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Mark A. Stein
Senior Assistant Regional Counsel
US Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Regional Counsel, Region 1
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**Re: EPA Information Request, Merrimack Station, Bow, New Hampshire, NPDES
Permit No. NH0001465**

Dear Attorney Stein:

On December 3, 2015, Public Service Company of New Hampshire (d/b/a/ Eversource Energy)("PSNH") received an information request pursuant to Section 308(a) of the Clean Water Act from the Environmental Protection Agency, Region 1 ("EPA") related to the development of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ("NPDES") Permit No. NH0001465. EPA requested that PSNH respond fully to the information request within thirty business days of receipt of the letter, i.e., by January 15, 2016. PSNH respectfully requests a 45-day extension in order to provide the detailed information requested in the formats specified.

The original time frame provided for compliance with the information request is not adequate for a number of reasons. First, as you know, PSNH is preparing for the divestiture of its generating assets, including Merrimack Station, and has an extremely tight schedule to meet as part of this process. Second, we have lost many valued employees in recent months and thus we are contending with the ongoing challenge of very limited resources. Third, we have consultants who will assist us in organizing and providing the requested data but since their time is much sought after by other entities, we need to give them a reasonable amount of time in which to be responsive to our requests, particularly with the holidays in the middle of the thirty-day period. And finally, within the allotted time period, PSNH is preparing critical comments on the Schiller Station draft NPDES permit; the close of the public comment period is January 27, 2016. As a result, PSNH is requesting the additional forty-five days to provide the information requested by EPA, including specified calculations with explanatory notes.

Although we believe this effort is worthwhile and will be extremely helpful to EPA when complete, it is a time consuming effort to ensure it is done properly.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Yours truly,



Linda T. Landis
Senior Counsel

Cc: Eric P. Nelson, U.S. EPA-Region 1
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