

# STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Inter-Department Communication

TLF

DATE: 30 July 2013

AT (OFFICE): NHPUC

**FROM:** Tom Frantz – Director, Electric Division

**SUBJECT:** DE 12-191; Petition by New Hampshire Electric Cooperative and Public Service Company of New Hampshire to Alter Franchise Area in Chester, New Hampshire

**TO:** Chair Ignatius and Commissioners Harrington and Scott

On June 17, 2013, the New Hampshire Electric Cooperative (NHEC) and Public Service Company of New Hampshire (PSNH) filed a joint petition with the Commission in which they request that the Commission issue an order approving a change in franchise territory in Chester, New Hampshire. The requested change stems from a petition dated June 8, 2012, filed by Ryan Hazelton to have NHEC provide service to his new home located at 42 Harantis Lake Road in Chester.

The new home site on Harantis Lake Road had no power, and Mr. Hazelton initiated a discussion with PSNH, the power provider at his nearby home, about how to get power to his new home that was under construction. PSNH referred Mr. Hazelton to NHEC because PSNH thought that the new site was located in NHEC's service territory. Both PSNH and NHEC serve Chester. NHEC reviewed the location and determined that the new home was, in fact, located in PSNH's service territory, though NHEC's distribution system was much closer to the site of Mr. Hazelton's new home than the distribution system of PSNH. PSNH told Mr. Hazelton that the cost to run power to his new home site would be approximately \$17,000 - \$18,000.

PSNH and NHEC have agreed to adjust their franchise territories to allow NHEC to provide service solely to Mr. Hazelton's newly constructed home and without making any other adjustments to their respective franchise territories. Staff has worked with all the parties involved in this petition and supports this limited franchise change.

Based on Staff's review of the filing, Staff recommends that the Commission grant NHEC's and PSNH's petition as it serves the interests of all involved and that the Commission approve the petition without a hearing as requested. PSNH, NHEC and Mr. Hazelton all support the requested change.

Please contact me or Amanda Noonan if you have any questions or would like to discuss this matter.