

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
BEFORE THE
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION**

Bangor Hydro-Electric Company)	Docket No. ER04-157-000
)	
Central Maine Power Company)	
)	
NSTAR Electric & Gas Corporation, on behalf of its affiliates:)	
Boston Edison Company)	
Commonwealth Electric Company)	
Cambridge Electric Light Company)	
Canal Electric Company)	
)	
New England Power Company)	
)	
Northeast Utilities Service Company, on behalf of its operating company affiliates:)	
The Connecticut Light and Power Company)	
Western Massachusetts Electric Company)	
Public Service Company of New Hampshire)	
Holyoke Power and Electric Company)	
Holyoke Water Power Company)	
)	
The United Illuminating Company)	
)	
Vermont Electric Power Company)	
)	
Central Vermont Public Service Corporation)	
)	
Green Mountain Power Corporation)	

**NOTICE OF INTERVENTION AND PROTEST OF
THE MAINE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

Pursuant to Rules 211 and 214 of the Rules of Practice and Procedure of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (“FERC” or “Commission”), 18 C.F.R. § 385.214, and the Commission’s Notice of Filing, the Maine Public Utilities Commission (“MPUC”) hereby submits its Notice of Intervention and Protest in the above-captioned proceeding.

I. COMMUNICATIONS

The MPUC designates the following person for service and communications with respect to this matter:

Lisa Fink
State of Maine
Public Utilities Commission
242 State Street
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II. NOTICE OF INTERVENTION

Under Maine law, the MPUC is the state commission designated by statute with jurisdiction over rates and service of electric utilities in the state. *See* 35-A M.R.S.A. § 101 *et seq.*

III. PROTEST

On November 4, 2003, the New England Transmission Owners (“Transmission Owners” or “TOs”)¹ submitted a joint filing to establish a single return on equity allowance (ROE) to be used in computing the regional and local transmission rates for all of them. The proposed ROE reflects: (i) a “baseline” ROE of 12.8%; (ii) a 50 basis point adder “for RTO participation;” and a 100 basis point adder for transmission facilities placed in service after January 1, 2004. For each Transmission Owner, the proposed ROE – even the baseline ROE alone – would represent a significant increase to the allowed transmission ROE. *See* RTO-NE ROE Filing at Attachment 4. For the reasons

¹ The participating TOs are identified in footnote 1 of the transmittal letter to the filing.

stated in the motion to intervene and protest filed this date by the New England Conference of Public Utilities Commissioners (NECPUC) and incorporated by reference herein, MPUC urges the Commission to reject the incentive adders proposed, to suspend the increased return allowance for the maximum statutory period and to set the matter for an evidentiary hearing.

IV. CONCLUSION

Wherefore, MPUC hereby submits its Notice of Intervention and adopts as its own the protest filed this date by NECPUC.

Respectfully submitted,

MAINE PUBLIC UTILITIES
COMMISSION

By: /s/ Harvey L. Reiter

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Dated: December 23, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day served a copy of the foregoing document by first class mail upon each party on the official service list compiled by the Secretary in this proceeding.

Dated at Washington, D.C., this 23rd day of December 2003.

/s/ Harvey L. Reiter

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