

1                                   **STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**2                                   **SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE**3   **September 23, 2015** - 12:03 p.m.

4   Public Utilities Commission

5   21 South Fruit Street Suite 10

6   Concord, New Hampshire

7                                   **IN RE: SEC DOCKET NO. 2015-05**8                                   **SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE:**9                                   Joint Application of New England  
10                                  Power Company d/b/a National Grid  
11                                  and Public Service Company of  
12                                  New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource  
13                                  Energy for a Certificate of  
14                                  Site and Facility.15                                 *(Meeting of Subcommittee members*  
16                                 *to determine whether the*  
17                                 *Application as filed contains*  
18                                 *sufficient information to carry*  
19                                 *out the purposes of RSA 162-H.)*20                                 **PRESENT:**21                                 **SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE:**

22   F. Anne Ross, Esq.

23   Public Utilities Commission

24   *(Presiding as Presiding Officer)*

Cmsr. Kathryn M. Bailey

Public Utilities Commission

Cmsr. Jeffrey Rose

Dept. of Resources &amp;

Economic Development

Dr. Richard Boisvert

DCR-Div. of Historical Res.

Michele Roberge

Dept. of Environmental Serv.

Patricia Weathersby

Public Member

Roger Hawk

Public Member

Also Present: Michael J. Iacopino, Esq. (Brennan Lenehan..)

COURT REPORTER: Steven E. Patnaude, LCR No. 52

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**ALSO NOTED AS PRESENT:**

Adam Dumville, Esq.  
(McLane, Graf, Raulerson & Middleton)

# **I N D E X**

## **PAGE NO.**

### **DISCUSSION FROM SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS BY:**

Commissioner Bailey 7, 9

Ms. Weathersby 7

Commissioner Rose 8

Ms. Roberge 9

### **OTHER STATEMENTS BY:**

Mr. Iacopino 8

\* \* \*

**MOTION BY MR. BOISVERT** to accept 9  
the Application as complete...

**SECOND BY MS. WEATHERSBY** 10

### **DISCUSSION ON THE MOTION BY:**

Presiding Officer Ross 10

Mr. Boisvert 10

**AMENDMENT TO THE MOTION BY COMMISSIONER BAILEY** 10

that the Subcommittee is voting on a finding that  
the Application is complete, and to allow Counsel  
to the Committee to designate the Subcommittee's  
findings in an order

**VOTE ON THE MOTION AS AMENDED** 11

**P R O C E E D I N G**

PRESIDING OFFICER ROSS: Good afternoon.  
My name is Anne Ross. And, I've been designated as member  
and Presiding Officer of the Subcommittee. The  
Subcommittee sits on Docket Number 2015-05, which is the  
Joint Application of New England Power and Eversource  
Energy for a Certificate of Site and Facility for the  
Merrimack Valley Reliability Project and Electric  
Transmission Line Project.

I will now allow the other members of  
the Committee to introduce themselves.

COMMISSIONER BAILEY: Good afternoon.  
Kate Bailey, New Hampshire Public Utility Commission.

MR. BOISVERT: Richard Boisvert, New  
Hampshire Division of Historical Resources.

MS. ROBERGE: Michele Roberge, for the  
New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services.

COMMISSIONER ROSE: Good afternoon.  
Jeff Rose, with the Department of Resources and Economic  
Development.

MS. WEATHERSBY: Patricia Weathersby,  
public member.

PRESIDING OFFICER ROSS: On August 5th,  
New England Power Company, doing business as National

1 Grid, and Public Service Company of New Hampshire, doing  
2 business as Eversource Energy, filed a Joint Application  
3 for a Certificate of Site and Facility with the Site  
4 Evaluation Committee. The Application seeks the issuance  
5 of a Certificate of Site and Facility approving the  
6 siting, construction, and operation of a 345 kilovolt (CH)  
7 electric transmission line. The proposed transmission  
8 line will be constructed in an existing developed  
9 transmission line corridor between New England Power's  
10 Tewksbury 22A Substation in Tewksbury, Massachusetts and  
11 PSNH's Scobie Pond 345 kV Substation in Londonderry, New  
12 Hampshire.

13 The Project will consist of  
14 approximately 18 miles of 345 kV transmission line, known  
15 as the "3124 Line". The Project will also require the  
16 relocation of existing facilities along some sections of  
17 the corridor, including the 115 kV line, referred to as  
18 the "Y-151 Line", in order to accommodate the proposed  
19 3124 Line. The Project will traverse the Towns of Pelham,  
20 Windham, Hudson, and Londonderry.

21 Specifically, the Project will consist  
22 of four segments, three of which will be located in the  
23 State of New Hampshire. Segment 1 will be located  
24 entirely in Massachusetts. Segment 2 will be owned by New

1 England Power and will extend from the Massachusetts  
2 border to a location in the Town of Hudson, where the  
3 Project transitions from NEP to PSNH ownership. This  
4 segment is approximately 14.6 miles in length.

5 Segment 3 will extend from Mile 14.6 of  
6 the Project, in Hudson, New Hampshire, to Mile 18.5 of the  
7 Project, where the new 3124 Line will depart to a  
8 north-south corridor running parallel to NEP's  
9 right-of-way and turn northerly towards the Scobie Pond  
10 345 Substation in Londonderry, New Hampshire. It will  
11 consist of approximately 3.9 miles.

12 Segment 4 will begin from the point that  
13 the PSNH right-of-way diverges from running parallel with  
14 the NEP right-of-way and continues east to the Scobie Pond  
15 345 kV Substation for approximately 5.9 miles.

16 And, I'm going to pause and ask the  
17 member joining us if he could introduce himself.

18 MR. HAWK: My name is Roger Hawk. I'm  
19 the citizen member of the Committee. Sorry for being  
20 late.

21 PRESIDING OFFICER ROSS: Thank you. The  
22 purpose of our meeting here today is to determine whether  
23 the Application as filed contains sufficient information  
24 to carry out the purposes of RSA 62-H -- that's 162-H,

1       excuse me. To date, we have received correspondence from  
2       various state agencies, including the State Fire Marshal,  
3       the Division of Historical Resources, the Department of  
4       Environmental Services, the Department of Transportation,  
5       and the Safety Division of the Public Utilities  
6       Commission. Each of the agencies have conducted a  
7       preliminary review of the Application and have advised the  
8       Committee that the Application and its contents appear to  
9       be complete from the agencies' perspective. The authority  
10      for our proceeding today is RSA 162-H:4 -- (CH) Section 4  
11      and 7.

12                   I will now open the floor for discussion  
13      of whether the Application contains sufficient information  
14      for us to carry out the purposes of RSA 162-H.

15                   COMMISSIONER BAILEY: Having reviewed  
16      the filings from the state agencies and the Application, I  
17      believe that the Application is complete, and we should  
18      accept it for review.

19                   PRESIDING OFFICER ROSS: Are there any  
20      other comments from members?

21                   MS. WEATHERSBY: Madam Chair?

22                   PRESIDING OFFICER ROSS: Yes.

23                   MS. WEATHERSBY: I would agree with that  
24      statement.

1                   PRESIDING OFFICER ROSS: Did you want to  
2 speak?

3                   COMMISSIONER ROSE: I would concur with  
4 that statement as well.

5                   PRESIDING OFFICER ROSS: Is there anyone  
6 who doesn't agree with the statement that the Application  
7 appears to be complete, based on the filings that we've  
8 received?

9                   (No verbal response)

10                  MR. IACOPINO: May I? Okay. Madam  
11 Chair, I would just point out that, as Counsel to the  
12 Committee, I did provide the Committee with a checklist  
13 list that I generally use for the review of these types of  
14 applications. It's a 108-element checklist that goes over  
15 both what's required to be contained within an application  
16 by statute and what is required under our -- under our  
17 current administrative rules. And, I did circulate that  
18 checklist for the Committee's review.

19                  And, based upon what I reviewed, it  
20 seems that each element was successfully provided by the  
21 applicant to make this a complete application, at least  
22 from the standpoint of whether or not they have provided  
23 the components that are required by both the statute and  
24 the administrative rules to make a complete application.



1                   PRESIDING OFFICER ROSS: Thank you. I  
2       received that packet and reviewed it. Have other members  
3       also received the information concerning the checklist and  
4       the review?

5                   COMMISSIONER BAILEY: Yes.

6                   MS. ROBERGE: Yes. I received it. And,  
7       I concur, that I believe the Application is complete as  
8       well.

9                   PRESIDING OFFICER ROSS: In that case, I  
10      would entertain a motion?

11                  MR. BOISVERT: Let me move that we  
12      accept the Application as complete. And, following some  
13      guidance here, if I can read the --

14                  PRESIDING OFFICER ROSS: Certainly.

15                  MR. BOISVERT: A comprehensive review of  
16      the Application reveals that the Application has provided  
17      all information required by RSA 162-H and by the Site  
18      Evaluation Committee rules codified development at the New  
19      Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules, Site 301. Based  
20      upon the preliminary review of the Application by the  
21      Committee as required by RSA 162-H:7, IV, the Committee  
22      finds that the Application contains sufficient information  
23      to carry out the purposes of RSA 162-H. The Application  
24      is hereby accepted and deemed to seek the issuance of a

1 Certificate of Site and Facility for an energy facility as  
2 defined in RSA 162-H:2, VII.

3 On September 23rd, 2015, at the duly  
4 noticed public meeting, the Committee votes to accept the  
5 Application.

6 PRESIDING OFFICER ROSS: Do I have  
7 someone willing to second the motion?

8 MS. WEATHERSBY: Second.

9 PRESIDING OFFICER ROSS: I believe it is  
10 somewhere tucked into your motion was the statement that  
11 "the Application is complete", I was listening for that?

12 MR. BOISVERT: Yes. It says "the  
13 Application is hereby accepted" -- okay, I'm sorry. I  
14 believe I said it was "complete". There's another  
15 section, "Therefore, the Application is hereby accepted  
16 and this matter shall proceed in accordance with the  
17 procedures set forth at RSA 162-H and New Hampshire Code  
18 Administrative Rules, Site 200 et seq."

19 PRESIDING OFFICER ROSS: I would accept  
20 a slight amendment, just to clarify that we are voting on  
21 whether the Application is complete. That motion, if  
22 someone could --

23 COMMISSIONER BAILEY: Could I make that  
24 motion, and also, Mr. Boisvert, could I ask that we

1 consider allowing the Chair -- or, the counsel to so  
2 designate our findings in an order?

3 MR. BOISVERT: Yes, you can.

4 PRESIDING OFFICER ROSS: With those --  
5 with that amendment, that we're adding language to the  
6 effect that we are finding the Application is complete and  
7 delegating or designating counsel to put our findings and  
8 translate our findings into an appropriate order.

9 With that, is there any discussion of  
10 the pending motion?

11 (No verbal response)

12 PRESIDING OFFICER ROSS: Then, all in  
13 favor please say "aye"?

14 *[Multiple members indicating "aye".]*

15 PRESIDING OFFICER ROSS: Any opposed say  
16 "nay"?

17 (No verbal response)

18 PRESIDING OFFICER ROSS: Okay. The  
19 ruling is made that we've accepted this as complete.

20 Is there anything further we need to do  
21 today?

22 (No verbal response)

23 PRESIDING OFFICER ROSS: With that, then  
24 I think we'll close this meeting of the Site Evaluation

1 Committee on Docket 2015-05. Thank you very much.

2 MR. DUMVILLE: Thank you very much.

3 ***(Whereupon the meeting of the***  
4 ***Subcommittee regarding SEC 2015-05 was***  
5 ***adjourned at 12:14 p.m.)***  
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