



**Public Service
of New Hampshire**

PSNH Energy Park
780 North Commercial Street, Manchester, NH 03101

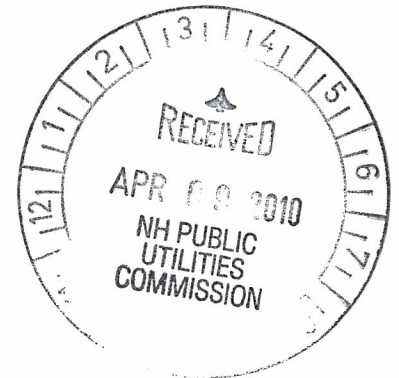
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The Northeast Utilities System

April 9, 2010

Debra A. Howland
Executive Director and Secretary
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
21 South Fruit Street Suite 10
Concord, New Hampshire 03301-2429

Re: Public Service Company of New Hampshire
Distribution Service Rate Case - Docket No. DE 09-035



Dear Secretary Howland:

On March 22, 2010, Public Service Company of New Hampshire ("PSNH") filed a letter in this proceeding requesting that the date for filing rebuttal testimony be suspended. In that letter, PSNH represented that representatives of the Staff of the Commission, the Office of Consumer Advocate and PSNH ("Parties and Staff") had been conducting settlement discussions over the past several weeks and that we believed that we were close to reaching a comprehensive settlement agreement. Despite our best efforts, the Parties and Staff have not reached a settlement, but we do wish to continue settlement discussions for a limited period of time. The procedural schedule in this proceeding requires that a settlement be filed today, April 9, 2010.

PSNH requests that the Commission suspend the procedural schedule in this proceeding to allow the parties to continue settlement efforts. PSNH suggests that the Commission set a deadline of April 23, 2010 for the filing of a settlement and for the Parties and Staff to recommend a new procedural schedule either for the consideration of the settlement or for the filing of rebuttal testimony and the conduct of hearings on a contested case.

I am authorized to represent that the Staff of the Commission and the Office of Consumer Advocate concur in this request. The OCA's concurrence is conditioned upon the ability of the Commission to schedule a merits hearing no earlier than 14 days after notice of the hearing. Copies of this filing are being provided to all parties by electronic mail.

Very truly yours,

Gerald M. Eaton
Senior Counsel

cc: Service List