

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

IR 16-202

CONCORD STEAM CORPORATION

Investigation into Steam Plant Safety and General Operational Status

ORDER OF NOTICE

By this Order of Notice, the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission (Commission) hereby opens an investigation, pursuant to, inter alia, RSA 374:1, 374:3, 374:4, 374:7, 374:17, 365:5-:7, and 365:19 regarding matters related to the safety and general operational status of Concord Steam Corporation (Concord Steam), which provides service as a public utility to customers in the City of Concord. On January 7, 2016, Commission Staff filed a letter in Docket No. DG 14-233 delineating ongoing violations of fire and life safety codes at the Concord Steam central plant, as communicated by the State Fire Marshal's Office to Concord Steam from February 2015 through December 2015, and as reported in the public press on December 28, 2015. Staff's letter stated further that Concord Steam neglected to make a proper report of those violations to the Commission, as required by Commission Order No. 25,278 (Oct. 28, 2014). If the situation is as described in Staff's letter, then the continued fire and life safety violations, along with the failure to report to the Commission, raise serious concerns regarding the financial, operational, and managerial capabilities of the company. The Commission hereby directs its Safety Division and Commission Staff generally to examine these matters carefully and recommend any appropriate remedies. Such examination shall include at a minimum, review of the company's compliance with applicable state and federal regulations including but not limited to safety regulations, review of the company's financial status and accounting, financial

planning, continuity planning, contingency planning, and any other financial, operational, or managerial issues that Staff deems necessary.

Concord Steam shall be a mandatory party to this proceeding.

Subsequent filings, other than any information for which confidential treatment is requested of or granted by the Commission, will be posted to the Commission's website at www.puc.nh.gov.

Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby

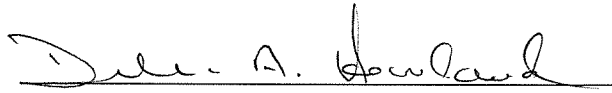
ORDERED, that a Status Conference be held before the Commission located at 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire on February 10, 2016, at 10:00 a.m. At this Status Conference, Concord Steam personnel shall detail actions the company completed for each item mentioned in all State Fire Marshal's reports issued on or prior to the date of the Status Conference, describe potential effects on Concord Steam's operational capabilities, provide factual information as requested at the Status Conference or as requested by Staff prior to the Status Conference, and explain any omission of the State Fire Marshal's adverse inspection reports and related developments from its 2015 status reporting required by Order No. 25,278, statute, or rule; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that Concord Steam and its affiliates shall give their full cooperation to Safety Division Staff, and Commission Staff generally, regarding this investigation, including full and complete responses to data requests and full inspectional access to Concord Steam records and facilities; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.12, the Executive Director shall notify all persons of this investigation by publishing a copy of this

Order of Notice no later than January 29, 2016, by causing it to be posted on the Commission's website.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this twenty-eighth day of January, 2016.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Debra A. Howland", is written over a horizontal line.

Debra A. Howland
Executive Director

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.

SERVICE LIST - EMAIL ADDRESSES - DOCKET RELATED

Pursuant to N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.11 (a) (1): Serve an electronic copy on each person identified on the service list.

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Docket #: 16-202-1 Printed: January 28, 2016

FILING INSTRUCTIONS:

- a) Pursuant to N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.02 (a), with the exception of Discovery, file 7 copies, as well as an electronic copy, of all documents including cover letter with:** DEBRA A HOWLAND
EXEC DIRECTOR
NHPUC
21 S. FRUIT ST, SUITE 10
CONCORD NH 03301-2429
- b) Serve an electronic copy with each person identified on the Commission's service list and with the Office of Consumer Advocate.**
- c) Serve a written copy on each person on the service list not able to receive electronic mail.**