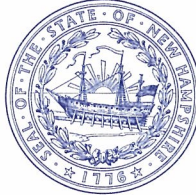


THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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October 19, 2011

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



Re: Docket No. DE 11-216  
Public Service Company of New Hampshire  
Petition to establish Alternate Default Energy Service Rate

Dear Ms. Howland:

On October 17, 2011, the Commission held a prehearing conference in the above captioned docket. The Commission's appointed its General Counsel, F. Anne Ross, to serve as hearings examiner. The Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA) filed a letter on October 12, 2011 stating that it would be participating in this docket on behalf of residential ratepayers pursuant to RSA 363:28.

Freedom Logistics, LLC d/b/a Freedom Energy Logistics and Halifax-American Energy Company LLC (FEL/HAEC) filed a joint motion to intervene on October 13, 2011. Public Service Company of New Hampshire (PSNH) filed a timely objection to the FEL/HAEC motion. FEL/HAEC and the OCA requested the opportunity to provide written response to PSNH's motion. At the prehearing conference, Conservation Law Foundation indicated that it may also file a motion to intervene.

FEL/HAEC did not attend the technical session that followed the prehearing conference. At the technical session, the Parties and Staff agreed to the following procedural schedule:

Rolling Data Requests	Through October 28, 2011
Data Request Responses	Through November 10, 2011
Technical Session	November 16, 2011 at 9:00 a.m.
Staff Testimony	November 23, 2011
Testimony Data Requests	November 30, 2011
Data Request Responses	December 9, 2011

PSNH Filing Update  
Phone Conf. re Update  
Hearing on Merits

December 14, 2011  
December 16, 2011  
December 19, 2011 at 1:30 p.m.

According to PSNH, the proposal for an alternate default service rate is intended to respond to Commission Order No. 25,256 in Docket No. DE 10-160, the docket which examined the effects of customer migration on PSNH's energy service rate. This filing presents the first opportunity for the Parties and Staff to investigate this proposal as a mechanism to help address the effects of migration for PSNH's customers. In addition, as described in its October 14, 2011 filing in this docket, PSNH proposes to include costs associated with the flue gas desulphurization system (scrubber) at Merrimack Station in the proposed alternate energy service rates effective January 1, 2012. Consequently, in light of the many factual and legal issues raised, it is possible that the review of this docket will not be complete in the time frames in the proposed procedural schedule. In addition, there may be discovery disputes which could affect the procedural schedule; however, the Parties will make a good faith effort to conduct this docket on the schedule above, which is the same schedule that is proposed for the 2012 default energy service and stranded cost recovery charge dockets. Staff will attempt to provide the Commission timely notification of any issues related to the procedural schedule.

Staff respectfully requests that the Commission approve this proposed procedural schedule.

Sincerely,



Suzanne G. Amidon, Esq.  
Staff Attorney

Service List