



**Public Service
of New Hampshire**

A Northeast Utilities Company

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A Northeast Utilities Company

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VIA SUBMISSION @ FOIAONLINE.GOV

Regional Freedom of Information Officer
U.S. EPA, Region 1 (OARM01-6)
5 Post Office Square, Suite 100
Boston, MA 02109-3912

Re: **Freedom of Information Act Request**

Regional FOIA Officer:

Public Service Company of New Hampshire ("PSNH") requests the following information pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, and EPA's FOIA regulations at 40 C.F.R. Part 2. As explained in greater detail below, we are seeking EPA communications related to the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ("NPDES") permit for PSNH's Merrimack Station located in Bow, New Hampshire, as specified below.

PSNH is requesting any and all EPA records as described by the following categories below, excluding any information or communications received from or sent to PSNH:

1. Communications involving (i.e., from, to, or including via carbon copy or blind copy) any one or more of the following EPA employees regarding the flue gas desulfurization ("FGD") wastewater treatment system ("WWTS") at Merrimack Station from February 2012 through present:
 - David Webster
 - Mark Stein
 - Sharon DeMeo
 - John King
 - Damien Houlihan
 - Eric Nelson
 - Ronald Jordan, EPA Headquarters ("EPA HQ")
 - Any other EPA staff involved in or consulted in regard to the FGD WWTS.
2. Records related to the International Water Conference held November 17-21, 2013, in Orlando, Florida (the "Conference"), including but not limited to a list of EPA personnel from Region 1 and EPA HQ who attended the Conference; internal communications prior to or following the Conference related to

Merrimack Station, particularly communications between Sharon DeMeo, Region 1, and Ronald Jordan, EPA HQ; any notes taken by any EPA employee from Region 1 or EPA HQ at the Conference or about the Conference (such as notes on presentations attended, discussions with vendors) related to Merrimack Station; and any other similar records;

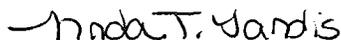
3. Records pertaining to the proposed schedule for issuing the final NPDES permit for Merrimack Station; any documents related to the prioritization of various NPDES permits; any records related to the plan or process for release of the Merrimack Station permit, in final form or revised draft form; any records from meetings on the Merrimack Station permit; internal communications on comments received by EPA from third parties on the draft Merrimack Station permit; and internal communications related to potential challenges to the permit; and
4. Work papers of David Webster, John King, Sharon DeMeo, Damien Houlihan, and Eric Nelson, or any other records contained in any files, electronic or hard copy, of these named individuals that are related to Merrimack Station's NPDES permit or the Merrimack Station NPDES permitting process, from February 2012 through present.

Please note that for purposes of this request, the term "communication" includes any and all forms thereof related to the subject matter described above, including but not limited to emails, electronic or "instant" messaging, as well as any type of paper correspondence or memorandum. For any such communication, please also provide copies of any attachments.

Please further note that FOIA requires EPA to provide "reasonably segregable" portions of documents which contain in part information which is exempt from disclosure under FOIA. See 5 U.S.C. § 552(b) (sentence immediately following exemptions). Please also provide a list of any such portions of documents or whole documents which EPA believes to be exempt from disclosure along with EPA's stated basis for withholding.

I am willing to pay the costs associated with EPA's response to this FOIA request up to \$3,500 without further authorization. Should your response efforts reach this amount, please contact me immediately to discuss further cost assurance. If you have any questions regarding this FOIA request, please feel free to contact me any time at 603-634-2700.

Sincerely,



Linda T. Landis
Senior Counsel

Cc: Rob Fowler, Esq., Balch & Bingham
Spence Taylor, Esq., Balch & Bingham
Bruce Barze, Esq., Balch & Bingham
Mark Stein, Esq., EPA Region 1
Allan Palmer, PSNH