



**Public Service
of New Hampshire**

PSNH Energy Park
780 North Commercial Street, Manchester, NH 03101

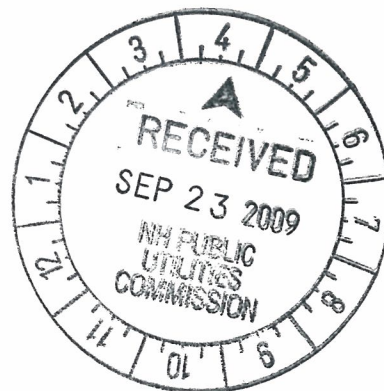
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The Northeast Utilities System

September 23, 2009

Debra A. Howland
Executive Director and Secretary
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, NH 03301-2429

Re: PSNH Delivery Service Rate Proceeding
Docket No. DE 09-035
Motion for Protective Order Re: Officers' Compensation



Dear Secretary Howland:

On June 30, 2009, Public Service Company of New Hampshire ("PSNH" or "the Company") made its general tariff filing in the above-captioned proceeding along with testimony, exhibits, supporting schedules and the standard Full Rate Case Tariff Filing Requirements ("SFR"s) contained in N. H. Code Admin. Rules Chapter Puc §1604.01 *et seq.* On the same date, PSNH filed a Motion for Protective Order and Request for Waiver Re: Officers' Compensation. ("Motion") This Motion requested protection of the compensation paid to officers in the position of vice president and above owning shares in Northeast Utilities and sought a waiver of reporting the compensation information for the so-called minor officers.

Following the filing of the Motion, the Office of Consumer Advocate ("OCA") communicated a concern to PSNH that the attachment to the Motion for Protective Order contained non-confidential information which ought to be available to the public. The standard Full Rate Case Filing Requirements ("SFRs") for general rate cases are found in NH Code Admin. Rule Chapter Puc §1604.01 *et seq.* The rules assist the Commission in making its hearing process more efficient.¹ PSNH has no objection to having non-confidential or redacted information included with the public version of the standard filing requirements.

¹ 1603.01 Purpose of the Rules (original version)

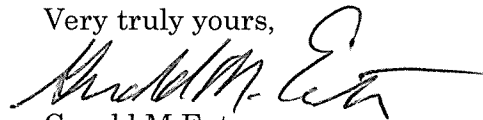
"The purpose of these rules is to improve the efficiency of the commission's rate hearing process — to raise its quality and to increase speed. To accomplish this, these rules require each utility to furnish certain specific information with its filing. The prescribed information is directed to items that the commission has found useful in recent proceedings; the format should facilitate analysis of the filing by marking a traceable trail from the book source data through the adjustments and summaries to the proposed revenue requirement. However, the utility may present such additional information in such form as it wishes." *Re: Tariff Filing Requirements*, DE 80-173, Supplemental Order No. 15, 225 66 NH PUC 424, 432 (1981).

As stated in the Motion, PSNH and NU take extra precautions not to disclose the compensation of any of its employees, unless the Company is specifically authorized to disclose the information by the employee, e.g., for the purposes of an employee's mortgage application. The OCA mentioned that Mr. Long's base salary was reported to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC") in the FERC Form 1, a copy of which is supplied to the Commission and the OCA pursuant to Puc § 308.10. The copies of FERC Form 1 available to PSNH employees, however, do not have this compensation information. Upon investigation, PSNH only very recently determined that Page 104 of the original FERC Form 1 is supplied to the FERC with salary information for officers paid directly by PSNH. That information is not available to the public from the FERC; however, a copy of Form 1 in that format is supplied to the Commission pursuant to Puc §308.10 (a). The salary information on Page 104 is not supplied under a Motion for Protective order pursuant to Puc § 203.08.

The attachment to OCA set 01, QOCA-T-013 (b), filed in the context of the temporary rate stage in this proceeding, provides the compensation information with the names of the officers at the vice presidential level and above whose compensation information is not publicly reported to the Securities and Exchange Commission. The attachment does not contain the compensation information for the so-called minor officers for whom PSNH requested the waiver. This document does not need to be protected. Furthermore, PSNH includes Page 104 of the FERC Form 1 for calendar years 2007 and 2008 which contain officers' base salaries who were paid directly by PSNH. PSNH offers these documents enclosed herein as the public version of the response to SFR 14.

Copies of this letter and the non-confidential material were supplied electronically to the persons on the attached service list.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gerald M. Eaton", written in a cursive style.

Gerald M Eaton
Senior Counsel

Enclosures
cc: Service List

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Docket DE 09-035

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