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April 1, 2016

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

**Re: DE 16-241: Eversource Energy - Petition for Approval of Gas Infrastructure
Contract with Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC**

Dear Ms. Howland:

Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC (“Algonquin”) hereby offers these comments in response to the Public Utilities Commission’s (“Commission”) March 24, 2016 Order of Notice in the above-referenced proceeding.¹ In the Order of Notice, the Commission requested briefs regarding the legality of Eversource’s proposal by no later than April 28, 2016 with reply briefs due no later than May 12, 2016.²

While Algonquin understands the Commission’s desire to provide ample time for interested parties to develop their legal arguments, Algonquin requests that the Commission expedite both the phase I and phase II portions of the proceeding so that the Commission can reach a decision as close to October 1 as possible. By proceeding quickly in evaluating “the legal authority to acquire natural gas capacity resources to positively impact electricity market conditions,”³ it will

¹ Algonquin acknowledges that the Commission has not yet ruled on its March 9, 2016 Petition to Intervene. However, since the matter addressed in these comments is time sensitive, Algonquin wanted to bring it to the Commission’s attention as expeditiously as possible.

² Order of Notice, at 5.

³ Order 25,860 (Jan. 19, 2016), at 2

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then have more time to evaluate the merits of the Eversource proposal and issue a decision on that proposal by October 1, 2016 as requested in Eversource's petition.⁴

Sincerely,



Kenneth C. Baldwin

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⁴ Petition for Approval of Gas Infrastructure Contract Between Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy and Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC (Feb. 18, 2016), at 14.