

**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

DE 07-070

ORDER OF NOTICE

On June 4, 2007, Public Service Company of New Hampshire (PSNH) filed with the Commission a petition pursuant to RSA Chapter 369 to issue up to \$200 million aggregate principal amount of long-term debt securities through December 31, 2008, to mortgage property, to utilize interest rate locks, and to permanently increase its short-term debt limit to 10 percent of net fixed plant plus a fixed amount of \$35 million. According to PSNH, total capital expenditures are projected to approach \$211 million in 2007 and \$219 million in 2008. PSNH stated that a portion of the anticipated capital expenditures will initially be financed with short-term debt that would subsequently be refinanced with the long-term debt as proposed in the petition.

The petition states that in Docket No. DE 07-025, the Commission approved an increase to PSNH's short-term debt limit to 10 percent of the value of its net fixed plant plus an additional 3 percent of its net fixed plant, or approximately \$142 million. Order No. 24,737 (March 30, 2007). The Commission's order permitted this increase through December 31, 2007 or until PSNH's refinancing of short-term debt with long-term debt, whichever first occurs. According to the company, after this temporary authorization has expired, PSNH will continue to invest in new capital additions and will need funds for emergency storm restoration. Therefore, PSNH requests the authority to increase its short-term debt limit above the 10 percent of net fixed plant as set forth in N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 307.05 by an additional fixed amount of \$35 million starting the earlier of January 1, 2008 or when the temporary authority approved by the

Commission in Order No. 24,737 expires. PSNH requested an order on its petition by July 31, 2007.

The filing raises, inter alia, issues related to RSA 369 and whether the issuance of up to \$50 million of long-term debt, the mortgaging of property, the utilization of derivative instruments to manage interest rate risk and a permanent increase in PSNH's short-term debt limit are in the public good. Each party has the right to have an attorney represent them at their own expense.

Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby

ORDERED, that a Prehearing Conference, pursuant to N.H. Admin. Rules Puc 203.15, be held before the Commission located at 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire on June 29, 2007 at 10:00 a.m., at which each party will provide a preliminary statement of its position with regard to the petition and any of the issues set forth in N.H. Admin. Rule Puc 203.15 shall be considered; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that, immediately following the Prehearing Conference, PSNH, the Staff of the Commission and any Intervenors hold a Technical Session to review the petition and allow PSNH to provide any amendments or updates to its filing; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that a Hearing pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.12 be held before the Commission located at 21 S. Fruit Street, Concord, New Hampshire on July 24, 2007 at 10:00 a.m.; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that pursuant to N.H. Admin. Rules Puc 203.12, PSNH shall notify all persons desiring to be heard at this hearing by publishing a copy of this Order of Notice no later than June 20, 2007, in a newspaper with general circulation in those portions of the state

in which operations are conducted, publication to be documented by affidavit filed with the Commission on or before June 29, 2007; and it is

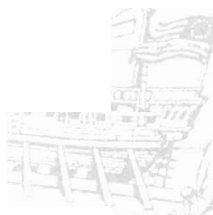
FURTHER ORDERED, that pursuant to N.H. Admin. Rules Puc 203.17, any party seeking to intervene in the proceeding shall submit to the Commission seven copies of a Petition to Intervene with copies sent to PSNH and the Office of the Consumer Advocate on or before June 27, 2007, such Petition stating the facts demonstrating how its rights, duties, privileges, immunities or other substantial interest may be affected by the proceeding, as required by N.H. Admin. Rule Puc 203.17 and RSA 541-A:32, I (b); and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that any party objecting to a Petition to Intervene make said Objection on or before June 29, 2007

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this fifteenth day of June, 2007.



Debra A. Howland
Executive Director & Secretary



Individuals needing assistance or auxiliary communication aids due to sensory impairment or other disability, should contact the Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator, NHPUC, 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire 03301-2429; 603-271-2431; TDD Access: Relay N.H. 1-800-735-2964. Notification of the need for assistance should be made one week prior to the scheduled event.