground  
22 through the historic district, including  
23 through the farm that you referred to  
24 earlier. In addition to placing the

1 transmission line underground, we also are  
2 removing the existing distribution line and  
3 structures from that right-of-way as well.  
4 So, from my perspective, with respect to the  
5 farm, from a visual impact, you know, we will  
6 be returning that viewshed to its original  
7 status. There will actually be an improved  
8 visual viewshed in that area. But there are  
9 obviously transition stations on either end  
10 of that underground segment.

11 Q. Well, the transition structure on the end of  
12 the underground segment passing through the  
13 farm will still be located on the farm, the  
14 entirety of which is within the Newington  
15 Center Historic District. So the transition  
16 structure will in fact be located in the  
17 historic district, which is on the National  
18 Register of Historic Places. Were you aware  
19 of that?

20 A. I was not aware of that. I certainly am  
21 aware there need to be transition structures  
22 at either end, underground construction if  
23 you're going back to overhead.

24 Q. In your conversation with Mr. Ratigan

1 earlier, you spoke a little bit about  
2 mitigation in Newington, and you mentioned  
3 very specifically putting the line  
4 underground through our farm. And are you  
5 aware of the payment that Eversource has  
6 offered beyond that for historic mitigation  
7 in Newington?

8 A. Generally, yes. I know there was  
9 compensation beyond the mere placement of the  
10 facilities underground. And my understanding  
11 was that was as a result of negotiation  
12 between our outreach team and the owners of  
13 the property, which I suspect you're a  
14 principal of; right?

15 So, okay. I believe there are other  
16 monetary aspects to that agreement and I  
17 think some restoration expense that we would  
18 agree to pay, whether it's -- I think it's  
19 stone walls and hay fields. But I don't know  
20 the specifics of the underlying details.

21 Q. And my last question. According to the  
22 drawings that I've looked at, the ones for  
23 the farm state very clearly that you're  
24 relinquishing the overhead rights on the

1 Frink Farm. That's clear. And at the head  
2 of that drawing it says the overhead rights  
3 are to be retained through Hannah Lane. Why  
4 is that?

5 A. I'm not familiar with the details of those  
6 agreements. I know we agreed to continue the  
7 underground construction not just through the  
8 farm, but through the adjoining neighborhood,  
9 the Hannah Lane area.

10 Q. Yes, that's right.

11 A. And those were also discussions which  
12 resulted in settlements or agreements with  
13 the residents along that right-of-way to give  
14 us the necessary underground rights. I'm not  
15 familiar with the, you know, final  
16 documentation and grant of that easement as  
17 to whether we retained the overhead rights or  
18 not.

19 Q. And who is the best person on your team to  
20 ask those questions of?

21 A. I would start with Mr. Bowes.

22 Q. Very well. Thank you for your time.

23 MS. FRINK: No more questions.

24 PRESIDING OFFICER WEATHERSBY: Thank

1           you.

2                           Okay. We're going to break for  
3           lunch and come back at 1:10, when we will  
4           hear from Counsel for the Public, then the  
5           Committee. And then Mr. Quinlan will be  
6           excused and we'll hear from the construction  
7           panel.

8                           (Lunch recess taken at 12:09 p.m.  
9                           concluding the Morning Session. The  
10           hearing continues under separate cover in  
11           the transcript noted as Afternoon  
12           Session.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Susan J. Robidas, a Licensed  
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Susan J. Robidas, LCR/RPR  
Licensed Shorthand Court Reporter  
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