

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

March 22, 2016

NEW HAMPSHIRE OFFICE OF THE CONSUMER ADVOCATE'S REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR EXPERT SERVICES RELATED TO NATURAL GAS CAPACITY ACQUISITION BY ELECTRIC UTILITY

| | Questions | Answers |
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| 1. | What is the best estimate as to when direct testimony would be due and hearings? | The petitioner has requested a decision of the PUC by October 1, 2016. We estimate that this would require hearings in mid- to late July with intervenor testimony (including that of the OCA) due sometime in May. However, the OCA will argue that resolving this case on such an expedited basis is neither feasible nor appropriate given the significance of the proceeding. We believe that hearings in late 2016 are a more realistic objective. We estimate that this would require the submission of our testimony in September 2016. In the ordinary course, the question of a procedural schedule is addressed at the prehearing conference the Commission convenes in an adjudicative proceeding such as this one. The Commission has not yet scheduled its prehearing conference. Given the timing of our Request for Proposals, we believe it will be possible to take our consultants' needs into account, within reason, in negotiating a procedural schedule at the prehearing conference. |