

----- Forwarded by John King/R1/USEPA/US on 08/07/2006 07:51 AM -----

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08/03/2006 02:24 PM

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John:

I want to apologize again for PSNH's not being able to attend this morning's meeting, but as I explained, our preparations have been delayed by a personal matter affecting a key member of our consulting team at Normandeau. As I also mentioned, PSNH and Normandeau are working hard to get EPA a realistic proposal that responds to the Agency's concerns on establishing appropriate permit conditions for the Station's thermal discharge, but accounts for the additional biological work that Normandeau nearly has completed regarding ambient conditions in the River and appropriate monitoring locations, as well as the important energy considerations (owing to the Station's importance to grid reliability and electricity pricing). Currently, our presentation focuses mostly on the fisheries results contained in the draft reports, which I don't think would have met your expectation of hearing a more complete analysis on establishing numerical thermal limits.

We are about to complete a year-long data collection and analysis effort that will result in technical information that goes directly to the determination of appropriate thermal limits. This information will address not just temperature limits, but also reasonable monitoring locations for measuring the Station's compliance with those limits. It is intended to follow-up on our previous discussions with EPA and fill what we view as serious technical gaps in EPA's previous permitting proposal (the thermal limits that EPA proposed in 2002 identified the temperatures that EPA thought were appropriate, but not the locations where those limits were to be applied and monitored, or the time frame over which monitoring results would be averaged -- both, essential components of any thermal requirements).

PSNH's plan is to complete our analysis within the next month or so, and to provide the results to EPA in writing. We would greatly appreciate a follow-up opportunity to sit and discuss the results of

all our ongoing efforts at that time. Thanks John, and sorry for having to postpone today's meeting, Allan.

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