THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE before the PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Public Service Company of New Hampshire Reconciliation of Stranded Costs and Energy Service

Docket No. DE 09-091

PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE'S MOTION FOR <u>PROTECTIVE ORDER RE: COMBUSTION TURBINE COSTS</u>

Pursuant to RSA 91-A:5,(IV)(Supp.) and N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc § 203.08, Public Service Company of New Hampshire ("PSNH" or the "Company") hereby requests protective treatment for the response to a data request in the above-captioned matter. PSNH contends that the information is confidential, competitive financial information and should be protected from public disclosure.

In support of its Motion for Protective Order, PSNH says the following:

1. The data request STAFF Set No. 1, Q-STAFF-022 is as follows:

Question:

Reference Labrecque testimony, RCL-1. Please provide the annual fixed and variable costs of ownership for each of the five combustion turbines and the FCM value associated with each. Please identify the annual revenue, by source, (i.e., capacity, etc.) for the combustion turbines.

2. The annual fixed and variable costs of the five combustion turbines is competitive business information. PSNH generates power in a wholly competitive market. ISO New England's Information Policy restricts the dissemination of such information reported to the ISO. PSNH does not circulate such revenue requirements information, specific to particular generating plants, widely within the Company and such information is not disclosed outside of PSNH. The Commission has previously afforded protective treatment to operational information and revenue requirements of Newington Station . *Re: PSNH*, Docket No. DE 08-066, Order No. 24,931, slip op. at 13. The response will also include ISO-NE market revenues earned by the combustion turbine units (energy, capacity, forward reserves). Any disclosure of market-related intelligence could be utilized by competitive generation suppliers to modify their participation in the ISO-NE markets in a manner that would be detrimental to PSNH customers, for example, by raising the market costs of energy, capacity and ancillary services.

3. The Commission must use a balancing test in order to weigh the importance of creating an open record of this proceeding with the harm from disclosure of confidential, financial or competitive information. "Under administrative rule Puc 204.06, the Commission considers whether the information, if made public, would likely create a competitive disadvantage for the petitioner; whether the customer information is financially or commercially sensitive, or if released, would likely constitute an invasion of privacy for the customer; and whether the information is not general public knowledge and the company takes measures to prevent its' dissemination." *Re Northern Utilities, Inc.*, 87 NH PUC 321, 322, Docket No. DG 01-182, Order No. 23,970 (May 10, 2002).

4. The limited benefits of disclosing the information outweigh the harm done by disclosing the information. PSNH should be allowed to operate on a level playing field with competitive entities in the power markets. Competitive generation suppliers are not required to publically disclose details on their participation in the ISO-NE markets, neither from the cost side nor the revenue side. If the information rises to the level of a contested issue in this proceeding, the Commission may take appropriate steps to restrict public disclosure through a closed record.

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WHEREFORE PSNH respectfully requests the Commission issue an order preventing the public disclosure of response o the above-listed Data Request, and to order such further relief as may be just and equitable.

> Respectfully submitted, Public Service Company of New Hampshire

July 20, 2009 Date

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By:

Gerald M. Eaton Senior Counsel 780 North Commercial Street Post Office Box 330 Manchester, New Hampshire 03105-0330 (603) 634-2961

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that, on the date written below, I caused the attached Motion for Protective Order to be served pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rule Puc §203.11.

<u>uly 20 2009</u> Date

Gerald M. Eaton