

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
SITE EVALUATION COMMITTEE**

Docket No. 2015-06

**Joint Application of Northern Pass Transmission LLC
and Public Service Company of New Hampshire
d/b/a Eversource Energy for a Certificate of Site and Facility**

November 16, 2017

**ORDER ON COUNSEL FOR THE PUBLIC'S MOTION FOR LEAVE TO INCREASE
BUDGETS FOR CONSULTANTS**

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

I. Background

On May 13, 2016, Counsel for the Public requested approval to retain: (i) Kavet, Rockler & Associates, LLC, (Kavet Rockler) to consult on local economic issues; (ii) The Brattle Group (Brattle) to consult on the energy markets benefits; (iii) Dewberry to consult on design and construction issues; and (iv) TJ Boyle Associates (TJ Boyle) to consult on aesthetics issues.

On May 26, 2016, the Presiding Officer granted the request and approved a budget for (i) Kavet Rockler in the amount of \$227,070; (ii) Brattle in the amount of \$751,000; (iii) Dewberry in the amount of \$284,765; and (iv) TJ Boyle in the amount of to \$362,502.

On April 24, 2017, Counsel for the Public filed an Assented-To Motion for Leave to Increase Budgets for Kavet Rockler by \$100,000. On April 28, 2017, an Order was issued granting the motion.

On October 20, 2017, Counsel for the Public filed an Assented-To Motion for Leave to Increase Budgets for Kavet & Rockler, Brattle, Dewberry and TJ Boyle. The Applicant assented to the requested relief and no party objected.

II. Analysis

Counsel for the Public explains that an increase in Brattle's budget was caused by the unexpected scope of London Economics International, LLC's ("LEI") second report; the unexpected scope required to analyze the Applicants' ability to qualify and clear in the Forward Capacity Market; and the surprising results of the most recent Forward Capacity Auction. Counsel for the Public requests an increase in Brattle's budget of \$90,000.

Counsel for the Public explains that Kavet Rockler's increased budget is caused by new areas of analysis by the Applicant's witnesses that could not have been anticipated, such as the introduction of economic impacts from climate change in New Hampshire, a new analysis of McKenna's Purchase Association by Dr. Chalmers, and a new analysis conducted by Mr. Nichols of a transmission line in Estes Park, Colorado. Counsel for the Public requests an increase in Kavet Rockler's budget of \$31,065.

Counsel for the Public states that an increase in Dewberry's budget by \$45,790 is warranted because it had to write two separate reports on two separate deadlines, had to attend a greater number of technical sessions and hearing days than anticipated, and had to read and review the resulting additional number of transcripts in order to prepare for cross-examination.

Finally, Counsel for the Public asserts that an increase in TJ Boyle's budget by \$29,000 is necessary due to the extended and evolving nature of the case, which created an unanticipated expansion of scope.

Counsel for the Public's request is reasonable and there and the Applicant has assented. At the time of retention, Counsel for the Public's experts did not anticipate the additional costs that would not be covered by the initially approved budgets. The additional funds requested by

Counsel for the Public for completing the consultative and expert services are appropriate under the circumstances.

Counsel for the Public's Motion is granted. Subject to the conditions in the prior orders, the Applicant shall pay for the services of: (i) Kavet Rockler, as invoiced, in an additional amount not to exceed \$31,065; (ii) Brattle, as invoiced, in an additional amount not to exceed \$90,000; (iii) Dewberry, as invoiced, in an additional amount not to exceed \$45,790; and (iv) TJ Boyle, as invoiced, in an additional amount not to exceed \$29,000.

SO ORDERED this sixteenth day of November, 2017.



Martin P. Honigberg, Presiding Officer
Site Evaluation Committee