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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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4

January 31, 2008 - 10:07 a.m.
Concord, New Hampshire

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RE: DE 07-125

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PUBLIC SERVICE CO. OF NEW HAMPSHIRE:
Petition for Approval of Power Purchase
Agreements with Pinetree Power, Inc.
and Pinetree Power-Tamworth, Inc.
(Prehearing conference)

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PRESENT: Chairman Thomas B. Getz, Presiding
Commissioner Graham J. Morrison
Commissioner Clifton C. Below

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Connie Fillion, Clerk

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APPEARANCES: Reptg. Public Service Co. of New Hampshire:
Gerald M. Eaton, Esq.

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Reptg. Residential Ratepayers:
Rorie Hollenberg, Esq.
Kenneth E. Traum, Asst. Consumer Advocate
Office of Consumer Advocate

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Reptg. PUC Staff:
Suzanne G. Amidon, Esq.

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Court Reporter: Steven E. Patnaude, LCR No. 52

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5 STATEMENTS OF PRELIMINARY POSITION BY:

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Mr. Eaton

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Ms. Hollenberg

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Ms. Amidon

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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Okay. Good morning.

3 We'll open the prehearing conference in docket DE 07-125.

4 On November 20, 2007, Public Service Company of New

5 Hampshire filed for approval of two power purchase

6 agreements, one with Pinetree Power, Inc., a 15-megawatt

7 wood-fired facility located in Bethlehem, and the other

8 with Pinetree Power-Tamworth, a 20-megawatt wood-fired

9 facility in Tamworth, New Hampshire. Both power purchase

10 agreements involve the purchase of energy capacity and New

11 Hampshire Renewable Energy Certificates, and would run

12 through December 31, 2010.

13 Order of notice was issued on

14 December 18, setting the prehearing conference for today.

15 Note for the record that the affidavit of publication was

16 filed on January 8. And, we have a Notice of

17 Participation from the Consumer Advocate.

18 Can we take appearances please.

19 MR. EATON: Good morning. For Public

20 Service Company of New Hampshire, my name is Gerald M.

21 Eaton.

22 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Good morning.

23 CMSR. MORRISON: Good morning.

24 CMSR. BELOW: Good morning.

{DE 07-125} [Prehearing conference] (01-31-08)

1 MS. HOLLENBERG: Good morning. Rorie
2 Hollenberg and Kenneth Traum, here for the Office of
3 Consumer Advocate.

4 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Good morning.

5 CMSR. MORRISON: Good morning.

6 CMSR. BELOW: Good morning.

7 MS. AMIDON: Good morning. Suzanne
8 Amidon, for Commission Staff. And, with me today is Steve
9 Mullen, who is a Utility Analyst for the Electric
10 Division.

11 CMSR. BELOW: Good morning.

12 CMSR. MORRISON: Good morning.

13 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Good morning. I note
14 that there are no Petitions to Intervene at least on my
15 docket filing. Is there any intention from participation
16 on behalf of the Pinetree companies?

17 MR. SHULOCK: Apparently no.

18 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Okay. Then, is there
19 anything, before we hear statements of positions from the
20 parties?

21 (No verbal response)

22 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Hearing nothing, then,
23 Mr. Eaton.

24 MR. EATON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We

{DE 07-125} [Prehearing conference] (01-31-08)

1 submitted two multiyear contracts with the Pinetree Power
2 plants. They were existing independent power producers,
3 one of whom's rate order has ended, and the other will end
4 in March of this year. The contracts can go into effect
5 for the sale of power, and they also include the sale of
6 RECs. We believe that the contracts satisfy the
7 requirements of RSA 362-F and that they're in the public
8 good, which is explained in testimony that's been
9 prefiled. Thank you.

10 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Okay. Ms. Hollenberg.

11 MS. HOLLENBERG: Thank you. The Office
12 of Consumer Advocate presently has no position on the
13 filings, but we do look forward to working with the
14 Company and Staff to bring this matter to closure.

15 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Thank you. Ms. Amidon.

16 MS. AMIDON: Thank you. Staff has
17 already issued some data requests regarding the proposed
18 -- well, regarding the contracts, and we will be listening
19 to the Company's answers to those data requests in the
20 technical session that will follow this prehearing
21 conference. At present, we don't have a position, but we
22 agree with Attorney Hollenberg that this could probably
23 come to a satisfactory conclusion in a short period of
24 time.

 {DE 07-125} [Prehearing conference] (01-31-08)

1 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Okay. Well, then, is
2 there anything else that we should address this morning?

3 (No verbal response)

4 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Okay. Hearing nothing,
5 then we will close the prehearing conference and await a
6 recommendation after the technical session. Thank you.

7 (Whereupon the prehearing conference
8 ended at 10:11 a.m. and the parties
9 thereafter convened a technical
10 session.)
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