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NEPGA Calls for New Hampshire PUC Oversight of the PSNH/Northern Pass Affiliate Relationship

Boston, MA: Today, the New England Power Generators Association (NEPGA) filed a [petition with the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission](#) (PUC) to request state oversight over Public Service of New Hampshire (PSNH) ratepayer subsidies for the proposed Northern Pass Transmission project. In its filing, NEPGA detailed inappropriate financial ties between the utility and the merchant transmission project.

Commenting on the filing NEPGA President Dan Dolan said, "There is a serious misuse of ratepayer dollars in how PSNH is supporting the Northern Pass project. NEPGA believes the PUC must act to protect ratepayers and ensure a level competitive playing field." Dolan added, "The facts are clear. PSNH is a rate-regulated distribution company, but ratepayers' resources have been used to support a private, merchant transmission project. NEPGA believes in a competitive electricity marketplace to drive new investments and innovation at the lowest cost and risk for consumers. All electricity projects should have to compete against each other to serve consumer demand as affordably as possible, without a thumb on the scale from an incumbent utility."

NEPGA's petition asks the PUC to undertake an administrative rulemaking to update rules for PSNH, or any utility, when entering into a partnership or affiliation with other ventures such as Northern Pass. The filing comes in response to the opening of a docket by the PUC to receive public comments, following a series of complaints and a preliminary investigation into the PSNH/Northern Pass affiliate relationship. The NEPGA filing is the first effort by a non-PSNH or non-PUC party to offer a legal analysis of the situation which takes into account how the commercial energy development industry operates and highlights deficiencies in the PUC oversight to-date. In addition, the filing suggests a process to resolve the regulatory concerns.

Dolan stressed, "NEPGA believes strongly that if the Northern Pass Transmission project developers want to compete in the market, then they need to do so on a level playing field, without subsidy from PSNH ratepayers."

The New England Power Generators Association (NEPGA) is the trade association representing competitive electric generating companies in New England. NEPGA's members' represent 80%, or nearly 27,000 megawatts, of all the available generating capacity in New England. NEPGA's mission is to promote sound energy policies which will further economic development, jobs, and balanced environmental policy. NEPGA believes that sustainable competitive markets are the best means to provide long-term reliable and affordable supplies of electricity for consumers.

For more information go to www.nepga.org and follow NEPGA on Twitter @NEPGA.