May 2, 2017

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

RE: IR 15-296 Electric Distribution Utilities Investigation into Grid Modernization; Request for Extension on Comment Period

Dear Ms. Howland,

On April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) electronically distributed a notice to the IR 15-296 service list announcing the release of a secretarial letter. This letter provided the opportunity for interested parties to file comments on the Grid Modernization Working Group's final report. The deadline listed in the secretarial letter was May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

Multiple parties on the IR 15-296 service list who were also engaged members of the Working Group and participated in the creation of the Final Report were not included on this electronic notification. The New Hampshire Sustainable Energy Association and our partner on the Working Group, the Northeast Clean Energy Council, were two such groups. These groups were not made aware of the opportunity to file comments until a full week later, on April 27<sup>th</sup> 2017.

In order to have sufficient time to provide concise, substantive comments, the New Hampshire Sustainable Energy Association hereby requests an extension of the comment period to May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Kate Epsen

Executive Director, NHSEA