EXECUTIVE SUMMARY Status Report of Current Regulatory and Legal Proceedings as of December 6, 2017

The following activity, as more fully described in the attached litigation report, has occurred since the report dated November 1, 2017 was circulated. New matters/proceedings since the last Report are preceded by an asterisk '*'. Page numbers precede the matter description.

	I. Complaints/Section 206 Proceedings ▼					
* 2	Clear River Schedule 11 O&M Complaint (EL18-31)	Nov 17 Nov 20-30 Nov 29 Dec 6; 5-6	Clear River Energy Center files complaint against ISO-NE, National Grid and the TOs; comment date Dec 7 NEPOOL, NESCOE, NextEra, Dominion intervene ISO-NE moves for dismissal as a party and answers Complaint NEPOOL submits protest and comments; NRG, Calpine, CMEEC, CT AG, CT OCC, CPV Towantic, MPUC intervene			
3	NEPGA PER Adjustment Complaint (EL16-120)	Nov 16	FERC denies NEPGA's request for clarification and/or rehearing of the PER Complaint Order			
4	Base ROE Complaint IV (2016) (EL16-64)	Nov 2 Nov 15 Nov 17 Nov 20 Nov 21 Nov 28 Dec 1	Trial Judge schedules Dec 8 Pre-Hearing IT meeting EMCOS file rebuttal testimony EMCOS move to file a summary of Dr. Lon L. Peters' Nov 15 prepared rebuttal testimony Presiding Judge Glazer grants EMCOS' motion to file a summary of Dr. Lon L. Peters' Nov 15 prepared rebuttal testimony EMCOS submit updated testimony and work papers of J. Lesser Parties submit joint statement of issues Parties submit pre-hearing briefs, joint witness list, statement of positions, index of exhibits; CAPS move to compel TOs' answers to data requests Trial Judge schedules Dec 11 oral argument on CAPS' Dec 1 motion			
5	206 Proceeding: RNS/LNS Rates and Rate Protocols (EL16-19)	Nov 13 Dec 5	Settlement conf. held; 11th settlement conf. scheduled for Jan 9 Settlement Judge issues status report, recommending settlement judge procedures be continued			
	II. F	Rate, ICR, FCA	A, Cost Recovery Filings			
Annual Reconfiguration Auctions for the 2018/19 ARA3, 2019/20 ARA2; and 2020/21 ARA1; (ER18-371) comment date Dec 22						
* 7	FCA12 Qualification Informational Filing (ER18-264)	Nov 7 Nov 18-22 Nov 22	ISO-NE submits required FCA12 informational filing NEPOOL, Dominion, NRG, Eversource, NESCOE intervene Efficiency Maine Trust, CPower/Tesla protest their qualification determinations			
* 8	ICR-Related Values and HQICCs – 2021-22 Capacity Commitment Period (ER18-263)	Nov 7 Nov 18-28 Nov 28	ISO-NE files ICR-Related Values for the 2021-22 Capacity Commitment Period Calpine, Dominion, Eversource, Exelon, FirstLight, NRG intervene NEPOOL, NEPGA, NESCOE submits comments			
8	Emera MPD OATT Attachment J Revision (ER18-210)	Nov 20 Nov 22	Maine PUC intervenes Maine Customer Group protests revisions			

9	2018 NESCOE Budget (ER18-85)	Nov 2-3 Dec 6	Eversource, NRG intervene FERC accepts Budget
9	2018 ISO-NE Administrative Costs and Capital Budgets (ER18-77)	Nov 2-3 Dec 6	Eversource, NRG intervene FERC accepts 2018 ISO-NE Budgets
10	Exelon Additional Cost Recovery Compliance Filing (ER17-933)	Nov 20	Exelon submits compliance filing detailing \$97,188.90 in actual regulatory costs incurred and to be recovered; comment date Dec 11
10	TOs' Opinion 531-A Compliance Filing Undo (ER15-414)	Nov 6 Dec 4	TOs request rehearing of Oct 6 <i>Order Rejecting Filing</i> FERC issues tolling order providing it additional time to consider the TOs' request for rehearing of the <i>Order Rejecting Filing</i>

III. Market Rule and Information Policy Changes, Interpretations and Waiver Requests



10	Waiver Request: 2017-18 Winter Rel. Program Participation Notice Deadline (Braintree) (EL18-5)	Nov 27	FERC grants Braintree's request for a limited waiver allowing ISO-NE to consider Braintree's offer to participate in the Program
11	Waiver Request: DR Auditing Requirements (CPower) (ER18-185)	Nov 20	ISO-NE opposes waiver request; NEPOOL intervenes
11	Small Generator Modeling Options	Nov 2-9	Dominion, NRG, Eversource intervene

FERC accepts changes, eff. Dec 20, 2017 Change (ER18-122) Nov 22 11 NCPC Calculation Changes for Ramp Nov 2 FERC accepts changes, eff. Dec 1, 2017

Constrained Down Resources (ER17-2569) 12 Order 831 (Modified Energy Market

FERC accepts revisions, eff. Oct 1, 2019, as requested Nov 9

Offer Caps) Revisions (ER17-1565) 12 CONE & ORTP Updates (ER17-795)

Nov 6 Dec 4

NEPGA requests rehearing of the CONE/ORTP Updates Order FERC issues tolling order providing it additional time to consider NEPGA's request for rehearing of the CONE/ORTP Updates Order

IV. OATT Amendments / TOAs / Coordination Agreements



Attachment K Revisions (ER17-2514)

Nov 13

FERC accepts updates to Appendix 3 QTPS list; eff. Nov 20

V. Financial Assurance/Billing Policy Amendments



No Activity to Report

VI. Schedule 20/21/22/23 Changes



VII. 301100011 237 217 217 217 217 217 217 217 217 217 21					
*	15	Schedule 21-EM: Stored Solar J&WE LSA (ER18-387)	Dec 5	ISO-NE and CMP file Stored Solar J&WE LSA; comment date Dec 13	
*	15	Schedule 22: Clear River LGIA (ER18-349)	Nov 29 Dec 5-6	ISO-NE, NEP file unexecuted Clear River LGIA; comment date Dec 2 NEPOOL, Dominion intervene	0
*	15	Schedule 21-NEP: NEP/Granite Reliable Power RFA (ER18-346)	Nov 29	NEP files agreement; comment date Dec 20	
	15	Sched. 21-EM: Recovery of BHE/ MPS Merger-Related Costs (ER15-1434 et al.)	Nov 13 Nov 21	Emera Maine answers Oct 26 Responses Judge Dring issues status report recommending that settlement procedures (which are on-going) be continued	

VII. NEPOOL Agreement/Participants Agreement Amendments



	No Activity to Report						
	VIII. Regional Reports						
	17	Capital Projects Report - 2017 Q3 (ER18-81)	Nov 2-3 Dec 6	Eversource, NRG intervene FERC accepts 2017 Q3 Capital Projects Report			
*	17	ISO-NE FERC Form 3Q (2017/Q3) (not docketed)	Nov 22	ISO submits quarterly financial report for 2017 Q3			
			IX. Mem	bership Filings			
*	18	December 2017 Membership Filing (ER18-353)	Nov 30	New Members: Fusion Solar Center, Josco Energy MA Name Change: Summer Energy Northeast; comment date Dec 21			
	18	November 2017 Membership Filing (ER18-186)	Nov 29	FERC accepts Yellow Jacket Energy, LLC membership, BNP Paribas termination			
*	18	Lotus Danbury LMS100 Two Suspension Notice (not docketed)	Nov 2	ISO-NE files notice of suspension of Lotus Danbury LMS100 Two from New England Markets			
		X. Misc E	RO Rules, F	Filings; Reliability Standards			
	19	NOPR: Rev. Rel.: EOP-004-4, EOP- 005-3, EOP-006-3, EOP-008-2 (RM17-12)	Nov 20-27	NERC, EEI, Magnum CAES file comments			
	19	NOPR: New Reliability Standards: PRC-027-1 and PER-006-1 (RM16-22)	Nov 16	FERC issues NOPR proposing to approve Protection System Changes; comment date Jan 22, 2018			
*	20	Rules of Procedure Changes (Appendix D) (RR18-1)	Nov 21	NERC files changes to Rules of Procedure registered ballot body criteria; comment date Dec 12			
	21	Annual NERC CMEP Filing (RR15-2)	Nov 16	FERC accepts CMEP compliance filing, does not approve two proposed changes to CMEP, terminates annual reporting requirement			
		Х	I. Misc of	Regional Interest			
*	21	203 Application: Dynegy/Vistra (EC18-23)	Nov 22	Dynegy and Vistra request authorization for merger of Dynegy with and into Vistra; comment date Jan 22			
	22	203 Application: Calpine/ECP (EC17-182)	Nov 13 Nov 14 Nov 20 Nov 24	Anaheim, Azusa, Banning, Colton, Pasadena, Riverside, CA intervene Public Citizen protests application Calpine answers Public Citizen protest Public Citizen answers Calpine Nov 20 answer			
	22	203 Application: PSNH /FPL Wyman 4 (EC17-132)	Nov 6	NextEra submits notice that transaction was consummated Nov 1, 2017			
*	23	NEP/HQUS Phase I/II HVDC-TF Service Agreement (ER18-388)	Dec 5	NEP files Agreement; comment date Dec 26			
*	23	D&E Agreement Cancellation: NSTAR/Essential Power Newington (ER18-330)	Nov 27	NSTAR files cancellation notice; comment date Dec 18			

* 24	IA: CL&P/Woods Hill Solar (ER18-316)	Nov 20	Eversource files IA; comment date Dec 11
24	IA: NEP/Wheelabrator Millbury (ER17-2557)	Nov 17	FERC accepts LGIA, eff. Sep 26, 2017
25	Emera MPD OATT Changes (ER15-1429; EL16-13, ER12-1650)	Nov 20	FERC approves Offer of Settlement
* 26	FERC Enforcement Action: Barclays Bank et al. (IN08-8)	Nov 7	FERC approves settlement resolving its investigation into (and subsequent litigation to obtain payments for) Barclays' Defendants violations of the FERC's Anti-Manipulation Rules – Barclays to pay a \$70 million civil penalty and \$30 million disgorgement
	XII. Misc A	dministra	tive & Rulemaking Proceedings
28	DOE-Initiated Proposal: Grid Reliability & Resilience Pricing Rule (RM18-1)	Nov 7 Nov 20	ISO-NE and more than 100 parties file reply comments NEPOOL submits brief response to reply comments
32	Order 831-A: Price Caps in RTO/ISO Markets (RM16-5)	Nov 9	FERC issues grants in part and denies in part the requests for rehearing and clarification of <i>Order 831</i> ; <i>Order 831</i> becomes eff. Jan 16, 2018
)	(III. Natur	al Gas Proceedings
36	New England Pipeline Proceedings • Atlantic Bridge Project (CP16-9)	Oct 27	FERC authorizes Algonquin to place into service 40,000/132,705 dth/day of incremental firm transportation service
		Oct 31	Algonquin requests authorization to begin construction of Stony Point Discharge Take-up and Relay
		Nov 1	Algonquin places 40k dth into service
	• Conn. Expansion Proj. (CP14-529)	Nov 3 Nov 1	FERC authorizes construction of Stony Point facilities Project facilities, other than Conn. Loop, placed in-service
	COIIII. EXPUISION 1 10J. (CI 14-329)	Nov 10	Conn. Loop placed in service
38	Non-NE Pipeline Proceedings Millennium Pipeline Valley Lateral Project (CP16-17)	Nov 15	FERC denies requests for rehearing, stay and rescission; challenge at 2d Circuit remains pending
	XIV. State Pro	ceedings 8	& Federal Legislative Proceedings
40	Massachusetts Emissions Allowance Auctions: Stakeholder Input on Auction Design Parameters	Nov 15	Additional comments filed
	7 14 001 011 2 001 011 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1		

Nov 21

Nov 28

Dec 5

Nov 13

FERC files Respondent Brief

Parties file 9th status report

support of the FERC

NRDC/CLF request permission to file, and file, amicus curiae brief in

Court grants NRDC/CLF motion for leave to participate as amici curiae; Clerk lodges Nov 28 (corrected) amicus curiae brief

41 Demand Curve Changes

2014) (15-1212)

42 Base ROE Complaints II & III (2012 &

(17-1110**)

MEMORANDUM

TO: NEPOOL Participants Committee Member and Alternates

FROM: Patrick M. Gerity, NEPOOL Counsel

DATE: December 7, 2017

RE: Status Report on Current Regional Wholesale Power and Transmission Arrangements Pending

Before the Regulators, Legislatures, and Courts

We have summarized below the status of key ongoing proceedings relating to NEPOOL matters before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC"), state regulatory commissions, and the Federal Courts and legislatures through December 6, 2017. If you have questions, please contact us.

I. Complaints/Section 206 Proceedings

Clear River Schedule 11 O&M Complaint (EL18-31)

On November 17, 2017, Clear River Energy Center LLC ("Clear River")² filed a complaint against ISO-NE, National Grid and the TOs (together, "Respondents") requesting that the FERC direct ISO-NE to modify Tariff Schedule 11 (and all other Tariff provisions that implement the Operating and Maintenance Cost ("O&M Costs") recovery provisions of Schedule 11) under which interconnection customers are or could be required to pay O&M Costs associated with the construction of Large Generator Interconnection Agreement ("LGIA")-required network upgrades, and to direct National Grid to modify its Schedule 21-NEP to conform with the changes made to Schedule 11. Clear River claims that National Grid's Direct Assignment Facilities Charge to Clear River of all costs associated with the Network Upgrades that National Grid will build to accommodate interconnection of the Clear River Project is inconsistent with Order 2003 and the charge, as well as the provisions of the ISO-NE Tariff that authorize such a charge, are unjust and unreasonable. Respondents' answer and all interventions or protests must be filed on or before December 7, 2017.

On November 29, ISO-NE asked the FERC to dismiss ISO-NE as a party to the Clear River Complaint proceeding, explaining that the Tariff provisions at issue are among those which the Participating Transmission Owners ("PTOs"), rather than ISO-NE, have the right to establish and modify under section 205 of the Federal Power Act ("FPA"), and that, with no financial interest in the matter, ISO-NE is not a necessary party. Alternatively, ISO-NE answered the Clear River Complaint (should the FERC decline to dismiss ISO-NE from the proceeding), taking no position on either the merits of Clear River's claims or on "the propriety of any relief Clear River requests".

In addition to ISO-NE's response, NEPOOL filed comments and a protest on December 6 requesting that the FERC deny the Clear River Complaint on its merits or, to the extent the FERC grants any part of the Clear River Complaint, send consideration of any necessary Tariff changes through the NEPOOL process for

¹ Capitalized terms used but not defined in this filing are intended to have the meanings given to such terms in the Second Restated New England Power Pool Agreement (the "Second Restated NEPOOL Agreement"), the Participants Agreement, or the ISO New England Inc. ("ISO" or "ISO-NE") Transmission, Markets and Services Tariff (the "Tariff").

² Clear River is an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of Invenergy Thermal Development LLC and thereby a Related Person to Generation Sector member Invenergy Energy Management LLC (collectively, "Invenergy"). Clear River is developing a 1,080 MW natural gas generation facility to be located in Burrillville, Rhode Island (the "Clear River Project"). The Project will interconnect to transmission facilities owned by National Grid and operated by ISO-NE. To provide service, National Grid will construct certain new network facilities, upgrade others and relocate an existing 345 kV network facility (collectively, the "NGrid Network Upgrades") at an estimated cost of about \$60 million.

appropriate stakeholder input before they are filed. Doc-less interventions have thus far been filed by Calpine, CMEEC, CT AG, CT OCC, CPV Towantic, Dominion, MPUC, NESCOE, NextEra, and NRG. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Eric Runge (617-345-4735; ekrunge@daypitney.com) or Jamie Blackburn (202-218-3905; jblackburn@daypitney.com).

• NEPGA PER Adjustment Complaint (EL16-120)

On November 16, the FERC denied³ NEPGA's pending request for clarification and/or rehearing of the PER Complaint Order. 4 As previously reported, NEPGA asked for clarification that when the FERC "determines refunds [in this proceeding], it will direct the ISO to refund to capacity suppliers the difference between: (i) the PER Adjustment payments charged to capacity suppliers after the September 30, 2016 refund effective date, and (ii) the PER Adjustment payments that would have been charged to capacity suppliers if the PER Adjustment were calculated using a just and reasonable PER Strike Price." In declining to grant NEPGA's request for clarification and/or rehearing, the FERC stated that, "If in fact refunds are ordered (and we note that the Commission has not yet determined whether it will order refunds), NEPGA's understanding of the Commission's intended methodology is incorrect ... the Commission intended for ISO-NE to use the difference between the former strike price and the LMP for event hours that occurred prior to September 30, 2016, and for ISO-NE to use the new strike price only for event hours that occur after September 30, 2016 ... [t]he Commission's order is clear in that it addresses a change to the calculation of the PER strike price as set forth in section 111.13.7.2.7.1.1.1 and such change is prospective only. The order does not, nor did the Commission intend it to, provide for any change to the Monthly PER values that fall prior to the September 30, 2016 change in the methodology of calculating the strike price. FPA section 206 prevents such an outcome." Any challenges to the FERC's PER Complaint Order and PER Complaint Rehearing Order must be filed in federal court on or before January 16, 2018.

• NEPGA PER Adjustment Complaint Settlement Agreement (ER17-2153)

The PER Settlement remains pending before the FERC. As previously reported, the Settling Parties⁶ submitted, filed July 28, 2017,⁷ an Offer of Settlement and settlement materials ("PER Settlement") to resolve the issue set for hearing and settlement judge procedures by the Commission in this proceeding.⁸

Page 3

 $^{^3}$ New England Power Generators Assoc., Inc. v. ISO New England Inc., 161 FERC \P 61,193 (Nov. 16, 2017) ("PER Complaint Rehearing Order").

⁴ New England Power Generators Assoc., Inc. v. ISO New England Inc., 158 FERC ¶ 61,034 (Jan. 19, 2017) ("PER Complaint Order"), reh'g and clarif. denied, 161 FERC ¶ 61,193 (Nov. 16, 2017).

⁵ PER Complaint Rehearing Order at PP 11-12.

⁶ PER "Settling Parties" are: NEPGA, NESCOE, the Retail Energy Supply Association ("RESA"), NEPOOL, Exelon, H.Q. Energy Services (U.S.) ("HQUS"), Eversource, Dominion, Entergy, NRG, and Cogentrix. Intervenors in the proceeding not opposing the Settlement ("Non-Opposing Intervenors") are: the ISO, PSEG, Consolidated Edison Energy, Inc. ("ConEd"), Verso Corp., GenOn Energy Management LLC, National Grid, NextEra, the New Hampshire Electric Coop. ("NHEC"), and Calpine.

⁷ The Settlement was initially filed on July 26 under different eTariff codes and subsequently withdrawn in favor of the July 28 filing. The Docket Number (ER17-2153) remained the same. The withdrawal of the July 26 filing was accepted on August 31.

⁸ See New England Power Generators Assoc., Inc. v. ISO New England Inc., 158 FERC ¶ 61,034 (Jan. 19, 2017), reh'g requested ("PER Complaint Order"). The PER Complaint Order (i) granted in part NEPGA's complaint and (ii) set in part for hearing and settlement judge procedures the question of the appropriate method of calculating the PER Strike Price under Market Rule 1 Section III.13.7.2.7.1.1.1. The FERC found that "for the period at issue in NEPGA's complaint (September 30, 2016 – May 31, 2018), the PER mechanism has become unjust and unreasonable as a result of the interaction between the PER mechanism and the higher Reserve Constraint Penalty Factors." Accordingly, the FERC required the ISO to revise the method by which it calculates the PER Strike Price as set forth in Tariff section III.13.7.2.7.1.1.1. But, finding NEPGA's request that the PER Strike Price be increased by \$250 per MWh "raises issues of material fact that cannot be resolved based upon the record before us and that are more appropriately addressed in the hearing and settlement judge procedures", the FERC set the question of for hearing and settlement judge procedures under section 206 of the FPA. The FERC established a refund effective date of September 30, 2016 (the date of the complaint). In establishing a September 30, 2016 effective date, the FERC clarified that "any changes to the calculation of the PER Strike Price under ISO-NE Tariff section III.13.7.2.7.1.1.1 would be prospective only from September 30, 2016, as required by FPA section 206, and would not impact the application of any PER Adjustment occurring before September 30, 2016." On February 15, NEPGA requested clarification of the PER

Under the PER Settlement, the ISO will calculate Adjusted Hourly Strike Price as the sum of the daily Strike Price (as calculated under the existing Tariff) and a newly-defined Hourly PER Adjustment. The Hourly PER Adjustment will be equal to the average over each hour of a newly-defined Five-Minute PER Strike Price Adjustment. The Five-Minute Strike Price Adjustment⁹ will be equal to any positive difference between a five-minute Thirty Minute Operating Reserves Clearing Price or Ten-Minute Non-Spinning Reserves Clearing Price that exceeds the maximum allowable reserves clearing prices for those reserves products (i.e., the Reserve Constraint Penalty Factors) in effect before December 2014. The PER Settlement does not resolve the issues of the applicability of the Strike Price methodology to FCA9 (which will be subject to comment in response to the PER Settlement Agreement) or whether capacity suppliers will receive any refunds for PER Events that occurred in August 2016 (currently the subject of, and to be decided through, a pending request for clarification and/or rehearing as noted below). Those issues remain to be resolved by the Commission when and as appropriate. The term sheet that formed the basis for the PER Settlement was supported by the Participants Committee at the June 27 session of the Summer Meeting. All parties in EL16-120 "are deemed to have intervened in Docket No. ER17-2153-000".

In comments filed August 16, the ISO neither supported nor objected to the proposed PER strike price methodology and requested that the Commission resolve how the Average Monthly PER will be calculated on and after June 1, 2018. NEPOOL, NEPGA, NESCOE, and Eversource filed comments supporting the PER Settlement. Comments by FERC Trial Staff indicated that it did not oppose the PER Settlement. In reply comments, NESCOE asked the FERC to reject the position advocated by NEPGA that the agreed-upon Adjusted Hourly Strike Price as defined in the Settlement should extend beyond May 31, 2018). NEPGA, NRG, HQUS, Dominion, and Verso jointly asked the FERC to approve the Settlement and order the ISO to make a compliance filing, but decline to address NESCOE's request until some later date. Settlement Judge Young certified the uncontested settlement to the FERC on August 31, which remains pending before the Commission. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Joe Fagan (202-218-3901; jfagan@daypitney.com), Jamie Blackburn (202-218-3905; jblackburn@daypitney.com), or Sebastian Lombardi (860-275-0663; slombardi@daypitney.com).

Base ROE Complaint IV (2016) (EL16-64) Hearings in this matter are scheduled to begin next Monday, December 11.

As previously reported, the FERC, on September 20, 2016, established hearing and settlement judge procedures (and set a refund effective date of April 29, 2016) for the 4th ROE Complaint filed by EMCOS on April 29, 2016. The 4th ROE Complaint asked the FERC to reduce the TOs' current 10.57% return on equity ("Base ROE") to 8.93% and to determine that the upper end of the zone of reasonableness (which sets the incentives cap) is no higher than 11.24%. EMCOS identified three main considerations requiring submission of this 4th ROE Complaint: (1) the continuing decline of the market cost of equity capital, which makes TOs'

Complaint Order with respect to the PER Adjustment payments charged to NEPGA's members on capacity invoices issued after the refund effective date. Specifically, NEPGA asked for clarification that when the FERC "determines refunds, it will direct the ISO to refund to capacity suppliers the difference between: (i) the PER Adjustment payments charged to capacity suppliers after the September 30, 2016 refund effective date, and (ii) the PER Adjustment payments that would have been charged to capacity suppliers if the PER Adjustment were calculated using a just and reasonable PER Strike Price." On Mar. 3, NESCOE and RESA answered NEPGA's rehearing request. NEPGA answered those answers on Mar. 17. The FERC issued a tolling order on Mar. 16, 2017, affording it additional time to consider NEPGA's request for rehearing, which remains pending.

⁹ Five-Minute PER Strike Price Adjustment will be calculated according to the following formula: Five-Minute PER Strike Price Adjustment = MAX (Thirty Minute Operating Reserves Clearing Price - \$500/MWh, 0) + MAX (Ten Minute Non-Spinning Reserves Clearing Price - Thirty Minute Operating Reserves Clearing Price - \$850/MWh, 0).

¹⁰ Prior to Chief Judge Cintron's order, the following parties filed doc-less interventions in ER17-2153: Calpine, ConEd, Entergy, Eversource, Exelon, HQUS, NEPGA, NESCOE, NRG/GenOn, and RESA.

¹¹ Belmont Mun. Light Dept. et al. v. Central Me. Power Co. et al., 156 FERC \P 61,198 (Sep. 20, 2016) ("Base ROE Complaint IV Order").

currently authorized ROE "excessive, unjust and unreasonable, and therefore ripe for adjustment under FPA Section 206"; (2) "divergent rulings concerning the persistence of the "anomalous" capital market conditions"; and (3) "the extent to which the Commission's anomalous conditions rationale in Opinion No. 531 is intended to reflect changes in its long-standing reliance on the discounted cash flow ("DCF") methodology, and particularly the DCF midpoint, for determining ROE remains unclear." Both the TOs and EEI requested rehearing of the *Base ROE Complaint IV Order*. The FERC issued a tolling order on November 21, 2016, affording it additional time to consider the requests for rehearing, which remain pending.

Hearings. On December 21, 2016, in response to a request of the parties and supported by Settlement Judge Long, Chief Judge Cintron designated Steven A. Glazer as presiding judge for hearings in this matter, so that hearing procedures could proceed *concurrently* with settlement judge procedures (now terminated). Pursuant to a May 26, 2017 order of Chief Judge Cintron, hearings are now scheduled to be held December 11-15, 2017, with an initial decision to be issued on or before March 27, 2018.

There has been considerable activity since the last Report. Trial Judge Glazer scheduled a Pre-Hearing IT meeting for December 8 and oral argument for December 11 (just ahead of the commencement of hearings) on a December 1 motion by CAPS to compel TOs' answers to certain data requests. Submissions since the last report include EMCOS rebuttal testimony, including a late-filed summary of Dr. Peters' rebuttal testimony, EMCOS updated testimony and work papers of J. Lesser, pre-hearing briefs by CAPS, EMCOS, TOs and FERC Trial Staff (the "Parties"), and Parties' joint statement of issues, witness list, statement of positions, and index of exhibits. As noted above, hearings are scheduled to begin next Monday, December 11.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Eric Runge (617-345-4735; ekrunge@daypitney.com) or Jamie Blackburn (202-218-3905; jblackburn@daypitney.com).

• Base ROE Complaints I-IV: TOs' Motion to Dismiss or Consolidate Complaints I-IV (EL16-64; EL14-86; EL13-33; EL11-66)

The TOs' October 5, 2017 motion to dismiss of all four ROE complaints (captioned above) in light of the *Emera Maine*¹² decision remains pending. The October 5 motion alternatively requested that the FERC consolidate the four ROE complaints for decision and use expedited procedures to resolve them. The TOs stated that this motion was motivated in part by *Emera Maine*, but also by what they describe as the "enormous investment uncertainty" resulting from the various litigation proceedings. On October 20, Complainant-Aligned Parties and EMCOS submitted answers opposing TOs' requests. These motions are pending before the FERC.

206 Proceeding: RNS/LNS Rates and Rate Protocols (EL16-19)

Settlement discussions in this proceeding are on-going. As previously reported, the FERC instituted this Section 206 proceeding on December 28, 2015, finding that the ISO Tariff is unjust, unreasonable, and unduly discriminatory or preferential because the Tariff "lacks adequate transparency and challenge procedures with regard to the formula rates" for Regional Network Service ("RNS") and Local Network Service ("LNS"). The FERC also found that the RNS and LNS rates themselves "appear to be unjust, unreasonable, unduly discriminatory or preferential, or otherwise unlawful" because (i) "the formula rates appear to lack sufficient detail in order to determine how certain costs are derived and recovered in the formula rates" and "could result

¹² Emera Maine v. FERC, 854 F.3d 9 (D.C. Cir. 2017) ("Emera Maine"). Emera Maine vacated the FERC's prior orders in the Base ROE Complaint I proceeding, and remanded the case for further proceedings consistent with its order. The Court agreed with both the TOs (that the FERC did not meet the Section 206 obligation to first find the existing rate unlawful before setting the new rate) and "Customers" (that the 10.57% ROE was not based on reasoned decision-making, and was a departure from past precedent of setting the ROE at the midpoint of the zone of reasonableness).

 $^{^{13}}$ ISO New England Inc. Participating Transmission Owners Admin. Comm. et al., 153 FERC \P 61,343 (Dec. 28, 2015), reh'g denied, 154 FERC \P 61,230 (Mar. 22, 2016).

in an over-recovery of costs" due to the "the timing and synchronization of the RNS and LNS rates". Accordingly, the FERC established hearing and settlement judge procedures to develop just and reasonable formula rate protocols to be included in the ISO-NE Tariff and to examine the justness and reasonableness of the RNS and LNS rates. The FERC encouraged the parties to make every effort to settle this matter before hearing procedures are commenced. Hearings are being held in abeyance pending the outcome of settlement judge procedures underway. The FERC-established refund date is January 4, 2016.

Settlement Judge Procedures. As previously reported, John P. Dring was designated the Settlement Judge in these proceedings. Five settlement conferences were held in 2016: January 19, March 24, April 28, August 30, and November 18 (telephonically). Four settlement conferences have been held in 2017: April 5, May 9, July 7, and November 13, 2017. A tenth settlement conference has been scheduled for January 9, 2018. Judge Dring's most recent status report was issued on December 5, noting that the proceeding is taking longer than expected but that the parties are making progress toward settlement. Accordingly, he recommended that the settlement procedures be continued. The Transmission Committee is being kept apprised, as appropriate, of settlement efforts. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Eric Runge (617-345-4735; ekrunge@daypitney.com).

• Base ROE Complaints II & III (2012 & 2014) (EL13-33 and EL14-86) (consolidated)

Judge Sterner's findings and Initial Decision, and pleadings in response thereto, remain pending before the FERC. As previously reported, the FERC, in response to second (EL13-33)¹⁸ and third (EL14-86)¹⁹ complaints regarding the TOs' 11.14% Base ROE, issued orders establishing trial-type, evidentiary hearings and separate refund periods. The first, in EL13-33, was issued on June 19, 2014 and established a 15-month refund period of December 27, 2012 through March 27, 2014;²⁰ the second, in EL14-86, was issued on November 24, 2014, established a 15-month refund period beginning July 31, 2014,²¹ and, because of "common issues of law and fact", consolidated the two proceedings for purposes of hearing and decision, with the FERC finding it "appropriate for the parties to litigate a separate ROE for each refund period."²² The TOs requested rehearing of both orders. On May 14, 2015, the FERC denied rehearing of both orders.²³ On

¹⁴ *Id.* at P 8.

¹⁵ *Id.* at P 11.

¹⁶ Id

¹⁷ The notice of this proceeding was published in the *Fed. Reg.* on Jan. 4, 2016 (Vol. 81, No. 1) p. 89.

The 2012 Base ROE Complaint, filed by Environment Northeast (now known as Acadia Center), Greater Boston Real Estate Board, National Consumer Law Center, and the NEPOOL Industrial Customer Coalition ("NICC", and together, the "2012 Complainants"), challenged the TOs' 11.14% return on equity, and seeks a reduction of the Base ROE to 8.7%.

¹⁹ The 2014 Base ROE Complaint, filed July 31, 2014 by the Massachusetts Attorney General ("MA AG"), together with a group of State Advocates, Publicly Owned Entities, End Users, and End User Organizations (together, the "2014 ROE Complainants"), seeks to reduce the current 11.14% Base ROE to 8.84% (but in any case no more than 9.44%) and to cap the Combined ROE for all rate base components at 12.54%. 2014 ROE Complainants state that they submitted this Complaint seeking refund protection against payments based on a pre-incentives Base ROE of 11.14%, and a reduction in the Combined ROE, relief as yet not afforded through the prior ROE proceedings.

Environment Northeast, et al. v. Bangor Hydro-Elec. Co., et al., 147 FERC ¶ 61,235 (June 19, 2014) ("2012 Base ROE Initial Order"), reh'g denied, 151 FERC ¶ 61,125 (May 14, 2015).

²¹ Mass. Att'y Gen. et al. -v- Bangor Hydro et al., 149 FERC ¶ 61,156 (Nov. 24, 2014), reh'g denied, 151 FERC ¶ 61,125 (May 14, 2015).

²² *Id.* at P 27 (for the refund period covered by EL13-33 (i.e., Dec. 27, 2012 through Mar. 27, 2014), the ROE for that particular 15-month refund period should be based on the last six months of that period; the refund period in EL14-86 and for the prospective period, on the most recent financial data in the record).

²³ Environment Northeast, et al. v. Bangor Hydro-Elec. Co., et al. and Mass. Att'y Gen. et al. -v- Bangor Hydro et al., 151 FERC ¶ 61,125 (May 14, 2015).

July 13, 2015, the TOs appealed those orders to the DC Circuit Court of Appeals (see Section XIV below), and that appeal remains pending.

Hearings and Trial Judge Initial Decision. Initial hearings on these matters were completed on July 2, 2015. In mid-December 2015, Judge Sterner reopened the record for the limited purpose of having the DCF calculations re-run in accordance with the FERC's preferred approach and re-submitted. A limited hearing on that supplemental information was held on February 1, 2016. On March 22, 2016, Judge Sterner issued his 939-paragraph, 371-page Initial Decision, which lowered the base ROEs for the EL13-33 and EL14-86 refund periods from 11.14% to 9.59% and 10.90%, respectively. The Decision also lowered the ROE ceilings. Judge Sterner's decision, if upheld by the FERC, would result in refunds totaling as much as \$100 million, largely concentrated in the EL13-33 refund period. Briefs on exceptions were filed by the TOs, Complainant-Aligned Parties ("CAPs"), EMCOS, and FERC Trial Staff on April 21, 2016; briefs opposing exceptions, on May 20, 2016. Judge Sterner's findings and Initial Decision, and pleadings in response thereto, remain pending, and will be subject to challenge, before the FERC. The 2012/14 ROE Initial Decision and its findings can be approved or rejected, in whole or in part.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Joe Fagan (202-218-3901; jfagan@daypitney.com) or Eric Runge (617-345-4735; ekrunge@daypitney.com).

II. Rate, ICR, FCA, Cost Recovery Filings

ICR-Related Values and HQICCs – Annual Reconfiguration Auctions (ER18-371)

On December 1, 2017, ISO-NE and NEPOOL jointly filed materials that identify the Installed Capacity Requirement ("ICR"), Local Sourcing Requirements ("LSR"), Maximum Capacity Limits ("MCL"), Hydro Quebec Interconnection Capability Credits ("HQICCs"), and capacity requirement values for the System-Wide and Marginal Reliability Impact Capacity Demand Curves (collectively, the "ICR-Related Values") for the third annual reconfiguration auction ("ARA") for the 2018-19 Capability Year to be held March 1, 2018, the second ARA for the 2019-20 Capability Year to be held August 1, 2018, and the first ARA for the 2020-21 Capability Year to be held June 1, 2018. The ICR-Related Values were supported by the Participants Committee at its November 3, 2017 meeting. A January 30, 2018 effective date was requested. Comments on this filing are due December 22, 2017. Thus far, NRG has filed a doc-less intervention. If you have any questions concerning these matters, please contact Eric Runge (617-345-4735; ekrunge@daypitney.com).

• FCA12 Qualification Informational Filing (ER18-264)

On November 7, 2017, ISO-NE submitted its informational filing (the "FCA12 Informational Filing") for qualification in FCA12. ISO-NE is required under Market Rule Section 13.8.1 to submit an informational filing with the FERC containing the determinations made by ISO-NE for the upcoming Forward Capacity Auction ("FCA") at least 90 days prior to each auction. FCA12 is scheduled to begin February 5, 2018. The Informational Filing contained ISO-NE's determinations that the same three Capacity Zones that were modelled for FCA11 will be modelled for FCA12 -- Southeastern New England ("SENE"), Northern New England ("NNE") and Rest of Pool. SENE will again be modeled as import-constrained; NNE will be modeled as export-constrained. The Informational Filing reported that there will be 35,007 MW of existing capacity in FCA12 competing with 5,605 MW of new capacity under a Net ICR of 33,725 MW (ICR minus HQICCs). The ISO reported also that there were a total of 2,309 MW of Static, Export, and Administrative Export De-list bids. A summary of the De-list bids accepted and those rejected for reliability purposes was included in a privileged Attachment E.

²⁴ Environment Northeast, et al. v. Bangor Hydro-Elec. Co., et al. and Mass. Att'y Gen. et al. -v- Bangor Hydro et al., 154 FERC ¶ 63,024 (Mar. 22, 2016) ("2012/14 ROE Initial Decision").

Comments on the FCA12 Informational Filing were due November 22, 2017. There were two protests filed, one by Efficiency Maine Trust and the other jointly by Enerwise Global Technologies, Inc., d/b/a CPower and Tesla, Inc. (together, "CPower"). Efficiency Maine seeks modification of the determinations made for three of its energy efficiency ("EE") resources that it believes were unjustly decreased. Efficiency Maine also requests that FERC direct ISO-NE to continue to work cooperatively with Efficiency Maine to address the methodology issue that gave rise to the dispute and to correct that methodology in time for FCA13 so that it otherwise accounts for EE resource not accounted for in the FCA12 filing. For their part, CPower challenges ISO-NE's denial of CPower's Renewable Technology Resources ("RTR") status request for certain of its already qualified new On-Peak Demand Resources utilizing renewable technologies (i.e., solar and fuel cells/solar projects), including Tesla's renewable distributed resources. CPower asserts that ISO-NE has inconsistently interpreted Tariff Section III.13.1.1.1.7 to require a new On-Peak Demand Resource to demonstrate both that it currently qualifies under a state renewable or alternative energy portfolio standard ("RPS") and is currently receiving an out-of-market revenue source supported by such a program or a similar mechanism. CPower asks the FERC to direct ISO-NE to review RTR status for the New On-Peak Demand Resources consistent with the reality that new renewable resources are eligible to receive an out-of-market revenue source supported by an RPS program and, as a New Resource, will have a future in-service date given the anticipated Capacity Delivery Period. Doc-less interventions were filed by NEPOOL, Dominion, Eversource, NRG, and NESCOE. This matter is pending before the FERC. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Sebastian Lombardi (860-275-0663; slombardi@daypitney.com).

• ICR-Related Values and HQICCs – 2021-22 Capacity Commitment Period (ER18-263)

Also on November 7, 2017, ISO-NE filed ICR, LSR for SENE, MCL for NNE, HQICCs, and Marginal Reliability Impact ("MRI") Demand Curves (collectively, the "2021-22 ICR-Related Values") for the 2021-22 Capacity Commitment Year. The values will be used in FCA12 to be held in February 2018. With a 2021-22 ICR of 34,683 MW (reflecting tie benefits of 2,020 MW) and HQICCs of 958 MW/mo., the net amount of capacity to be purchased in FCA12 to meet the ICR will be 33,725 MW. The LSR for the SENE Capacity Zone is 10,018. The Participants Committee supported the 2021-22 ICR-Related Values at its October 13, 2017 meeting.

Comments on this filing were due November 28. Comments were filed NEPOOL, NEPGA, and NESCOE. NEPOOL's comments explained NEPOOL's processes and deliberations that preceded the November 7 filing and NEPOOL's support of the 2021-22 ICR-Related Values. NEPGA, while not contesting the November 7 filing, highlighted its concerns that ISO-NE's methodology for calculating ICR may overestimate the contribution of behind-the-meter photovoltaic ("BTM PV") resources to ISO-NE's resource adequacy needs and identified ISO-NE's commitment to work through the Participant Processes to address the concerns raised by NEPGA prior to FCA13 (and reserving NEPGA's right to later protest if corrections are not made). NESCOE supported the 2021-22 ICR-Related Values, agreeing that ISO-NE's incremental change to the PV Forecast was sound and necessary and, to the extent the FERC views as appropriate any additional guidance with respect to the development of the ICR, suggested that ISO-NE be encouraged "to work on further refinements to the load forecast to ensure that, as DG technologies are deployed in greater numbers and new data and modeling software become available, contributions from all DG resources are reflected in the ICR." Doc-less interventions were filed by Calpine, Dominion, Eversource, Exelon, FirstLight, and NRG. This matter is pending before the FERC. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Eric Runge (617-345-4735; ekrunge@daypitney.com).

• Emera MPD OATT Attachment J Revision (ER18-210)

On November 1, Emera filed changes to Attachment J of the MPD OATT to permit adjustments to formula rate inputs (historical load, revenue, sales data) to reflect "known and measurable" anticipated changes, subject to a true-up. Emera stated that, absent an ability to adjust its formula rate calculations to account for material losses of load, like that of Houlton Water Company expected to occur early next year, Emera Maine will suffer a significant under-recovery in its transmission revenue requirement. Comments on this filing were due on or before November 22. A protest was filed by the Maine Customer Group

("MCG").²⁵ MCG identified a number of reasons why they asserted that the changes should be rejected, but their principal objection was the fact that "Emera already has a true-up mechanism in place under the MPD OATT to accommodate loss of Houlton load". This matter is pending before the FERC. If there are any questions on this matter, please contact Pat Gerity (860-275-0533; pmgerity@daypitney.com).

• 2018 NESCOE Budget (ER18-85)

On December 6, the FERC accepted ISO-NE's October 17 filing of materials supporting the budget for and funding of NESCOE's 2018 operations. NESCOE's 2018 Operating Expense Budget is \$2,282,317. The amount to be recovered reflects true-ups from 2016 overcollections of \$752,672. The NESCOE budget will result in a charge of \$0.00648 per kilowatt of Monthly Network Load. Unless the December 6 order is challenged, this proceeding will be concluded. If there are any questions on this matter, please contact Pat Gerity (860-275-0533; pmgerity@daypitney.com).

2018 ISO-NE Administrative Costs and Capital Budgets (ER18-77)

The FERC also accepted on December 6 ISO-NE's October 16 filing for recovery of its 2018 administrative costs (the "2018 Revenue Requirement") and submission of its capital budget and supporting materials for calendar year 2018 ("2018 Capital Budget", and together with the 2018 Revenue Requirement, the "2018 ISO Budgets"). The 2018 ISO Budgets were filed together pursuant to the Settlement Agreement entered into to resolve challenges to the 2013 ISO Budgets. In the October 16 filing, the ISO reported that the 2018 Revenue Requirement, after true-up for 2016, is \$195.5 million. Of that total, the ISO's administrative costs (i.e., the 2018 Core Operating Budget) comprise \$164.2 million; depreciation and amortization of regulatory assets, \$31 million; and 2016 true-up, that increases the 2018 Revenue Requirement by \$400,000 as a result of a 2016 undercollection.

The ISO further reported that the 2018 Capital Budget, like the 2017 Capital Budget, is \$28 million and is comprised of the following (with 2018 projected costs and target completion dates, if available, in parentheses):

► Non-Project Capital Expenditures	(\$4 million) .	2018 Issue Resolution Phase I (Jun 2018)	(\$800,000)
CASPR (Dec 2018)	(\$3 million) .	2018 Issue Resolution Phase II (Dec 2018)	(\$700,000)
► Other Emerging Work	(\$2.2 million) ▶	FCM PFP (Jun 2018)	(\$600,000)
Price Responsive Demand (Q2 2018)	(\$2.1 million) .	Enterprise Application Integration (Sep 2018)	(\$600,000)
FCA13 (Jun 2019)	(\$2 million) .	Capitalized Interest	(\$500,000)
 Storage Device Alternatives (Dec 2018) 		FERC Form 1, 3-Q, 714 (Dec 2018)	(\$500,000)
 nGem Software Development (Jun 2019) 	(\$1.8 million) ,	Balance of Planning Period ("BoPP") FA Project (Dec 2018)	(\$400,000)
 Operational Load Forecast: PV Integration (Dec 2018) 	(\$1 million) ,	IMM Data Analysis Phase I (Apr 2018)	(\$400,000)
 Energy Manag. Platform 3.2 Upgrade and Customs Reduction (Dec 2018) 	(\$1 million) .	FCM Improvements (Aug 2017)	(\$300,000)
► Identity and Access Management	(\$800,000) •	Customer Contact Center Solution	(\$200,000)

MCG consists of consists of: Maine's Office of the Public Advocate ("MOPA"), Houlton Water Company ("Houlton"), Van Buren Light and Power District ("Van Buren"), and Eastern Maine Electric Cooperative, Inc. ("EMEC").

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(Sep 2018)

(Feb 2018)

 CIMNET Simultaneous Feasibility Test w/ Data Transfer Enhancements (Dec 2018) (\$200,000)

Unless the December 6 order is challenged, this proceeding will be concluded. If there are any questions on this matter, please contact Paul Belval (860-275-0381; pnbelval@daypitney.com).

• Exelon Additional Cost Recovery Compliance Filing (ER17-933)

As previously reported, the FERC granted Exelon Generation Company's ("Exelon's") request for additional fuel cost recovery for all mitigated days from October through November 2016, including the October 1, 3, and 4, 2016, operating days, in an amount totaling \$1,554,854, as calculated by the IMM (slightly more than identified in the initial filing, ²⁶ <u>plus</u> reasonable regulatory costs incurred in connection with the filing (subject to an Exelon compliance filing detailing the actual regulatory costs).²⁷ On November 20, Exelon submitted that compliance filing, detailing \$97,188.90 in actual regulatory costs incurred and to be recovered in connection with its request for additional fuel cost recovery for Mystic Units 8 & 9. Comments on the compliance filing are due on or before December 11, 2017. If you have any questions concerning this mater, please contact Pat Gerity (860-275-0533; <u>pmgerity@daypitney.com</u>).

• TOs' Opinion 531-A Compliance Filing Undo (ER15-414)

On October 6, 2017, the FERC rejected the TOs' June 5, 2017 filing in this proceeding, ²⁸ which was designed to reinstate TOs' transmission rates to those in place prior to the FERC's orders later vacated by the DC Circuit's *Emera Maine*²⁹ decision. The FERC required the TOs to continue collecting their ROEs currently on file, subject to a future FERC order. ³⁰ The FERC explained that it will "order such refunds or surcharges as necessary to replace the rates set in the now-vacated order with the rates that the Commission ultimately determines to be just and reasonable in its order on remand" so as to "put the parties in the position that they would have been in but for [its] error." For the time being, so as not to "significantly complicate the process of putting into effect whatever ROEs the Commission establishes on remand" or create "unnecessary and detrimental variability in rates," the FERC has temporarily left in place the ROEs set in *Opinion 531-A*, pending an order on remand.³¹ On November 6, the TOs requested rehearing of the *Order Rejecting Filing*. On December 4, the FERC issued a tolling order providing it additional time to consider the TOs' request for rehearing of the *Order Rejecting Filing*, which remains pending. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Joe Fagan (202-218-3901; ifagan@daypitney.com) or Eric Runge (617-345-4735; ekrunge@daypitney.com).

III. Market Rule and Information Policy Changes, Interpretations and Waiver Requests

• Waiver Request: 2017/18 Winter Reliability Program Participation Notice Deadline (Braintree) (EL18-5)
On November 27, the FERC granted Braintree's request for a limited waiver of the Notice Deadline for
Participation in the 2017-18 Winter Reliability Program.³² The Tariff deadline (set forth in Tariff Section III.K.1(e))
was Sunday, October 1. Braintree submitted its notice before the start of the Business Day on Monday, October

²⁶ Exelon Generation Co., LLC, 160 FERC ¶ 61,076 (Sep. 20, 2017) ("Exelon Cost Recovery Order").

²⁷ *Id.* at P 30.

²⁸ ISO New England Inc. et al., 161 FERC ¶ 61,031 (Oct. 6, 2017) ("Order Rejecting Filing"), reh'g requested.

²⁹ Emera Maine v. FERC, 854 F.3d 9 (D.C. Cir. 2017) ("Emera Maine").

³⁰ Order Rejecting Filing at P 1.

³¹ *Id.* at P 36.

³² Braintree Electric Light Department, 161 FERC ¶ 61,224 (Nov. 27, 2017) ("Braintree Waiver Order").

2 (under the mistaken belief that the deadline would have been extended to the next Business Day given that the October 1 deadline fell on a weekend day), but its notice was rejected because the deadline had passed. No protests were filed in response to Braintree's waiver request. In granting the waiver, the FERC found that its conditions for granting waiver of tariff provisions were satisfied.³³ In light of the waiver, ISO-NE is allowed to consider Braintree's offer to participate in, but does not guarantee Braintree's acceptance into, the 2017-18 winter reliability program. If you have any questions concerning this mater, please contact Pat Gerity (860-275-0533; pmgerity@daypitney.com).

Waiver Request: DR Auditing Requirements (CPower) (ER18-185)

On October 30, 2017, Enerwise Global Technologies Inc. d/b/a CPower Corp. ("CPower") requested a one-time waiver of Tariff Sections III.13.6.1.5.4.1(c) and III.13.6.1.5.4.5 to allow the ISO to use July 26 Real-Time Demand Response ("RTDR") resource audit results as CPower's July 2017 Demand Reduction Value, rather than Jul 19 results which, because of a "communications software anomaly", produced "zero" reduction performance results. CPower explained that the communication software anomaly can be traced to an earlier July 12 outage at CPower's leased data center, following which CPower's Remote Terminal Unit ("RTU") communications service was not fully and properly restored, preventing a July 19, 2017 dispatch signal sent as part of an audit to not be received, ultimately producing "zero" reduction performance. Following full restoration of the RTU service, a subsequent audit was requested and performed on July 26. The requested waiver would permit the July 26 Audit results to replace the zero July 19 Audit results as the Demand Reduction Value (and mitigate the financial impacts of the July 19 results). Comments on CPower's waiver request were due on or before November 20. ISO-NE submitted comments opposing the waiver request (suggesting the request is not limited in scope, there is no concrete problem to be remedied and the likelihood that the waiver would result in unfavorable treatment to similarly-situated participants). NEPOOL submitted a doc-less intervention. This matter is pending before the FERC. If you have any questions concerning this proceeding, please contact Pat Gerity (860-275-0533; pmgerity@daypitney.com).

Small Generator Modeling Options Change (ER18-122)

On November 22, the FERC accepted a change to provide an exception to the electronic dispatchability requirements for small generators that are currently modeled in the ISO's network model but are not capable of electronic dispatch (the "Small Generator Modeling Options Change"). The change was accepted effective as of December 20, 2017, as requested. Unless the November 22 order is challenged, this proceeding will be concluded. If you have any questions concerning this proceeding, please contact Sebastian Lombardi (860-275-0663; slowbardi@daypitney.com).

NCPC Calculation Changes for Ramp Constrained Down Resources (ER17-2569)

On November 2, the FERC accepted changes to the cost-related eligible quantity NCPC calculation provisions of the Tariff ("NCPC Calculation Changes"). The NCPC Calculation Changes were designed to avoid providing financial incentives for resources to deviate from dispatch instructions. The NCPC Calculation Changes were accepted effective as of December 1, 2017, as requested. The November 2 order was not is challenged, is final and unappealable, and this proceeding is concluded. If you have any questions concerning this proceeding, please contact Sebastian Lombardi (860-275-0663; slowbardi@daypitney.com).

Waiver Request: Dispatchable Resources RTU Requirement (McCallum Enterprises) (ER17-1615)

The May 9 request of McCallum Enterprises, owner of the 7 MW Derby Hydroelectric Project in Shelton and Derby, Connecticut, for a waiver of the portion of Market Rule Section 1.11.3 that requires McCallum to install a remote terminal unit ("RTU") and the necessary circuitry to make the Derby Project electronically dispatchable ("Waiver Request"), remains pending. McCallum asserts that, based on the specific facts related to the Derby Project, that it is both unreasonable and unnecessary for it to be required to incur the expenses associated with an RTU and 24x7x365 staff monitoring. McCallum asks that it be allowed to continue to utilize a

³³ Braintree Waiver Order at P 12.

telephone-based dispatch system. On May 31, the ISO opposed the Waiver Request. In opposing the request, the ISO asserted that McCallum has at least two other available options to meet the Resource Dispatchability Requirements, the Waiver Request is contrary to both the price formation and reliability objectives of the Resource Dispatchability Rules, would provide an unjustified preference over similarly situated resources, and would not be consistent with OP-14 requirements that a Designated Entity be available 24x7x365 to receive dispatch instructions. CL&P, which is the Lead Market Participant for the Project, intervened and asked that it "not be held liable for compliance with the market rule should the waiver request be declined." In a June 12 answer, the ISO opposed CL&P's request, noting that, "as the Lead Market Participant for the Derby Dam facility, and under the terms of the Market Participant Service Agreement executed by it, CL&P is responsible for compliance with all ISO-NE Tariff requirements applicable to the Derby Dam facility—including compliance with the new Resource Dispatchability rules." McCallum answered the ISO's protest on June 9, re-iterating its points made in the initial May 9 request, and the ISO's answer to CL&P's motion on June 22.

On September 7, the ISO withdrew its opposition to the McCallum Waiver Request. The ISO stated that, based on McCallum statements in its June 9 answer (which indicated that McCallum's generator does not have control over its output because its operation is wholly subject to the operation of an upstream dam facility), and after further investigation, the ISO has subsequently determined that the Derby Dam facility is improperly registered as a non-intermittent generator, and that it should instead be registered as an intermittent generator. If properly registered as an intermittent generator, the Derby Dam Facility would not in fact be subject to the Resource Dispatchability rules. The ISO added that it is undertaking efforts to require the resource to re-register as an intermittent generator, and to evaluate whether it should be subject to other dispatch rules when so registered. On October 11, McCallum requested the FERC delay action on its waiver request for 90 days so that it might have time to "provide FERC with relevant information required for the Commission's consideration regarding McCallum's request." As noted, McCallum's Waiver Request remains pending before the FERC. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Pat Gerity (860-275-0533; pmgerity@daypitney.com).

Order 831 (Modified Energy Market Offer Caps) Revisions (ER17-1565)

On November 9, the FERC accepted Tariff changes filed in response to the requirements of *Order 831* ("*Order 831* Revisions"). As previously reported, the *Order 831* Revisions cap incremental energy offers at the higher of \$1,000/MWh or a resource's verified cost-based incremental energy offer (with a hard cap of \$2,000/MWh on incremental energy offers used in pricing calculations), provide for make whole payments to recover costs that cannot be verified until after the offer clears and the resource is dispatched, and apply offer cap requirements on a resource-neutral basis. In addition, the *Order 831* Revisions include a number of ancillary changes required in order for the offer capping rules to function seamlessly within the market or that are needed because of their relationship to the offer capping rules. The *Order 831 Revisions* were accepted effective as of October 1, 2019, as requested (which the ISO stated accounts for the time required to design, develop, implement and test the software and process changes required to implement the *Order 831* Revisions and the need to complete other high-priority projects ahead of the development of *Order 831* Revisionimplementing software changes). Unless the November 9 order is challenged, this proceeding will be concluded. If you have any questions concerning this proceeding, please contact Sebastian Lombardi (860-275-0663; slombardi@daypitney.com).

• CONE & ORTP Updates (ER17-795)

Rehearing has been requested and is pending of the FERC's October 6 order accepting updated FCM Cost of New Entry ("CONE"), Net CONE and Offer Review Trigger Price ("ORTP") values filed by the ISO in January.³⁴ In accepting the changes, the FERC disagreed with the challenges to ISO-NE's choice of reference technology (gas-fired simple cycle combustion-turbine) and on-shore wind capacity factor (32%). The

³⁴ ISO New England Inc., 161 FERC \P 61, 035 (Oct. 6, 2017)("CONE/ORTP Updates Order"), reh'g requested.

changes were accepted effective as of March 15, 2017, as requested. On November 6, NEPGA requested rehearing of the *CONE/ORTP Updates Order*. On December 4, the FERC issued a tolling order providing it additional time to consider NEPGA's request for rehearing of the *CONE/ORTP Updates Order*, which remains pending. If you have any questions concerning this proceeding, please contact Sebastian Lombardi (860-275-0663; slombardi@daypitney.com).

• FCM Resource Retirement Reforms (ER16-551)

On October 30, the FERC denied³⁵ NEGPA, NextEra and Exelon's ("Petitioners") request for rehearing and clarification of the Resource Retirement Reforms Order. 36 As previously reported, the Retirement Reforms Order conditionally accepted, effective March 1, 2016, changes to the FCM rules for resource retirements proposed by the ISO and its Internal Market Monitor ("IMM") (the "ISO/IMM Proposal"). The FERC conditioned its acceptance of the ISO/IMM Proposal on the filing of Tariff revisions "establishing a materiality threshold for determining whether or not a particular proxy de-list bid will replace a Retirement Bid in an FCA,"37 which were filed with and later accepted by the FERC.³⁸ Petitioners jointly requested rehearing of the *Resource Retirement* Reforms Order. In denying rehearing, the FERC explained, as it had in the Resource Retirement Reforms Order, that the "tariff changes add steps to the bid review process but do not fundamentally alter the process in a manner that infringes on Petitioners' rights to file rates under section 205 of the FPA."³⁹ The FERC rejected Petitioners' "implicit contention that [the ISO] does not provide a jurisdictional service and that the FCA is the suppliers', instead of [the ISO's], rate."40 The FERC disagreed that its Resource Retirement Reforms Order described the IMM as possessing "unfettered license to review all bids" nor that the Tariff changes oblige the FERC to accept as just and reasonable an IMM-mitigated bid in lieu of a more accurate supplier-initiated bid. 41 The FERC disagreed that the two-run mechanism "unduly discriminates against suppliers who clear in the first and second round runs of the Forward Capacity Auction but are paid only the first round's clearing price", finding the mechanism "necessary to ensure that non-retiring suppliers themselves are not unduly discriminated against due to a retiring supplier's exercise of market power."42 In addition, the FERC explained that it was persuaded of the need and reasonableness of addressing possible price distortion despite the risk of lower capacity prices resulting from possible over-mitigation.⁴³ Unless the Resource Retirement Reforms Rehearing Order is challenged on appeal in Federal Court, with any such challenge due on or before December 29, 2017, this matter will be concluded. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Sebastian Lombardi (860-275-0663; slombardi@daypitney.com).

 $^{^{35}}$ ISO New England Inc., 161 FERC ¶ 61,115 (Oct. 30, 2017), reh'g and clarif. denied ("Resource Retirement Reforms Rehearing Order").

³⁶ ISO New England Inc., 155 FERC ¶ 61,029 (Apr. 12, 2016) ("Resource Retirement Reforms Order"), reh'g and clarif. denied, 161 FERC ¶ 61,115 (Oct. 30, 2017). As previously reported, the ISO/IMM Proposal requires (i) that capacity suppliers with existing resources to submit a price for the retirement of a resource (to replace the existing Non-Price Retirement Request process), (ii) the use of a Proxy De-List Bid, and (iii) notice of the potential retirement and proposed retirement price to be submitted prior to the commencement of an FCA's qualification process for new resources. The ISO/IMM Proposal was considered but not supported by the Participants Committee at its Dec. 4, 2015 meeting.

³⁷ *Id.* at P 62.

³⁸ ISO New England Inc., 15 FERC ¶ 61,067 (July 27, 2016) ("Resource Retirement Reforms Compliance Order").

³⁹ Resource Retirement Reforms Rehearing Order at P 15.

⁴⁰ *Id.* at P 17.

⁴¹ *Id.* at P 18.

⁴² *Id.* at P 22.

⁴³ *Id.* at P 25.

• 2013/14 Winter Reliability Program Remand Proceeding (ER13-2266)

Still pending before the FERC is the ISO's compliance filing in response to the FERC's August 8, 2016 remand order. 44 In the 2013/14 Winter Reliability Program Remand Order, the FERC directed the ISO to request from Program participants the basis for their bids, including the process used to formulate the bids, and to file with the FERC a compilation of that information, an IMM analysis of that information, and the ISO's recommendation as to the reasonableness of the bids, so that the FERC can further consider the question of whether the Bid Results were just and reasonable.⁴⁵ The ISO submitted its compliance filing on January 23, 2017, reporting the IMM's conclusion that "the auction was not structurally competitive and a 'small proportion' of the total cost of the program may be the result of the exercise of market power" but that the "vast majority of supply was offered at prices that appear reasonable and that, for a number of reasons, it is difficult to assess the impact of market power on cost." Based on the IMM and additional analysis, the ISO recommended that "there is insufficient demonstration of market power to warrant modification of program." In February 13 comments, both TransCanada and the MA AG protested the ISO's conclusion and recommendation that modification of the program was unwarranted. TransCanada requested that FERC establish a settlement proceeding where market participants could "exchange confidential information to determine what the rates should be" and refunds and "such other relief as may be warranted" provided. On February 28, the ISO answered the TransCanada and MA AG protests. On March 10, TransCanada answered the ISO's February 28 answer. This matter is again pending before the FERC. If you have any questions concerning these matters, please contact Sebastian Lombardi (860-275-0663; slombardi@daypitney.com).

IV. OATT Amendments / TOAs / Coordination Agreements

Attachment K Revisions (Updates to Appendix 3 List of QTPS) (ER17-2514)

On November 13, the FERC accepted revisions to Appendix 3 to Attachment K that update the list of Qualified Transmission Project Sponsors ("QTPS") to add: Belmont, Holyoke, CTMEEC, Grid America Holdings, Hudson, Middleborough, Norwood, and Taunton. The changes were accepted effective as of November 20, 2017, as requested. Unless the November 13 order is challenged, this proceeding will be concluded. If you have any questions concerning this proceeding, please contact Eric Runge (617-345-4735; ekrunge@daypitney.com).

Clustering Revisions (ER17-2421)

On October 31, the FERC accepted, without change or condition, the "Clustering Revisions" (changes to the ISO Tariff to incorporate a cluster-based methodology for considering Interconnection Requests and allocating interconnection upgrade costs when a specified set of conditions are present in the interconnection queue). The Clustering Revisions were accepted effective as of November 1, 2017, as requested. The Clustering Revisions Order was not challenged, is final and unappealable and this proceeding is concluded. If you have any questions concerning this proceeding, please contact Eric Runge (617-345-4735; ekrunge@daypitney.com).

V. Financial Assurance/Billing Policy Amendments

No Activity to Report

⁴⁴ ISO New England Inc., 156 FERC ¶ 61,097 (Aug. 8, 2016) ("2013/14 Winter Reliability Program Remand Order"). As previously reported, the DC Circuit remanded the FERC's decision in ER13-2266, agreeing with TransCanada that the record upon which the FERC relied is devoid of any evidence regarding how much of the 2013/14 Winter Reliability Program cost was attributable to profit and risk mark-up (without which the FERC could not properly assess whether the Program's rates were just and reasonable), and directing the FERC to either offer a reasoned justification for the order in ER13-2266 or revise its disposition to ensure that the Program rates are just and reasonable. TransCanada Power Mktg. Ltd. v. FERC, 2015 U.S. App. LEXIS 22304 (D.C. Cir. 2015).

⁴⁵ 2013/14 Winter Reliability Program Remand Order at P 17.

 $^{^{46}}$ ISO New England Inc., 161 FERC \P 61,123 (Oct. 31, 2017) ("Clustering Revisions Order").

VI. Schedule 20/21/22/23 Changes

Schedule 21-EM: Stored Solar J&WE LSA (ER18-387)

On December 5, Emera Maine and ISO-NE filed a Local Service Agreement ("LSA") by and among Emera Maine, Stored Solar J&WE, and ISO-NE for Local Non-Firm Point-to-Point Transmission Service under Schedule 21-EM of the ISO-NE OATT (the "Stored Solar LSA"). The LSA extends the same discounted service rate to Stored Solar that was offered to its predecessors, Indeck Maine and Covanta Maine. A January 1, 2016 effective date (the date Stored Solar acquired the Jonesboro facility) was requested. Comments on the LSA are due on or before December 26, 2017. If there are questions on this matter, please contact Pat Gerity (860-275-0533; pmgerity@daypitney.com).

Schedule 22: Clear River LGIA (ER18-349)

On November 29, ISO-NE and NEP filed an unexecuted Large Generator Interconnection Agreement ("LGIA") by and among ISO-NE, NEP and Clear River to govern the interconnection of Clear River's proposed new Large Generating Facility to be located in Burrillville, Rhode Island (the "Clear River Project"). ISO-NE reports that the Clear River LGIA is being filed unexecuted because Clear River disagrees with various aspects of the Clear River LGIA, including Clear River's challenges regarding cost responsibility for upgrades and the post-FCA restudy. (See also Clear River Schedule 11 O&M Complaint, EL18-31, Section I above). A November 30, 2017 effective date was requested (to coincide with the date on which interconnection activities under the LGIA are expected to commence). Comments on the LGIA are due on or before December 20, 2017. Thus far, doc-less interventions have been filed by NEPOOL and Dominion. If there are questions on this matter, please contact Eric Runge (617-345-4735; ekrunge@daypitney.com).

• Schedule 21-NEP: NEP/Graite Reliable Power RFA (ER18-346)

On November 29, 2017, New England Power ("NEP") filed a Related Facilities Agreement ("RFA") with Granite Reliable Power, LLC ("Granite Reliable Power") to address costs associated with upgrades to NEP's equipment at the Moore Generating Station and modifications to NEP's protection system in connection with the Dummer, New Hampshire interconnection of Granite Reliable Power's 99 MW wind generation facility. A November 1, 2017 effective date was requested. Comments on this filing are due on or before December 20, 2017. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Pat Gerity (pmgerity@daypitney.com; 860-275-0533).

Eversource Reorganization Tariff Changes (ER18-132)

On October 23, 2017, Eversource filed tariff revisions to the following portions of Section II of the ISO Tariff to reflect the new references to NSTAR Electric (East) and NSTAR Electric (West), which will be used to refer to the transmission services and rates previously provided separately by NSTAR Electric and WMECO, that will continue to be provided as if NSTAR Electric and WMECO were separate legal entities, until such future time as a filing can be made to allow for one set of books and records and to adjust rates as may be necessary: Schedules 21-NSTAR and 21-ES, Schedules 20A-NSTAR and 20A-ES, and the Attachment F and Schedule 1 Implementation Rules. Comments on this filing were due on or before November 13; none were filed. This matter is pending before the FERC. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Eric Runge (617-345-4735; ekrunge@daypitney.com).

• Schedule 21-EM: Recovery of Bangor Hydro/Maine Public Service Merger-Related Costs (ER15-1434 et al.)

On June 2, 2016, the FERC accepted, but established hearing and settlement judge procedures for, ⁴⁷ March 31 filings by Emera Maine in which Emera Maine sought authorization to recover certain merger-related costs viewed by the FERC's Office of Enforcement's Division of Audits and Accounting ("DAA") to be

⁴⁷ Emera Maine and BHE Holdings, 155 FERC \P 61,230 (June 2, 2016) ("June 2 Order").

subject to the conditions of the orders authorizing Emera Maine's acquisition of, and ultimate merger with, Maine Public Service ("Merger Conditions"). As previously reported, the Merger Conditions imposed a hold harmless requirement, and required a compliance filing demonstrating fulfillment of that requirement, should Emera Maine seek to recover transaction-related costs through any transmission rate. Following its recent audit of Emera Maine, DAA found that Emera Maine "inappropriately included the costs of four merger-related capital initiatives in its formula rate recovery mechanisms" and "did not properly record certain merger-related expenses incurred to consummate the merger transaction to appropriate non-operating expense accounts as required by [FERC] regulations [and] inappropriately included costs of merger-related activities through its formula rate recovery mechanisms" without first making a compliance filing as required by the merger orders.

In the *June 2 Order*, the FERC found that the Compliance Filings raise issues of material fact that could not be resolved based on the record, and are more appropriately addressed in the hearing and settlement judge procedures.⁴⁸ The FERC reiterated several points with respect to transaction-related cost recovery explained in prior FERC orders and provided guidance on other transaction-related cost recovery points.⁴⁹ The FERC encouraged the parties to make every effort to settle their disputes before hearing procedures are commenced, and will hold the hearing in abeyance pending the outcome of settlement judge procedures.⁵⁰ The separate compliance filing dockets were consolidated for the purposes of settlement, hearing and decision.⁵¹

Settlement Judge Procedures. ALJ John Dring is the settlement judge for these proceedings. There have been five settlement conferences: three in 2016 -- June 29, October 25, and December 1; and two in 2017 -- September 6 and November 9, 2017. In his most recent November 21 status report, Judge Dring found that that the parties are making progress toward settlement, and recommended that settlement procedures (which are on-going) be continued.

Hearing Procedures? On October 11, Emera Maine requested that the Chief Judge establish an expedited hearing under specific terms and conditions set forth in Exhibit A to its October 11 motion ("Expedited Hearing"). The October 11 motion also asked that the answer period to its request be shortened to five days and that an order ruling on the motion be issued no later than October 18, 2017. On October 13, the Maine Customer Group, MPUC, ReEnergy Biomass Operations LLC, and FERC Trial Staff (collectively, "Intervenors and FERC Trial Staff"), filed an answer opposing the October 11 motion's request for a shortened answer period. On October 13, Chief Judge Cintron issued an order ("October 13 Order") which denied the request to shorten the answer period and identified additional questions that all participants in the proceeding were permitted the opportunity to address in their answers to the October 11 motion. Responses to the October 13 Order were filed by Emera Maine, Maine PUC/OPA, Maine Customer Group, and FERC Trial Staff ("October 26 Responses"). On November 13, Emera Maine responded to the October 26 Responses. The October 11 motion, October 26 Responses and Emera Maine's answer to the October 26 Responses are pending before Chief Judge Cintron.

If you have any questions concerning these matters, please contact Pat Gerity (pmgerity@daypitney.com; 860-275-0533).

⁴⁸ *Id.* at P 24.

⁴⁹ *Id.* at PP 25-26.

⁵⁰ *Id.* at P 27.

⁵¹ *Id.* at P 21; Ordering Paragraph (B).

VII. NEPOOL Agreement/Participants Agreement Amendments

No Activity to Report

VIII. Regional Reports

• Capital Projects Report - 2017 Q3 (ER18-81)

On December 6, the FERC accepted ISO-NE's October 16 Capital Projects Report and Unamortized Cost Schedule covering the third quarter ("Q3") of calendar year 2017 (the "Report"). Report highlights included the following new projects: (i) Customer Contact Center Solution (\$694,600); and (ii) Regulation Sub-Hourly Settlements (\$440,000). Projects with a significant changes were (i) BoPP FAP (2017 Budget decrease of \$387,700, reallocation to 2018, with total project costs remaining at \$658,500); (ii) Transmart Technical Architecture Update (2017 Budget decrease of \$372,700 with a total project cost of \$50,000); (iii) IMM Data Analysis Phase I (2017 Budget decrease of \$126,900, for total project costs of \$1.16 million); and (iv) IT Asset Workflow (2017 Budget increase of \$150,000, for a total project cost of \$944,500). Unless the December 6 order is challenged, this proceeding will be concluded. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Paul Belval (860-275-0381; pnbelval@daypitney.com).

Opinion 531-A Local Refund Report: FG&E (EL11-66)

FG&E's June 29, 2015 refund report for its customers taking local service during *Opinion 531-A's* refund period remains pending. If there are questions on this matter, please contact Pat Gerity (860-275-0533; pmgerity@daypitney.com).

• Opinions 531-A/531-B Regional Refund Reports (EL11-66)

The TOs' November 2, 2015 refund report documenting resettlements of regional transmission charges by the ISO in compliance with *Opinions No. 531-A*⁵² and 531-B⁵³ also remains pending. If there are questions on this matter, please contact Pat Gerity (860-275-0533; pmgerity@daypitney.com).

Opinions 531-A/531-B Local Refund Reports (EL11-66)

The *Opinions 531-A and 531-B* refund reports filed by the following TOs for their customers taking local service during the refund period also remain pending before the FERC:

Central Maine Power

♦ National Grid

◆ United Illuminating

♦ Emera Maine

♦ NHT

♦ VT Transco

♦ Eversource

♦ NSTAR

If there are questions on this matter, please contact Pat Gerity (860-275-0533; pmgerity@daypitney.com).

• ISO-NE FERC Form 3Q (2017/Q3) (not docketed)

On November 22, the ISO submitted its 2017/Q3 FERC Form 3Q (quarterly financial report of electric utilities, licensees, and natural gas companies). FERC Form 3-Q is a quarterly regulatory requirement which supplements the annual FERC Form 1 financial reporting requirement. These filings are not noticed for comment.

⁵² Martha Coakley, Mass. Att'y Gen. et al., 149 FERC ¶ 61,032 (Oct. 16, 2014) ("Opinion 531-A").

⁵³ Martha Coakley, Mass. Att'y Gen. et al., Opinion No. 531-B, 150 FERC ¶ 61,165 (Mar. 3, 2015) ("Opinion 531-B").

IX. Membership Filings

December 2017 Membership Filing (ER18-353)

On November 30, NEPOOL requested that the FERC accept (i) the memberships of Fusion Solar Center (Related Person to Deepwater Wind Rhode Island (AR Sector) and Josco Energy MA (Supplier Sector); and (ii) the name change of Supplier Sector member Summer Energy Northeast (f/k/a REP Energy). Comments on the December Membership filing are due on or before December 21.

November 2017 Membership Filing (ER18-186)

On November 29, the FERC accepted (i) the membership of Yellow Jacket Energy, LLC (Related Person to Bloom Energy (AR Sector)); and (ii) the termination of the Participant status of BNP Paribas Energy Trading.

Suspension Notices (not docketed)

Since the last Report, ISO-NE filed, pursuant to Section 2.3 of the Information Policy, a notice with the FERC noting that the following Participant was suspended from the New England Markets on the date indicated (at 8:30 a.m.) due to a Payment Default:

Date of Suspension/ Participant Name FERC Notice

Oct 31 / Nov 2 Lotus Danbury LMS100 Two, LLC ("Lotus Danbury Two")

As of the date of this report, Lotus Danbury Two is suspended from the Markets. Suspension notices are for the FERC's information only and are not docketed or noticed for public comment.

X. Misc. - ERO Rules, Filings; Reliability Standards

Questions concerning any of the ERO Reliability Standards or related rule-making proceedings or filings can be directed to Pat Gerity (860-275-0533; pmgerity@daypitney.com).

• FERC Staff Report on CIP v5 Reliability Standards Audits (not docketed)

On October 6, 2017, FERC Staff issued a report offering recommendations to help those subject to the Critical Infrastructure Protection ("CIP") Reliability Standards to assess their risk, compliance with those standards and their overall cyber security. The report describes the lessons learned from FERC-led audits completed in fiscal years 2016 and 2017, including insights into the cyber security and CIP compliance issues encountered by the audited entities. Among staff's recommendations:

- Ensure that all shared facility categorizations are coordinated between the owners of the shared facility through clearly defined and documented responsibilities for CIP reliability standards compliance;
- Ensure that policies and testing procedures for all electronic communications protocols are afforded the same rigor; and
- For each remote cyber asset conducting Interactive Remote Access, disable all other network access
 outside of the connection to the bulk electric system cyber system that is being remotely accessed,
 unless there is a documented business or operational need.

Revised Reliability Standards: CIP-005-6, CIP-010-3, CIP-013-1 (RM17-13)

On September 26, 2017, NERC filed revised CIP Reliability Standards -- CIP-005-6 (Cyber Security – Electronic Security Perimeter(s)), CIP-010-3 (Cyber Security – Configuration Change Management and Vulnerability Assessments) and CIP-013-1 (Cyber Security – Supply Chain Risk Management) (together, the "Supply Chain Cybersecurity Risk Management Changes"). In addition, the FERC proposed to approve the

associated VRFs, VSLs, implementation plans, effective dates, and retirements of the applicable currently-effective versions of the Standards immediately prior to the effective dates of the new Standards. The Supply Chain Cybersecurity Risk Management Changes are designed to further mitigate cybersecurity risks associated with the supply chain for BES Cyber Systems, consistent with *Order 829*. NERC proposes that the Supply Chain Cybersecurity Risk Management Changes become effective on the first day of the first calendar quarter that is 18 calendar months after the effective date of the Commission's order approving the Changes. As of the date of this Report, the Supply Chain Cybersecurity Risk Management Changes have not been noticed for public comment.

NOPR: Revised Reliability Standards: EOP-004-4, EOP-005-3, EOP-006-3, EOP-008-2 (RM17-12)

On September 20, 2017, the FERC issued a NOPR proposing to approve Emergency Preparedness and Operations ("EOP") Reliability Standards EOP-004-4 (Event Reporting), EOP-005-3 (System Restoration from Blackstart Resources), EOP-006-3 (System Restoration Coordination), and EOP-008-2 (Loss of Control Center Functionality) (together, the "EOP Changes"). In addition, the FERC proposed to approve the associated VRFs, VSLs, implementation plans, effective dates, and retirements of the currently-effective versions of the Standards immediately prior to the effective dates of the new Standards. The EOP Changes are designed to incorporate several recommendations resulting from a periodic review of the Standards, changes to eliminate inaccurate or duplicate reporting of events identified in the Department of Energy's ("DOE") Electric Emergency Incident and Disturbance Report (OE-417) and Attachment 1 to EOP-004, and to improve the Standards by enhancing the requirements for emergency operations, including the communication and coordination amongst reporting entities. Comments on the *EOP NOPR* were due on or before November 27, 2017⁵⁵ and were filed by NERC, EEI, and Magnum CAES

NOPR: Revised Reliability Standard: CIP-003-7 (RM17-11)

On October 19, 2017 the FERC issued a NOPR proposing to approve changes to Reliability Standard CIP-003 (Cyber Security - Security Management Controls), its associated implementation plan, VRFs, VSLs, and revised NERC Glossary definitions of "Removable Media" and "Transient Cyber Asset", and the retirement of the currently-effective version of CIP-003 and the NERC Glossary definitions of "Low Impact External Routable Connectivity" and "Low Impact BES Cyber System Electronic Access Point" ("CIP-003 Changes"). 56 The CIP-003 Changes (i) clarify the electronic access control requirements applicable to low impact BES Cyber Systems; (ii) add requirements related to the protection of transient electronic devices used for low impact BES Cyber Systems (e.g., thumb drives, laptop computers, and other portable devices frequently connected to and disconnected from systems); and (iii) require Responsible Entities to have a documented cyber security policy related to declaring and responding to CIP Exceptional Circumstances for low impact BES Cyber Systems. In addition, the FERC proposes to direct NERC to develop certain modifications to the NERC Reliability Standards to provide clear, objective criteria for electronic access controls for low impact BES Cyber Systems; and address the need to mitigate the risk of malicious code that could result from third-party transient electronic devices. The proposed implementation plan provides that the CIP-003-Changes become effective on the first day of the first calendar quarter that is 18 calendar months after the effective date of the FERC's order approving the CIP-003 Changes. Comments on the CIP-003-7 NOPR are due on or before December 26, 2017.⁵⁷

NOPR: New Reliability Standards: PRC-027-1 and PER-006-1 (RM16-22)

On November 16, 2017 the FERC issued a NOPR proposing to (i) two new Reliability Standards -- PRC-027-1 (Coordination of Protection Systems for Performance During Faults) and PER-006-1 (Specific Training for

 $^{^{54}}$ Emergency Preparedness and Ops. Rel. Standards, 160 FERC ¶ 61,072 (Sep. 20, 2017) ("EOP NOPR").

⁵⁵ The EOP NOPR was published in the Fed. Reg. on Sep. 26, 2017 (Vol. 82, No. 185) pp. 44,746-44,750.

⁵⁶ Rev. Critical Infrastructure Protection Rel. Standard CIP-003-7 – Cyber Security – Security Management Controls, 161 FERC ¶ 61,047 (Oct. 19, 2017) ("CIP-003-7 NOPR").

⁵⁷ The *CIP-007-3 NOPR* was published in the Fed. Reg. on Oct. 26, 2017 (Vol. 82, No. 206) pp. 49,541-49,549.

Personnel), (ii) associated Glossary definitions, (iii) an implementation plan, (iv) VRFs and VSLs, and (v) the retirement of PRC-001-1.1(ii) (together, the "Protection System Changes"). In addition, the FERC proposes to direct NERC to develop certain modifications to PRC-027-1. NERC stated that the purpose of the Protection System Changes is to: (1) maintain the coordination of Protection Systems installed to detect and isolate Faults on Bulk Electric System ("BES") Elements, such that those Protection Systems operate in the intended sequence during Faults; and (2) require registered entities to provide training to their relevant personnel on Protection Systems and Remedial Action Schemes ("RAS") to help ensure that the BES is reliably operated. NERC requested that the new Standards and definitions become effective on the first day of the first calendar quarter that is 24 months following the effective date of the FERC's order approving the Standards. Comments on the *Protection System Changes NOPR* are due on or before January 22, 2018.⁵⁸

NOPR: Revised Reliability Standard: MOD-001-2 (RM14-7)

The ATC NOPR remains pending before the FERC. As previously reported, the FERC's June 19, 2014, NOPR⁵⁹ proposed to approve changes to MOD-001-2 (Modeling, Data, and Analysis - Available Transmission System Capability) to replace, consolidate and improve upon the Existing MOD Standards in addressing the reliability issues associated with determinations of Available Transfer Capability ("ATC") and Available Flowgate Capability ("AFC"). MOD-001-2 will replace the six Existing MOD Standards⁶⁰ to exclusively focus on the reliability aspects of ATC and AFC determinations. NERC requested that the revised MOD Standard be approved, and the Existing MOD Standards be retired, effective on the first day of the first calendar quarter that is 18 months after the date that the proposed Reliability Standard is approved by the FERC. NERC explained that the implementation period is intended to provide NAESB sufficient time to include in its WEQ Standards, prior to MOD-001-2's effective date, those elements from the Existing MOD Standards, if any, that relate to commercial or business practices and are not included in proposed MOD-001-2. The FERC sought comment from NAESB and others whether 18 months would provide adequate time for NAESB to develop related business practices associated with ATC calculations or whether additional time may be appropriate to better assure synchronization of the effective dates for the proposed Reliability Standard and related NAESB practices. The FERC also sought further elaboration on specific actions NERC could take to assure synchronization of the effective dates. Comments on this NOPR were due August 25, 2014, ⁶¹ and were filed by NERC, Bonneville, Duke, MISO, and NAESB. On December 19, 2014, NAESB supplemented its comments with a report on its efforts to develop WEQ Business Practice Standards that will support and coordinate with the MOD Standards proposed in this proceeding. NASEB issued a report on September 25, 2015, informing the FERC that the NAESB standards development process has been completed and NAESB will file the new suite of business practice standards as part of Version 003.1 of the NAESB WEQ Business Practice Standards in October 2015. As noted above, the ATC NOPR remains pending before the FERC.

Rules of Procedure Changes (RR18-1)

On November 21, 2017, NERC filed for approval revisions to Appendix 3D (Registered Ballot Body Criteria) of the NERC Rules of Procedure ("ROP"). NERC stated that the purpose of the proposed revisions is to help ensure that the votes of Independent System Operators ("ISOs") and Regional Transmission Organizations ("RTOs") are appropriately represented in Segment 2 of NERC's registered ballot body for voting on Reliability Standards. Specifically, the revisions limit participation in "Segment 2" to RTO/ISOs exclusively, excluding other individuals and entities who may be consultants or vendors to RTO/ISOs from participating in that Segment. NERC requested that the proposed revisions be made effective upon FERC approval. Comments on this filing are due on or before December 12, 2017.

⁵⁸ The *Protection System Changes NOPR* was published in the Fed. Reg. on Nov. 22, 2017 (Vol. 82, No. 224) pp. 55,535-55,541.

⁵⁹ Modeling, Data, and Analysis Rel. Standards, 147 FERC ¶ 61,208 (June 19, 2014) ("ATC NOPR").

 $^{^{60}}$ The 6 existing MOD Standards to be replaced by MOD-001-2 are: MOD-001-1, MOD-004-1, MOD-008-1, MOD-028-2, MOD-029-1a and MOD-030-2.

⁶¹ The MOD-001-2 NOPR was published in the *Fed. Reg.* on June 26, 2014, (Vol. 79, No. 123) pp. 36,269-36,273.

• Rules of Procedure Changes (RR17-6)

On June 26, 2017, NERC filed for approval revisions to Sections 600 (Personnel Certification Program) and 900 (Training and Education) of the NERC Rules of Procedure ("ROP"). The purpose of the revisions is to (i) clarify the scope of the Personnel Certification Program, the Training and Education Program and the Continuing Education Program; and (ii) streamline and align the language of the ROP with current practices of those programs. NERC stated that the changes are part of its first comprehensive review to modernize and align the language of the ROP with current NERC practices. NERC requested that the proposed revisions be made effective upon FERC approval. Comments on this filing were due on or before July 17, 2017 and were filed jointly by the Alberta Electric System Operator ("AESO"), The California Independent System Operator ("CAISO"), The Independent Electricity System Operator ("IESO"), ISO-NE and PJM ("System Operators"). System Operators, while agreeing that changes to Sections 600 and 900 are needed, nevertheless disagreed with the proposed changes as written and the rationale for making those changes in the first instance. On October 17, NERC answered System Operators' comments. This matter remains pending before the FERC.

Annual NERC CMEP Filing (RR15-2)

On November 16, the FERC accepted NERC's February 22, 2017 compliance filing reviewing the progress of its risk-based Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program ("CMEP") program, but did not approve NERC's two proposed enhancements to the risk-based CMEP (eliminating the public posting of compliance exceptions identified through self-logging and expanding the use of compliance exceptions to include certain moderate risk noncompliance), because, in most situations, information on NERC's resolution of compliance and enforcement matters should be transparent and publicly available and processing of noncompliance should reflect the relative risk level of the violation. Nonetheless, the FERC continues to support the general direction of NERC's compliance program towards a focus on risk-based compliance and concluded that its holding was consistent with that approach. In addition, the FERC terminated the annual informational filing requirement that precipitated the filing in this proceeding.

XI. Misc. - of Regional Interest

203 Application: Dynegy/Vistra (EC18-23)

On November 22, Dynegy and Vistra Energy Corp. ("Vistra") requested authorization for a proposed transaction pursuant to which Dynegy will merge with and into Vistra, with Vistra being the surviving corporation (the "VistraTransaction"). Applicants requested an order authorizing the Vistra Transaction on or before March 15, 2018. Comments on the application are due on or before January 22, 2018.

• 203 Application: PSNH/Granite Shore (EC18-12)

On October 27, PSNH and Granite Shore Power LLC ("Granite Shore")⁶⁵ requested authorization for a proposed transaction pursuant to which Granite Shore will acquire PSNH's portfolio of generation assets (the "Granite Shore Transaction").⁶⁶ Applicants requested an order authorizing the Granite Shore Transaction on or before December 22, 2017. Comments on the application are due on or before December 11, 2017.

⁶² N. Am. Elec. Rel. Corp., 161 FERC ¶ 61,187 (Nov. 16, 2017).

⁶³ *Id.* at P 37.

⁶⁴ *Id.* at P 22.

⁶⁵ Granite Shore is a Related Person to Supplier Sector members Castleton Commodities Merchant Trading LP, Rensselaer Generating LLC, and Roseton Generating LLC.

⁶⁶ PSNH's generation portfolio (1,130 MW) includes the following facilities: Merrimack, Schiller, Newington, White Lake, and Lost Nation.

• 203 Application: Calpine/ECP (EC17-182)

On September 15, Calpine Corporation ("Calpine") requested authorization for a proposed transaction pursuant to which it will become an indirect, wholly-controlled subsidiary of ECP Control Co, LLC ("ECP") (the "Calpine/ECP Transaction"). Applicants requested an order authorizing the Calpine/ECP Transaction on or before January 15, 2018. Comments on the application are due on or before November 14, 2017. A protest was filed by Public Citizen, which asserted that, because the application failed to include Dynegy's merchant generation assets in the market power analysis (in which it believes Capital Partners has a significant financial interest), the application was incomplete. Calpine answered the Public Citizen protest, refuting its assertions and arguments. Public Citizen answered Calpine's answer, again asserting that the application be considered incomplete until ECP fully divests all Dynegy ownership or redoes the Competitive Analysis Screen to include ECP's ownership of Dynegy. This matter is pending before the FERC.

• 203 Application: GenOn Reorganization (EC17-152)

On October 31, the FERC approved certain conversions of GenOn notes into common equity of, and corporate structure changes that will result in, a "reorganized GenOn". Reorganized GenOn will emerge as a result of a plan of reorganization to be confirmed by the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Texas in connection with GenOn's chapter 11 restructuring (the "Restructuring"). As a result of the Restructuring, Reorganized GenOn will likely not be a subsidiary of, and GenOn Energy Management will thus likely no longer be a Related Person to, NRG. Among other conditions, the order required notice within 10 days of the consummation of the transaction. Subject to that notice, this proceeding will be concluded.

• 203 Application: PSNH /FPL Wyman 4 (EC17-132)

On August 28, the FERC authorized the sale of Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy's ("PSNH" or "Seller") 3.14% ownership interest in W.F. Wyman Station – Unit 4 ("Wyman 4") and associated jurisdictional facilities to FPL Energy Wyman IV LLC (the "Transaction"). Among other conditions, the order required notice within 10 days of the consummation of the transaction. NextEra submitted that notice on November 6, reporting that the transaction was consummated on November 1, 2017 and concluding this proceeding.

203 Application: Green Mountain Power/ENEL Hydros (EC17-76)

On May 9, the FERC authorized GMP's acquisition of the following small hydroelectric generation facilities (each a QF, collectively 8.39 MW of total generating capacity) from subsidiaries of Enel Green Power North America, Inc.: Hoague-Sprague, Kelley's Falls, Lower Valley, Glen, Rollinsford, South Berwick, Somersworth, and Woodsville. Among other conditions, the order required notice within 10 days of the consummation of the transaction, which as of date of this Report has not been filed. Subject to that notice, this proceeding will be concluded.

• 203 Application: WMECO /NSTAR Merger (EC17-62)

On March 2, 2017, the FERC authorized Eversource's internal reorganization under which Western Massachusetts Electric Company ("WMECO") will merge with and into NSTAR Electric Company ("NSTAR"), with NSTAR as the surviving entity. ⁷⁰ Applicants committed to hold harmless transmission and wholesale customers from transaction-related costs for five years to the extent that such costs exceed savings related to the merger. Among other conditions, the *NSTAR/WMECO Merger Order* required Eversource to notify the FERC within 10 days of the consummation of the merger, which was expected to occur on January 1, 2018. Since the last Report, Eversource submitted an informational filing notifying the FERC that, while there will be no rate changes

⁶⁷ GenOn Energy Inc., et al., 161 FERC ¶ 62,063 (Oct. 31, 2017).

 $^{^{68}}$ Public Service Co. of NH and FPL Energy Wyman IV LLC, 160 FERC \P 62,186 (Aug. 28, 2017).

⁶⁹ Green Mountain Power Corp., 159 FERC ¶ 62,144 (May 9, 2017).

⁷⁰ NSTAR Elec. Co. and W. Mass. Elec. Co., 158 FERC ¶ 62,155 (Mar. 2, 2017) ("NSTAR/WMECO Merger Order").

filed to accomplish the merger, NSTAR will temporarily keep separate books and records for transmission service and ratemaking purposes, and will continue to provide transmission service and charge customers rates as if the transmission assets were owned by legally separate entities, until it makes an application with the FERC to consolidate rates. Until that time, NSTAR Electric will use "NSTAR Electric (East)" and "NSTAR Electric (West)" to refer to the transmission services and rates previously provided separately by NSTAR Electric and WMECO, respectively.

• MOPR-Related Proceedings (PJM, NYISO) (EL16-49; EL13-62)

In two proceedings which, unless narrowly limited solely to the unique facts of the directly applicable markets (PJM in EL16-49; NYISO in EL13-62), could impact the New England market through FERC jurisdictional or other determinations, NEPOOL filed limited comments requesting that any Commission action or decision be limited narrowly to the facts and circumstances as presented in the applicable market. NEPOOL urged that any changes that may be ordered by the Commission in the proceedings not circumscribe the results of NEPOOL's stakeholder process or predetermine the outcome of that process through dicta or a ruling concerning different markets with different history and different rules. NEPOOL's comments were filed on January 24 in the NYISO proceeding; January 30 in the PJM proceeding, and are pending before the FERC. Since the last Report, EPSA filed motions to lodge information in each proceeding. In the PJM proceeding, EPSA moved to lodge a July 14, 2017 Memorandum Opinion and Order of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division, which dismissed challenges to the zero emissions credits ("ZECs") legislation enacted by the State of Illinois. In the NYISO proceeding, in a substantively similar motion, EPSA moved to lodge a Memorandum and Order of the New York District Court dismissing challenges to the ZECs program implemented by the NYPSC. In each case, EPSA reiterated its position that unless addressed, the ZEC programs will adversely impact the respective markets. Answers to the EPSA motions to lodge were filed by Exelon and the NYPSC in the NYISO Proceeding and by Exelon, First Energy, the Load Group, NRECA, Talen Companies, and the Illinois Commerce Commission in the PJM Proceeding. These proceedings remain pending before the FERC. If you have any questions concerning these proceedings, please contact Dave Doot (860-275-0102; dtdoot@daypitney.com) or Sebastian Lombardi (860-275-0663; slombardi@daypitney.com).

NEP/HQUS Phase I/II HVDC-TF Service Agreement (ER18-388)

On December 5, NEP filed a new Phase I/II HVDC-TF Service Agreement with HQUS to allow the continuation without interruption of service provided pursuant to an existing agreement between NEP and HQUS that conforms to the pro forma Phase I/II HVDC-TF Service Agreement set forth in Attachment A of Schedule 20A–Common to the ISO-NE OATT. The Agreement is being filed as "non-conforming" as it was unclear whether the FERC would deem conforming the provisions included in the Agreement that accommodate HQUS' exercise of its right of first refusal to extend its transmission customer service rights beyond the five-year term of its currently effective Service Agreement with NEP pursuant to Schedule 20A (while taking into account the fact that NEP currently only has contractual rights allowing it to sell service over the Phase I/II HVDC-TF through October 31, 2020). A January 1, 2018 effective date was requested. Comments, if any, on this filing are due on or before December 26. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Pat Gerity (pmgerity@daypitney.com; 860-275-0533).

D&E Agreement Cancellation: NSTAR/Essential Power Newington (ER18-330)

On November 27, NSTAR filed a notice of cancellation of the Design and Engineering Agreement ("D&E Agreement") between NSTAR and Essential Power Newington (designated as service agreement IA-NSTAR-34). The D&E Agreement set forth the terms and conditions under which NSTAR undertook certain design and engineering activities on its transmission system⁷¹ in connection with Essential Power Newington's FCA11 New Capacity Qualification Determination Notification. With the work completed, the

⁷¹ Specifically, NSTAR has agreed to make changes to the Zone 2 timer on both primary (P1) and backup (P2) relays at its Mystic Substation that are associated with NSTAR Line 423-515.

D&E Agreement is now terminated. A November 27, 2017 effective date was requested. Comments, if any, on this filing are due on or before December 18. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Pat Gerity (pmgerity@daypitney.com; 860-275-0533).

• IA: CL&P/Woods Hill Solar (ER18-316)

On November 20, 2017, Eversource, on behalf of CL&P, filed a two-party IA between CL&P and Woods Hill Solar to govern the interconnection of a 20 MW photovoltaic ("PV") generating facility to be located in Pomfret, CT. A November 30, 2017 effective date was requested. Comments on this filing are due on or before December 11, 2017. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Pat Gerity (pmgerity@daypitney.com; 860-275-0533).

• D&E Agreement: Pootatuck Ring Bus Expansion (ER18-111)

On October 19, The United Illuminating Company ("UI") filed a D&E Agreement between UI and Eversource for the planned Pootatuck Substation Ring Bus Expansion. The "Ring Bus Expansion" (relocation of the existing line structure and reconfiguration of the Pootatuck Substation into a four-breaker "ring" bus expansion) is designed to address conditions created under certain contingencies in which UI transmission loads could be subject to overloads or voltage collapse conditions. An October 20, 2017 effective date was requested. Comments on this filing were due on or before November 9; none were filed. A doc-less intervention was filed by Eversource. This matter is pending before the FERC. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Pat Gerity (pmgerity@daypitney.com; 860-275-0533).

IA: New England Power/Wheelabrator Millbury (ER17-2557)

On November 17, the FERC accepted a two-party LGIA between NEP and Wheelabrator Millbury, which replaces an expiring agreement governing, and to provide for continuing interconnection service to, Wheelabrator's 45.24 MW generation facility located in Millbury, Massachusetts. The LGIA is consistent with the ISO Tariff's Schedule 22 *pro forma* LGIA, other than changes to reflect the 2-party nature of the Agreement. The LGIA was accepted effective as of September 26, 2017, as requested (the previous interconnection agreement expired on September 25, 2017). Unless the November 17 order is challenged, this proceeding will be concluded. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Pat Gerity (pmgerity@daypitney.com; 860-275-0533).

IA: PSNH/Pontook (ER17-2449)

On September 7, 2017, as amended on October 31, 2017, Eversource, on behalf of PSNH, filed a two-party IA between PSNH and Pontook for the continued provision of interconnection service to Pontook's existing 3-unit, 9.6 MW hydro-electric facility located on the Androscoggin River in Dummer, New Hampshire. The facility has been connected to PSNH distribution system since 1986, Pontook makes use of PSNH's distribution system and the New England transmission system to market the output of the facility, and the IA replaces a 1985 Agreement whose initial 3-year term has expired. Because there was no modification to the facility or to the interconnection facilities, a three-way IA between PSNH, Pontook and ISO-NE under Schedule 23 of the ISO-NE OATT was not required. A December 16, 2016 effective date was requested. The October 31 amendment clarified that the IA will not be designated under Schedule 21-ES. Comments on the amendment filing were due on or before November 21, 2017; none were filed. This matter is pending before the FERC. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Pat Gerity (pmgerity@daypitney.com; 860-275-0533).

• Maine Power Express Negotiated Rates Determination Request (ER16-1619)

On May 26, Maine Power Express LLC ("MPX") filed a motion asking the FERC to determine that its July 1, 2016 order, ⁷² authorizing MPX to sell transmission rights at negotiated rates, permits MPX to sell the

⁷² *Maine Power Express*, 156 FERC ¶61,002 (July 1, 2016).

Maine Power Express merchant transmission project's⁷³ capacity pursuant to the March 30, 2017 Massachusetts RFP. MPX requested expedited treatment of and a shortened comment period for its request, given the July 27 RFP bid deadline (which has since passed). As of the date of this Report, a comment date has still not yet been set. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Pat Gerity (pmgerity@daypitney.com; 860-275-0533).

Emera MPD OATT Changes (ER15-1429; EL16-13, ER12-1650)

As previously reported, the FERC conditionally accepted, on December 7, 2015, changes to the Maine Public District ("MPD") Open Access Transmission Tariff ("MPD OATT"), including to the rates, terms, and conditions set forth in MPD OATT Attachment J.⁷⁴ However, the FERC found, ultimately, that the changes to the MPD OATT had not been shown to be just and reasonable, may be unjust and unreasonable, instituted a Section 206 proceeding (in EL16-13) to examine the provisions, and set the matter for a trial-type evidentiary hearing, to be held in abeyance pending the outcome of settlement judge procedures (*see* below).

Hearing and Settlement Judge Procedures. The FERC encouraged the parties to make every effort to settle their disputes before hearing procedures were commenced, and held hearings in abeyance pending the outcome of settlement judge procedures.

Settlement Agreement (-006). On June 22, Emera Maine submitted an uncontested Joint Offer of Settlement ("Offer of Settlement") between itself, Houlton Water Company, Van Buren Light and Power District, Eastern Maine Electric Coop., ReEnergy Biomass Operations, the MPUC, and Maine OPA (collectively, the "Settling Intervenors"). That Offer of Settlement, which resolved all issues pending in these proceedings, was approved on November 20.⁷⁵ This settlement does not, however, resolve the matters set for hearing and settlement judge procedures in *Emera Maine and BHE Holdings*, (2016). (See ER15-1434 in Section VI above.)

If you have any questions concerning these matters, please contact Pat Gerity (pmgerity@daypitney.com; 860-275-0533).

FERC Enforcement Action: Order of Non-Public, Formal Investigation (IN15-10)
 MISO Zone 4 Planning Resource Auction Offers. On October 1, 2015, the FERC issued an order
 authorizing Enforcement to conduct a non-public, formal investigation, with subpoena authority, regarding
 violations of FERC's regulations, including its prohibition against electric energy market manipulation, that
 may have occurred in connection with, or related to, MISO's April 2015 Planning Resource Auction for the
 2015/16 power year.

Unlike a staff NOV, a FERC order converting an informal, non-public investigation to a formal, non-public investigation does not indicate that the FERC has determined that any entity has engaged in market manipulation or otherwise violated any FERC order, rule, or regulation. It does, however, give OE's Director, and employees designated by the Director, the authority to administer oaths and affirmations, subpoena witnesses, compel their attendance and testimony, take evidence, compel the filing of special reports and responses to interrogatories, gather information, and require the production of any books, papers, correspondence, memoranda, contracts, agreements, or other records.

The Maine Power Express project is a proposed 315-mile, 1,000 MW HVDC completely underground merchant transmission project that will originate in Haynesville, Maine, and terminate at a new DC/AC converter station in Boston connected with the Eversource transmission system. MPX anticipates that the Project will be operational in 2021.

⁷⁴ Emera Maine, 153 FERC ¶ 61,283 (Dec. 7, 2015).

⁷⁵ Emera Maine, 161 FERC ¶ 61,206 (Nov. 20, 2017).

• FERC Enforcement Action: Barclays Bank et al. (IN08-8)

On November 7, the FERC approved a Stipulation and Consent Agreement⁷⁶ that resolves its claims (and subsequent litigation in the US District Court for the Eastern District of California⁷⁷) against Defendants for violations of section 222 of the Federal Power Act ("FPA") and the FERC's Anti-Market Manipulation Rules.⁷⁸ Under the Settlement, in which Defendants neither admited nor denied the alleged violations, Barclays agreed to pay a significantly smaller amount, *\$105 million --* a *\$70 million penalty* and *\$35 million in disgorgement*, \$20 million of which will be set aside to pay people or entities that claim to have been harmed because of Barclay's alleged misconduct. The FERC directed that the \$15 million Disgorgement Payment owed to the FERC, as well as any amount of the \$20 million Disgorgement Payment that is not used for remediation, shall go to the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) of the states of Arizona, California, Oregon and Washington for the benefit of their respective electric energy customers. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Pat Gerity (860-275-0533; pmgerity@daypitney.com).

FERC Audit of ISO-NE (PA16-6)

The FERC's audit of ISO-NE docketed in this proceeding is on-going. As previously reported, the FERC informed ISO-NE on November 24, 2015 that it would evaluate ISO-NE's compliance with: (1) the transmission provider obligations described in the Tariff, (2) *Order 1000* as it relates to transmission planning and expansion, and interregional coordination, (3) accounting requirements of the Uniform System of Accounts under 18 C.F.R. Part 101, (4) financial reporting requirements under 18 C.F.R. Part 141; and (5) record retention requirements under 18 CFR Part 125. The FERC indicated that the audit will cover the July 10, 2013 period through the present.

XII. Misc. - Administrative & Rulemaking Proceedings

State Policies & Wholesale Markets Operated by ISO-NE, NYISO, PJM (AD17-11)

As previously reported, the FERC held a 2-day technical conference (on May 1-2) to foster further discussion regarding the development of regional solutions in the Eastern RTOs/ISOs that reconcile the competitive market framework with the increasing interest by states to support particular resources or resource attributes. FERC staff sought to "discuss long-term expectations regarding the relative roles of wholesale markets and state policies in the Eastern RTOs/ISOs in shaping the quantity and composition of resources needed to cost-effectively meet future reliability and operational needs". A more detailed summary of the technical conference was circulated with the last Report. Pre-conference comments from the conference's speakers, panelists and other interested parties are available in the FERC's eLibrary and through the tech conference's calendar entry. Those interested were invited to submit post-conference comments on or before June 22. Comments were received from over 80 parties, and were briefly summarized at the Summer Meeting. Reply comments, not exceeding 10 pages, were filed by over 30 parties. This matter remains pending before the FERC.

⁷⁶ Barclays Bank PLC, Daniel Brin, Scott Connelly, and Karen Levine, 161 FERC ¶ 61,147 (Nov. 9, 2017).

⁷⁷ FERC v. Barclays Bank PLC et al., No. 2:13-cv-02093-TLN-DB (E.D. Cal.).

As previously reported, the FERC found that Barclays Bank PLC ("Barclays"), Daniel Brin, Scott Connelly, Karen Levine, and Ryan Smith ("Individual Traders", and collectively with Barclays, "Defendants") violated the FERC's Anti-Manipulation Rule by engaging over a two-year period in a deliberate and coordinated strategy of trading physical electricity at an economic loss at four trading points in the Western United States in order to boost Barclays' financial positions at those same trading points. FERC found that Defendants' conduct resulted in an estimated \$139 million in financial losses to other market participants with positions settling off of the allegedly manipulated trading points. Accordingly, the FERC assessed a record amount of civil penalties -- \$435 million against Barclays (plus disgorgement of \$34.9 million, plus interest), \$15 million against Connelly, and \$1 million against each of Brin, Levine, and Smith. Barclays Bank PLC, 144 FERC ¶ 61,041 (2013).

• BPS Reliability Technical Conference (AD17-8)

On June 22, the FERC held a technical conference that discussed policy issues related to the reliability of the Bulk-Power System ("BPS"). Panel presentations covered the following topics: (i) an overview on the state of reliability; (ii) international perspectives; (iii) the potential for long-term and large-scale disruptions to the BPS; and (iv) grid security. Written comments were filed ahead of the conference by the Chairman of the Ohio Public Utilities Commission and by a representative of the Large Public Power Council. Speaker materials, as well as a transcript of the technical conference, are posted on the FERC's eLibrary. Since the last report, on June 20, Environmental Defense Fund filed post-technical conference comments. This matter is pending before the FERC.

• Electric Storage Resource Utilization in RTO/ISO Markets (AD16-25)

As previously reported, the FERC held a technical conference on November 9, 2016 to discuss the utilization of electric storage resources as transmission assets compensated through RTO/ISO transmission rates, for grid support services that are compensated in other ways, and for multiple services. On November 14, the FERC invited all those interested to file, on or before December 14, 2016, post-technical conference comments on the topics discussed in the November 1 Supplemental Notice of Technical Conference. Comments were filed by over 45 parties, including Avangrid, Brookfield, EEI, Energy Storage Association, Exelon, FirstLight, NEPGA, NextEra, PSEG, Solar City/Tesla, and UCS. This matter is pending before the FERC.

Competitive Transmission Development Rates (AD16-18)

The FERC held a technical conference on a June 27-28, 2016 to discuss competitive transmission development process-related issues, including use of cost containment provisions, the relationship of competitive transmission development to transmission incentives, and other ratemaking issues. In addition, participants had the opportunity to discuss issues relating to interregional transmission coordination, regional transmission planning and other transmission development issues. Pre-technical conference comments were filed by over 20 parties, including by NESCOE, BHE US Transmission, LSPower, and NextEra Energy Transmission. Technical conference materials are available on the FERC's e-Library. Post-technical conference comments were filed by over 60 parties, including: NEPOOL, ISO-NE, Avangrid, AWEA, BHE US Transmission, EDF Renewables, EEI, ELCON, Eversource, Exelon, LSP Transmission Holdings, MMWEC, National Grid, NESCOE, NextEra, and PSEG. This matter remains pending before the FERC.

Reactive Supply Compensation in RTO/ISO Markets (AD16-17)

A workshop to discuss compensation for Reactive Supply and Voltage Control (Reactive Supply) in RTO/ISO markets was held on June 30, 2016. The workshop explored the types of costs incurred by generators for providing Reactive Supply capability and service; whether those costs are being recovered solely as compensation for Reactive Supply or whether recovery is also through compensation for other services; and different methods by which generators receive compensation for Reactive Supply (e.g., FERC-approved revenue requirements, market-wide rates, etc.). The workshop also explored potential adjustments in compensation based on changes in Reactive Supply capability and potential mechanisms to prevent overcompensation for Reactive Supply. Technical conference materials are available on the FERC's e-Library. Written comments were filed by, among others, NYISO, PJM, the PJM IMM, AWEA, EEI, EPSA, EDF Renewables, Talen, Essential Power, and Exelon. EDF Renewables filed reply comments on August 19; the PJM IMM on August 21. This matter remains pending before the FERC.

• PURPA Implementation (AD16-16)

A workshop to discuss issues associated with the FERC's implementation of PURPA was held on June 29, 2016. The conference focused on two issues: the mandatory purchase obligation under PURPA and the determination of avoided costs for those purchases. Panelists' advanced written comments and materials from the technical conference are available on the FERC's e-Library. Post-technical conference comments addressing (1) the use of the "one-mile rule" to determine the size of an entity seeking certification as a small power production qualifying facility ("QF"); and (2) minimum standards for PURPA-purchase contracts

were filed by over 40 parties, including AWEA, Covanta, CT PURA/MA AG, Duke, EDP, EEI, ELCON, NARUC, and NRECA.

Xcel Energy Services filed supplemental comments addressing the reasons why RTO energy market prices can be negative and the implications to wholesale and retail customers if QFs were required to be compensated at long-term fixed prices during periods when market prices are negative. In addition, the written testimony of the following individuals who appeared before the House Subcommittee on Energy on September 6, addressing "Powering America: Reevaluating PURPA's Objectives and its Effects on Today's Consumers" is posted in eLibrary: S. Thomas, PE (for the Industrial Energy Consumers of America); T. Kouba (for Alliant Energy Corporate Services); and F. Prager (for Xcel Energy Services).

• Price Formation in RTO/ISO Energy and Ancillary Services Markets (AD14-14)

As previously reported, the FERC directed each RTO/ISO to publicly provide, and the RTO/ISO's provided, information related to five price formation issues:⁷⁹ (1) pricing of fast-start resources; (2) commitments to manage multiple contingencies; (3) look-ahead modeling; (4) uplift allocation; and (5) transparency. The FERC indicated it would use the reports and comments filed in response thereto to determine what further action is appropriate. NOPRs addressing fast-start pricing (RM17-3) and uplift allocation and transparency (RM17-2) have already been issued.

• NOI: FERC's Policy for Recovery of Income Tax Costs & ROE Policies (PL17-1)

On December 15, 2016, the FERC issued a notice of inquiry ("NOI") seeking comments regarding how to address any double recovery resulting from the FERC's current income tax allowance and ROE policies.⁸⁰ The NOI followed the D.C. Circuit's *United Airlines*⁸¹ holding that the FERC failed to demonstrate that there is no double recovery of taxes for a partnership pipeline as a result of the income tax allowance and ROE determined pursuant to the DCF methodology, and remanding the decisions to the FERC to develop a mechanism "for which the Commission can demonstrate that there is no double recovery" of partnership income tax costs".⁸² Comments and reply comments were submitted by over 25 and 18 parties, respectively. This matter is pending before the FERC.

DOE-Initiated Proposal: Grid Reliability & Resilience Pricing Rule (RM18-1)

On September 28, exercising rarely-used authority under §403(a) of the Department of Energy ("DOE") Organization Act, Secretary of Energy Rick Perry sent to the FERC a proposal in the form of a NOPR that would, if adopted by the FERC, require RTO/ISOs to develop and implement market rules for the full recovery of costs and a fair rate of return for "eligible units" that (i) are able to provide essential energy and ancillary reliability services, (ii) have a 90-day fuel supply on site in the event of supply disruptions caused by emergencies, extreme weather, or natural or man-made disasters, (iii) are compliant with all applicable environmental regulations, and (iv) are not subject to cost-of-service rate regulation by any State or local authority. Secretary Perry established an aggressive 60-day timeframe for FERC action on the NOPR, with the aim of having new compensation mechanisms in place by winter.

On October 2, the FERC issued a notice inviting initial comments on the DOE proposal to be submitted by October 23, with reply comments due November 7. On October 4, the Director of the Office of Energy Policy and Innovation issued a list of questions to be addressed (to assist FERC Staff in its understanding of the

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Price Formation in Energy and Ancillary Services Markets Operated by Regional Transmission Organizations and Independent System Operators, 153 FERC \P 61,221 (Nov. 20, 2015).

 $^{^{80}}$ Inquiry Regarding the FERC's Policy for Recovery of Income Tax Costs, 157 FERC \P 61,210 (Dec. 15, 2017).

⁸¹ United Airlines Inc., et al. v. FERC, 827 F.3d 122, 134, 136 (D.C. Cir. 2016) ("United Airlines").

⁸² *Id.* at 137.

implications of the proposed rule) related to the need for reform, eligibility, implementation, rates, and other. A number of requests to extend the proposed deadlines were filed, but denied.

More than 450 comments were submitted by October 23 in response to the DOE NOPR. Those filings raise and discuss an exceptionally broad spectrum of process, legal, and substantive arguments. NEPOOL's comments made the following three requests of FERC in considering its response to the DOE NOPR: (1) if FERC is inclined to issue a rule in response to the DOE NOPR, FERC should provide adequate time and process for meaningful stakeholder consideration and input on a FERC proposed rule before finalizing that rule; (2) if FERC concludes that changes to organized markets are needed, FERC should not mandate a single solution, but instead should allow sufficient flexibility, both procedurally and substantively, for each region with an organized market to address the concerns raised in the DOE NOPR with reference to the specific and unique circumstances of that region; and (3) FERC should ensure that there is adequate time for compliance with any final rule that might apply to New England so that New England can follow its FERC-approved stakeholder process in designing and finalizing any such compliance. A summary of the initial comments filed was circulated under separate cover and can be found with the posted materials for the November 3 meeting. Reply comments were due November 7 and were filed by over 100 parties, including ISO-NE. On November 20, NEPOOL filed a brief response to arguments made in certain reply comments, requesting that the FERC (i) reject any arguments that a one-size-fits-all solution should be implemented, without following applicable stakeholder processes, in response to the DOE NOPR, and (ii) respect regional differences and priorities, and to provide flexibility, both procedurally and substantively, for each region to satisfy its unique needs using its stakeholder processes in a time frame that allows for full and informed consideration of the market changes and is compatible with its priorities.

DOE set out a very expedited timeline final FERC action on the proposal and for ISOs/RTOs to implement the new requirements. DOE directed the FERC to take final action on the proposal within 60 days from the NOPR's publication⁸³ (or, alternatively, to issue the proposal as an interim final rule effective immediately). Under DOE's proposed schedule, the final rule would take effect within 30 days of publication of the final rule in the Federal Register, and the ISOs/RTOs would have to make compliance filings within 15 days of the effective date. The NOPR further proposed that compliance filings take effect 15 days after they are due and that RTO/ISOs would have to implement the NOPR by late January 2018.

NOPR: LGIA/LGIP Reforms (RM17-8)

As previously reported, the FERC issued a NOPR⁸⁴ on December 15, 2016 proposing reforms designed to improve certainty, ⁸⁵ promote more informed interconnection, ⁸⁶ and enhance interconnection

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⁸³ The DOE NOPR was published in the Fed. Reg. on Oct. 10, 2017 (Vol. 82, No. 194) pp. 46,940-46,948.

⁸⁴ Reform of Generator Interconnection Procedures and Agreements, 157 FERC ¶ 61,212 (Dec. 15, 2016) ("LGIP/LGIA Reforms NOPR"). The LGIP/LGIA Reforms NOPR was published in the Fed. Reg. on Jan. 13, 2017 (Vol. 82, No. 9 pp. 4,464-4,501.

To accomplish this goal, the FERC proposes to: (1) revise the *pro forma* LGIP to require transmission providers that conduct cluster studies to move toward a scheduled, periodic restudy process; (2) remove from the *pro forma* LGIA the limitation that interconnection customers may only exercise the option to build transmission provider's interconnection facilities and standalone network upgrades if the transmission owner cannot meet the dates proposed by the interconnection customer; (3) modify the *pro forma* LGIA to require mutual agreement between the transmission owner and interconnection customer for the transmission owner to opt to initially self-fund the costs of the construction of network upgrades; and (4) require that the RTO/ISO establish dispute resolution procedures for interconnection disputes. The Commission also seeks comment on the extent to which a cap on the network upgrade costs for which interconnection customers are responsible can mitigate the potential for serial restudies without inappropriately shifting cost responsibility. *Id.* at P 6.

The FERC proposes to: (1) require transmission providers to outline and make public a method for determining contingent facilities in their LGIPs and LGIAs based upon guiding principles in the Proposed Rule; (2) require transmission providers to list in their LGIPs and on their OASIS sites the specific study processes and assumptions for forming the networking models used for interconnection studies; (3) require congestion and curtailment information to be posted in one location on each transmission provider's OASIS site; (4) revise the definition of "Generating Facility" in the proforma LGIP and LGIA to explicitly include electric storage resources; and (5) create a system of reporting requirements for aggregate interconnection study performance. The FERC also seeks comment on proposals or

processes.⁸⁷ Based, in part, on input received in response to AWEA's petition for changes to the *pro forma* LGIP/LGIA, and the FERC's May 13, 2016 technical conference to explore generator interconnection issues (as reported previously under Docket Nos. RM16-12; RM15-21), the FERC identified proposed reforms which it states could remedy potential shortcomings in the existing interconnection processes. The FERC also sought comment on whether any of its proposed reforms should be applied to the *pro forma* SGIP/SGIA.⁸⁸ 60 sets of comments on and answer to the *LGIP/LGIA Reforms NOPR* were submitted, including comments by: NEPOOL (approved at the April 7 Participants Committee meeting), ISO-NE, Avangrid, EDF Renewable, EDP Renewables, Eversource, Exelon, Invenergy, National Grid, NextEra, APPA/LPPC/NRECA, AWEA, EEI, ELCON, ESA, and Public Interest Organizations. This matter is pending before the FERC.

NOPR: Fast-Start Pricing in RTO/ISO Markets (RM17-3)

On December 15, the FERC issued a NOPR proposing to require each RTO and ISO to incorporate market rules that meet certain requirements when pricing fast-start resources.⁸⁹ The FERC stated that the reforms should lead to prices that more transparently reflect the marginal cost of serving load, which would reduce uplift costs and thereby improve price signals to support efficient investments. Specifically, the FERC proposes to require that each RTO/ISO incorporate the following five requirements for its fast-start pricing:

- an RTO/ISO must apply fast-start pricing to any resource committed by the RTO/ISO that is able
 to start up within 10 minutes or less, has a minimum run time of one hour or less, and that
 submits economic energy offers to the market;
- 2. when an RTO/ISO makes a decision to commit a fast-start resource, it should incorporate commitment costs, i.e., start-up and no-load costs, of fast-start resources in energy and operating reserve prices, but must do so only during the fast-start resource's minimum run time;
- an RTO/ISO must modify its fast-start pricing to relax the economic minimum operating limit of fast-start resources and treat them as dispatchable from zero to the economic maximum operating limit for the purpose of calculating prices;
- 4. if an RTO/ISO allows off-line fast-start resources to set prices for addressing certain system needs, the resource must be feasible and economic; and
- 5. an RTO/ISO must incorporate fast-start pricing in both the Day-Ahead and Real-Time markets.

Comments on the *Fast-Start Pricing NOPR* were filed by numerous parties, including NEPOOL, ISO-NE and EEI. Reply comments were filed by MISO and the PJM IMM. On August 18, the CAISO filed supplemental comments (providing additional information identifying challenges facing CAISO and the adverse impacts it believes the NOPR rules would have on its markets). The *Fast-Start Pricing NOPR* remains pending before the FERC.

additional steps that the Commission could take to improve the resolution of issues that arise when affected systems are impacted by a proposed interconnection. *Id.* at P 7.

their generating facility capacity; (2) require transmission providers to allow for provisional agreements so that interconnection customers can operate on a limited basis prior to completion of the full interconnection process; (3) require transmission providers to create a process for interconnection customers to utilize surplus interconnection service at existing interconnection points; (4) require transmission providers to set forth a separate procedure to allow transmission providers to assess and, if necessary, study an interconnection customer's technology changes (e.g., incorporation of a newer turbine model) without a change to the interconnection customer's queue position; and (5) require transmission providers to evaluate their methods for modeling electric storage resources for interconnection studies and report to the Commission why and how their existing practices are or are not sufficient. *Id.* at P 8.

⁸⁸ *Id* at P 11

Fast-Start Pricing in Markets Operated by Regional Transmission Organizations and Independent System Operators, 157 FERC ¶ 61,213 (Dec. 15, 2016) ("Fast-Start Pricing NOPR").

NOPR: Uplift Cost Allocation and Transparency in RTO/ISO Markets (RM17-2)

On January 19, 2017, the FERC issued a NOPR proposing to require each RTO and ISO that currently allocates the costs of Real-Time uplift due to deviations to do so only to those market participants whose transactions are reasonably expected to have caused the real-time uplift costs. ⁹⁰ In addition, the FERC proposed to revise its regulations to enhance transparency by requiring that each RTO/ISO post uplift costs paid (dollars) and operator-initiated commitments (MWs) on its website; and define in its tariff its transmission constraint penalty factors, as well as the circumstances under which those penalty factors can set LMPs, and any procedure for changing those factors. Comments and reply comments on the *Uplift/Transparency NOPR* were filed by over 40 parties, including: ISO-NE, Brookfield, Calpine, DC Energy, Direct, Exelon, Potomac Economics, Saracen, EEI, APPA/NRECA, Appian Way Energy Partners, AWEA, ELCON, EPSA, Financial Marketers Coalition, and the IRC. This matter is pending before the FERC.

NOPR: Electric Storage Participation in RTO/ISO Markets (RM16-23; AD16-20)

The FERC's Storage NOPR remains pending. As previously reported, on November 23, 2016, the FERC issued the Storage NOPR proposing to require each RTO and ISO to revise its tariff "to (1) establish a participation model consisting of market rules that, recognizing the physical and operational characteristics of electric storage resources, accommodates their participation in the organized wholesale electric markets and (2) define distributed energy resource aggregators as a type of market participant that can participate in the organized wholesale electric markets under the participation model that best accommodates the physical and operational characteristics of its distributed energy resource aggregation." Comments on the Storage NOPR were filed by over 100 parties, including: NEPOOL, ISO-NE, APPA/ NRECA, Avangrid, AWEA, Brookfield, CT DEEP, CT PURA, Dominion, DTE, EEI, ELCON, EPSA, EPRI, ESA, Exelon, FirstLight, Genbright, Harvard Environmental Policy Initiative, IPKeys, MA DPU, MIT, MMWEC, NARUC, NERC, NESCOE, NextEra, NRG, SEIA, UCS. Since the last Report, supplemental comments were filed by the Advanced Energy Management Alliance. In addition, on September 22, a number of US Senators ⁹² requested that this rulemaking proceed towards completion as quickly as possible. Chairman Chatterjee responded to each on October 5, noting that the comments received are being reviewed and relaying his personal commitment to address the issues raised in the NOPR as the rulemaking proceeds forward. This matter remains pending before the FERC.

NOPR: Data Collection for Analytics & Surveillance and MBR Purposes (RM16-17)

The FERC's *Data Collection NOPR* remains pending. As previously reported, the FERC issued a July 21, 2016 NOPR, which superseded both its *Connected Entity NOPR* (RM15-23) and *Ownership NOPR* (RM16-3), proposing to collect certain data for analytics and surveillance purposes from market-based rate ("MBR") sellers and entities trading virtual products or holding FTRs and to change certain aspects of the substance and format of information submitted for MBR purposes. The *Data Collection NOPR* presents substantial revisions from what the FERC proposed in the *Connected Entity NOPR*, and responds to the comments and concerns submitted by NEPOOL in that proceeding. Among other things, the changes proposed in the *Data NOPR* include: (i) a different set of filers; (ii) a reworked and substantially narrowed definition of Connected Entity; and (iii) a different submission process. With respect to the MBR program, the proposals include: (i) adopting certain changes to reduce and clarify the scope of ownership information that MBR sellers must provide; (ii) reducing the information required in asset appendices; and (iii) collecting currently-required MBR information and certain new information in a consolidated and streamlined manner. The FERC also

⁹⁰ Uplift Cost Allocation and Transparency in Markets Operated by Regional Transmission Organizations and Independent System Operators, 158 FERC ¶ 61,047 (Jan. 19, 2017) ("Uplift/Transparency NOPR").

 $^{^{91}}$ Electric Storage Participation in Markets Operated by Regional Transmission Orgs. and Indep. Sys. Operators, 157 FERC ¶ 61,121 (Nov. 17, 2016) ("Storage NOPR").

⁹² Senators Whitehouse (RI), Booker (NJ), Markey (MA), Wyden (OR), Warren (MA), and Sanders (VT).

Data Collection for Analytics and Surveillance and Market-Based Rate Purposes, 156 FERC \P 61,045 (July 21, 2016) ("Data Collection NOPR").

proposes to eliminate MBR sellers' corporate organizational chart submission requirement adopted in *Order 816*. Comments on the *Data Collection NOPR* were due on or before September 19, 2016⁹⁴ and were filed by over 30 parties, including: APPA, Avangrid, Brookfield, EPSA, Macquarie/DC Energy/Emera Energy Services, NextEra, and NRG.

• Order 833: Critical Energy/Electric Infrastructure Information (CEII) Procedures (RM16-15)

Rehearing of *Order* 833⁹⁵ remains pending. As previously reported, *Order* 833 amended FERC regulations to implement provisions of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation ("FAST") Act that pertain to the designation, protection and sharing of Critical Electric Infrastructure Information ("CEII") and amend other regulations that pertain to CEII. The amended procedures will be referred to as the Critical Energy/Electric Infrastructure Information (CEII) procedures. *Order* 833 became effective February 21, 2017.⁹⁶ On December 19, 2016, EEI requested rehearing of *Order* 833. The FERC issued a tolling order on January 17, affording it additional time to consider the EEI request for rehearing, which remains pending.

NOPR: Primary Frequency Response - Essential Reliability Services and the Evolving Bulk-Power System (RM16-6)

The *Primary Frequency Response NOPR*⁹⁷ remains pending. The *Primary Frequency Response NOPR*, issued on November 17, 2016, proposes to require all newly interconnecting large and small generating facilities, both synchronous and non-synchronous, to install and enable primary frequency response capability as a condition of interconnection. To implement these requirements, the Commission proposes to revise the *pro forma* LGIA and the *pro forma* SGIA. The *Primary Frequency Response NOPR* follows the FERC's *Frequency Response NOPR* from early 2016. Comments on the *Primary Frequency Response NOPR* were filed by over 30 parties, including AWEA, EEI, ELCON, EPSA, ESA, First Solar, the IRC, NRECA, and UCS. Supplemental comments were filed by ELCON. On August 18, 2017, the FERC issued a request for supplemental comments related to whether and when electric storage resources should be required to provide primary frequency response, and the costs associated with primary frequency response capabilities for small generating facilities.⁹⁹ Supplemental comments were filed by over 20 parties, including the AES Companies, NERC, Western Interconnection Advisory Body, Magnum CAES, NRECA, Arizona Public Service, Tri-State Generation, and North American Generator Forum, Independent Transmission Company ("ITC"), the IRC, NYTOs, SoCal Edison, San Diego Gas & Electric, and the Energy Storage Association ("ESA").

• Order 831-A: Price Caps in RTO/ISO Markets (RM16-5)

On November 9, in *Order 831-A*, ¹⁰⁰ the FERC granted in part and denied in part the requests for rehearing and clarification of *Order 831*. ¹⁰¹ *Order 831* required each RTO/ISO: (i) to cap each resource's

⁹⁴ The *Data Collection NOPR* was published in the *Fed. Reg.* on Aug. 4, 2016 (Vol. 81, No. 150 pp. 51,726-51,772.

⁹⁵ Regulations Implementing FAST Act Section 61003 – Critical Electric Infrastructure Security and Amending Critical Energy Infrastructure Information; Availability of Certain North American Electric Reliability Corporation Databases to the Commission, Order No. 833, 157 FERC ¶ 61,123 (Nov. 17, 2016) ("Order 833").

⁹⁶ Order 833 was published in the Fed. Reg. on Dec. 21, 2016 (Vol. 81, No. 245) pp. 93,732-93,753.

⁹⁷ Essential Reliability Services and the Evolving Bulk-Power System—Primary Frequency Response, 157 FERC \P 61,122 (Nov. 17, 2016) ("Primary Frequency Response NOPR").

⁹⁸ Essential Reliability Services and the Evolving Bulk-Power System—Primary Frequency Response, 154 FERC ¶ 61,117 (Feb. 18, 2016) ("Frequency Response NOI").

⁹⁹ Notice of the Request for Supplemental Comments was published in the Fed. Reg. on Aug. 24, 2017 (Vol. 82, No. 163) pp. 40,081-40,085.

Offer Caps in Markets Operated by Regional Transmission Organizations and Independent System Operators, Order No. 831-A, 161 FERC ¶ 61,156 (Nov. 9, 2017) ("Order 831-A").

Offer Caps in Markets Operated by Regional Transmission Organizations and Independent System Operators, Order No. 831, 157 FERC ¶ 61,115 (Nov. 17, 2016) ("Order 831"), reh'g and clarif. granted in part and denied in part, 161 FERC ¶ 61,156 (Nov. 9, 2017).

incremental energy offer at the higher of \$1,000/MWh or that resource's verified cost-based incremental energy offer; and (ii) cap verified cost-based incremental energy offers at \$2,000/MWh when calculating locational marginal prices ("LMP"). In addition, *Order 831* clarified that the verification process for cost-based incremental offers above \$1,000/MWh should ensure that a resource's cost-based incremental energy offer reasonably reflects that resource's actual or expected costs. *Order 831* modified the FERC's *Offer Cap NOPR* by including a \$2,000/MWh hard cap for the purposes of calculating LMPs. *Order 831* became effective February 21, 2017. On December 19, 2017, American Municipal Power Inc. ("AMP") and APPA, Exelon, NYISO, and TAPS requested rehearing and/or clarification of *Order 831*.

In *Order 831-A*, in response to NYISO Concerns, the FERC clarified that *Order 831* did not require cost-based incremental energy offers above \$2,000/MWh to be used to determine economic merit-order dispatch. The FERC also clarified that application of the offer cap and verification requirement adopted in *Order 831* to minimum generation offers, as NYISO requested, is appropriate. With respect to the verification requirement, the FERC granted Exelon's request to amend the regulatory text, by adding the words "actual or expected", to clearly state the FERC's intention that *both* actual and expected costs over \$1,000/MWh may be submitted for verification. The FERC granted NYISO's request for clarification regarding the calculation of uplift payments, clarifying (i) that if a resource avails itself of an RTO's/ISO's current rules to allow a resource to include opportunity costs in its cost-based incremental energy offer, then that RTO/ISO must give that resource an opportunity to recover those opportunity costs through an uplift payment, subject to verification, (ii) that a resource may not receive uplift payments for incremental energy costs in excess of the costs included in its verified incremental energy offer, and (iii) after-the-fact uplift payments may not include any adders above cost, including risk related adders, because actual costs are known after-the-fact. All other requests for rehearing and clarification were denied. *Order 831* becomes effective January 16, 2018.

New England's Tariff revisions in response to requirements of *Order 831*, the *Order 831 Revisions*, were accepted on November 9, effective as of October 1, 2019, as requested (*see* ER17-1565, Section III above).

XIII. Natural Gas Proceedings

For further information on any of the natural gas proceedings, please contact Joe Fagan (202-218-3901; <u>jfagan@daypitney.com</u>) or Jamie Blackburn (202-218-3905; <u>jblackburn@daypitney.com</u>).

• Technical Conference: Natural Gas Index Liquidity, Price Discovery & Price Formation (AD17-12)

The FERC held a technical conference on June 29 on developments in natural gas index liquidity and transparency. The purpose of the technical conference was to understand the state of liquidity in the physical natural gas markets, to explore current trends in physical natural gas trading and price reporting and how the use of natural gas indices have evolved over time, to obtain industry's views on the current level of confidence in natural gas indices and price formation, and finally, to consider whether there is a need to improve natural gas market liquidity and price reporting and, if so, how. Post-technical conference comments were filed on July 31 by AGA, INGAA, the PJM IMM, Rice Energy Marketing, Tenaska Marketing

¹⁰² Order 831 was published in the Fed. Reg. on Dec. 5, 2016 (Vol. 81, No. 233) pp. 87,770-87,800.

¹⁰³ Order 831-A at P 16.

¹⁰⁴ *Id.* at P 17.

¹⁰⁵ *Id.* at PP 39-40.

¹⁰⁶ Order 831-A was published in the Fed. Reg. on Nov. 16, 2017 (Vol. 82, No. 220) pp. 53,403-53,411.

Ventures and others. A transcript of the technical conference is available on the FERC's eLibrary. This matter is pending before the FERC.

Algonquin EDC Capacity Release Bidding Requirements Exemption Request (RP16-618)

On March 31, 2016, the FERC conditionally accepted Algonquin tariff modifications and request for waiver that provided an exemption from capacity release bidding requirements for certain types of firm transportation capacity releases by Electric Distribution Companies ("EDCs") that are participating in state-regulated electric reliability programs. As previously reported, Algonquin stated that the modifications were consistent with the FERC's current policy of exempting releases pursuant to state-regulated retail access programs of natural gas local distribution companies ("LDCs") from bidding requirements. Algonquin added that its proposal (i) supports the efforts of EDCs to increase the reliability of supply for natural gas-fired electric generation facilities in New England and to address high electricity prices during peak periods in New England and therefore is in the public interest; and (ii) furthers the FERC's initiatives related to gas-electric coordination. On May 9, 2016, the FERC held a technical conference to examine "concerns raised regarding the basis and need for the waiver." Initial comments were due May 31. Almost two dozen sets of initial comments were filed, raising numerous issues both in support and in opposition to the Algonquin proposal. Reply comments were due June 10, 2016 and were filed by Algonquin Gas Transmission, Sequent Energy Management, L.P. and Tenaska Marketing Ventures, Indicated Shippers, National Grid, Eversource, Repsol, Calpine, Exelon/NextEra, New England LDCs, CT PURA and the MA AG.

On August 31, 2016, the FERC issued an order in which it rejected Algonquin's request for a waiver that would have exempted gas-fired generators from capacity release bidding requirements but accepted Algonquin's proposal to exempt from bidding an EDC's capacity release to an asset manager who is required to use the released capacity to carry out the EDC's obligations under the state-regulated electric reliability program. 108 The FERC explained that its capacity release regulations seek to balance the interests of the releasing shipper in releasing capacity to a replacement shipper of its choosing while still ensuring that allocative efficiency is enhanced by ensuring the capacity is used for its highest valued use. 109 Algonquin's proposal, whereby any gas-fired generator to whom EDCs release capacity would be a pre-arranged replacement shipper, failed to meet the standard of "improving the competitive structure of the natural gas industry" as formulated by the FERC in granting bidding exemptions for state-regulated retail access programs. 110 Furthermore, the FERC found that exemption proponents had not shown why such a broad exemption was necessary in order for EDCs to have a sufficient ability to direct their capacity releases to natural gas-fired generators in order to accomplish the goal of increasing electric reliability. 111 On September 30, 2016, ConEd and Orange & Rockland Utilities, Inc. ("O&R") requested clarification of the Algonquin Order Following Technical Conference, asking the FERC to clarify certain aspects of its approval exempting from bidding an EDC's capacity release to an asset manager. Algonquin Gas Transmission, National Grid Electric Distribution Companies, and Sequent Energy Management and Tenaska Marketing Ventures filed answers to the requests for clarification on October 17. Those requests are pending before the FERC.

On September 23, 2016, Algonquin submitted a compliance filing in response to the requirements of the *Algonquin Order Following Technical Conference*. Comments on that compliance were due on or before October 5, 2016; none were filed. The compliance filing remains pending before the FERC.

¹⁰⁷ Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC, 154 FERC ¶ 61,269 (Mar. 31, 2016).

Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC, 156 FERC ¶ 61,151 (Aug. 31, 2016) ("Algonquin Order Following Technical Conference")

¹⁰⁹ *Id.* at P 27.

¹¹⁰ *Id*. at P 34.

¹¹¹ *Id.* at P 35

Natural Gas-Related Enforcement Actions

The FERC continues to closely monitor and enforce compliance with regulations governing open access transportation on interstate natural gas pipelines:

BP (IN13-15). On July 11, 2016, the FERC issued Opinion 549¹¹² affirming Judge Cintron's August 13, 2015 Initial Decision finding that BP America Inc., BP Corporation North America Inc., BP America Production Company, and BP Energy Company (collectively, "BP") violated Section 1c.1 of the Commission's regulations ("Anti-Manipulation Rule") and section 4A of the Natural Gas Act ("NGA"). 113 Specifically, after extensive discovery and hearing procedures, Judge Cintron found that BP's Texas team engaged in market manipulation by changing their trading patterns, between September 18, 2008 through the end of November 2008, in order to suppress next-day natural gas prices at the Houston Ship Channel ("HSC") trading point in order to benefit correspondingly long position at the Henry Hub trading point. The FERC agreed, finding that the "record shows that BP's trading practices during the Investigative Period were fraudulent or deceptive, undertaken with the requisite scienter, and carried out in connection with Commission-jurisdictional transactions."¹¹⁴ Accordingly, the FERC assessed a \$20.16 million civil penalty and required BP to disgorge \$207,169 in "unjust profits it received as a result of its manipulation of the Houston Ship Channel Gas Daily index." The \$20.16 million civil penalty was at the top of the FERC's Penalty Guidelines range, reflecting increases for having had a prior adjudication within 5 years of the violation, and for BP's violation of a FERC order within 5 years of the scheme. BP's penalty was mitigated because it cooperated during the investigation, but BP received no deduction for its compliance program, or for self-reporting. The BP Penalties Order also denied BP's request for rehearing of the order establishing a hearing in this proceeding. 115 BP was directed to pay the civil penalty and disgorgement amount within 60 days of the BP Penalties Order. On August 10, 2016 BP requested rehearing of the BP Penalties Order. On September 8, the FERC issued a tolling order, affording it additional time to consider BP's request for rehearing of the BP Penalties Order, which remains pending.

On September 7, 2016, BP submitted a motion for modification of the *BP Penalties Order's* disgorgement directive because it cannot comply with the disgorgement directive as ordered. BP explained that the entity to which disgorgement was to be directed, the Texas Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program ("LIHEAP"), is not set up to receive or disburse amounts received from any person other than the Texas Legislature. In response, on September 12, the FERC stayed the disgorgement directive (until an order on BP's pending request for rehearing is issued), but indicated that interest will continue to accrue on unpaid monies during the pendency of the stay.¹¹⁶

Total Gas & Power North America, Inc. et al. (IN12-17). On April 28, 2016, the FERC issued a show cause order¹¹⁷ in which it directed Total Gas & Power North America, Inc. ("TGPNA") and its West Desk traders and supervisors, Therese Tran f/k/a Nguyen ("Tran") and Aaron Hall (collectively, "Respondents") to show cause why Respondents should not be found to have violated NGA Section 4A and the FERC's Anti-Manipulation Rule through a scheme to manipulate the price of natural gas at four locations in the southwest United States between June 2009 and June 2012. 118

¹¹² BP America Inc., et al., Opinion No. 549, 156 FERC ¶ 61,031 (July 11, 2016) ("BP Penalties Order").

 $^{^{113}}$ BP America Inc., et al., 152 FERC ¶ 63,016 (Aug. 13, 2015) ("BP Initial Decision").

¹¹⁴ BP Penalties Order at P 3.

¹¹⁵ BP America Inc. et al., 147 FERC \P 61,130 (May 15, 2014) ("BP Hearing Order"), reh'g denied, 156 FERC \P 61,031 (July 11, 2016).

¹¹⁶ BP America Inc. et al., 156 FERC ¶ 61,174 (Sep. 12, 2016) ("Order Staying BP Disgorgement")

¹¹⁷ Total Gas & Power North America, Inc., et al., 155 FERC ¶ 61,105 (Apr. 28, 2016) ("TGPNA Show Cause Order").

The allegations giving rise to the Total Show Cause Order were laid out in a September 21, 2015 FERC Staff Notice of Alleged Violations which summarized OE's case against the Respondents. Staff determined that the Respondents violated section 4A of the

The FERC also directed TGPNA to show cause why it should not be required to disgorge unjust profits of \$9.18 million, plus interest; TGPNA, Tran and Hall to show cause why they should not be assessed civil penalties (TGPNA - \$213.6 million; Hall - \$1 million (jointly and severally with TGPNA); and Tran - \$2 million (jointly and severally with TGPNA). In addition, the FERC directed TGPNA's parent company, Total, S.A. ("Total"), and TGPNA's affiliate, Total Gas & Power, Ltd. ("TGPL"), to show cause why they should not be held liable for TGPNA's, Hall's, and Tran's conduct, and be held jointly and severally liable for their disgorgement and civil penalties based on Total's and TGPL's significant control and authority over TGPNA's daily operations. Respondents field their answer on July 12, 2016. OE Staff replied to Respondents' answer on September 23, 2016. Respondents answered OE's September 23 answer on January 17, 2017, and OE Staff responded to that answer on January 27, 2017. This matter remains pending before the FERC.

Staff Notices of Alleged Violations (IN -)

Rover. On July 13, 2017, the FERC issued a notice that Staff has preliminarily determined that, between February 2015 and September 2016, Rover Pipeline, LLC and Energy Transfer Partners, L.P. (collectively, "Rover") violated Section 7 of the Natural Gas Act by failing to fully and forthrightly disclose all relevant information to the FERC in Rover's application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity and attendant filings in Docket No. CP15-93. Staff alleges that Rover falsely promised it would avoid adverse effects to a historic resource that it was simultaneously working to purchase and destroy, and subsequently made several misstatements in its docketed responses to FERC questions about why it had purchased and demolished the resource.

Recall that Notices of Alleged Violations ("NoVs") are issued only after the subject of an enforcement investigation has either responded, or had the opportunity to respond, to a preliminary findings letter detailing Staff's conclusions regarding the subject's conduct. NoVs are designed to increase the transparency of Staff's nonpublic investigations conducted under Part 1b of its regulations. A NoV does not confer a right on third parties to intervene in the investigation or any other right with respect to the investigation.

• New England Pipeline Proceedings

The following New England pipeline projects are currently under construction or before the FERC:

Atlantic Bridge Project (CP16-9)

- ▶ 132,700 Dth/d of firm transportation to new and existing delivery points on the Algonquin system and 106,276 Dth/d of firm transportation service from Beverly, MA to various existing delivery points on the Maritimes & Northeast system.
- 6.3 miles of replacement pipeline along Algonquin in NY and CT; new 7,700-horsepower compressor station in Weymouth, MA; more horsepower at existing compressor stations in CT and NY.
- Seven firm shippers: Heritage Gas Limited, Maine Natural Gas Company, NSTAR Gas Company d/b/a Eversource Energy, Exelon Generation Company, LLC (as assignee and asset manager of Summit Natural Gas of Maine), Irving Oil Terminal Operations, Inc., New England NG Supply Limited, and Norwich Public Utilities.

Natural Gas Act and the Commission's Anti-Manipulation Rule by devising and executing a scheme to manipulate the price of natural gas in the southwest United States between June 2009 and June 2012. Specifically, Staff alleged that the scheme involved making largely uneconomic trades for physical natural gas during bid-week designed to move indexed market prices in a way that benefited the company's related positions. Staff alleged that the West Desk implemented the bid-week scheme on at least 38 occasions during the period of interest, and that Tran and Hall each implemented the scheme and supervised and directed other traders in implementing the scheme.

See Enforcement of Statutes, Regulations, and Orders, 129 FERC \P 61,247 (Dec. 17, 2009), order on requests for reh'g and clarification, 134 FERC \P 61,054 (Jan. 24, 2011).

- Certificate of public convenience and necessity granted Jan. 25, 2017.
- Certain facilities,¹²¹ providing 40,000 out of the project's total capacity of 132,705 dekatherms per day of incremental firm transportation service, placed into service on November 1, 2017.¹²² Remaining Project capacity will be available when the remaining Project facilities are placed into service following Director of OEP authorization.
- Authorization to proceed with construction of additional Project segments requested on Oct. 31, 2017. Detailed information regarding construction activities can be found in the weekly construction reports filed in this docket.

Connecticut Expansion Project (CP14-529)

- Tennessee Gas Pipeline filed for Section 7(c) certificate July 31, 2014.
- ▶ 72,100 Dth/d of firm capacity.
- 13.26 miles of three looping segments & facility upgrades/modifications in NY, MA & CT.
- Three firm shippers: Conn. Natural Gas, Southern Conn. Gas, and Yankee Gas.
- Environmental Assessment (EA) issued on Oct. 23, 2015.
- Certificate of public convenience and necessity granted Mar. 11, 2016.
- Construction began 4th Quarter 2016; now completed.
- Facilities placed in-service All project facilities, other than the Connecticut Loop, on November 1, 2017; Connecticut Loop, on November 10, 2017.

• Constitution Pipeline (CP13-499) and Wright Interconnection Project (CP13-502)

- Constitution Pipeline Company and Iroquois Gas Transmission (Wright Interconnection) concurrently filed for Section 7(c) certificates on June 13, 2013.
- 650,000 Dth/d of firm capacity from Susquehanna County, PA (Marcellus Shale) through NY to Iroquois/Tennessee interconnection (Wright Interconnection).
- New 122-mile interstate pipeline.
- Two firm shippers: Cabot Oil & Gas and Southwestern Energy Services.
- Final EIS completed on Oct 24, 2014.
- Certificates of public convenience and necessity granted Dec 2, 2014.
 - By letter order issued July 26, 2016, the Director of the Division of Pipeline Certificates (Director) granted Constitution's requested two-year extension of time to construct the project.
 - Construction was expected to begin Spring 2016 (after final Federal Authorizations), but has been plagued by delays (see below).
- On April 22, 2016, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NY DEC) denied Constitution's application for a Section 401 permit under the Clean Water Act.
 - On August 18, 2017, the 2nd Circuit denied Constitution's petition for review of the NY DEC decision, concluding that (1) the court lacked jurisdiction over the Constitution's claims to the extent that they challenged the timeliness of the

Order Issuing Certificate and Authorizing Abandonment, Algonquin Gas Transmission LLC and Maritimes & Northeast Pipeline, LLC, 158 FERC ¶ 61,061 (Jan. 25, 2017), reh'g denied, 160 FERC ¶ 61,016 (Aug. 21, 2017) ("Atlantic Bridge Project Order").

The following facilities placed into service: Southeast Discharge Take-up and Relay (Fairfield County, CT); Modified Oxford Compressor Station (New Haven County, CT); Modified Chaplin Compressor Station (Windham County, CT); Modified Danbury (CT) Meter Station; and Modified Stony Point Compressor Station (Rockland County, NY).

¹²² Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC, 158 FERC ¶ 61,061 (Oct. 27, 2017).

Tennessee Gas Pipeline Co., LLC, 154 FERC \P 61,191 (Mar. 11, 2016) (order issuing certificate); reh'g requested. See also 154 FERC \P 61,263 (Mar. 30, 2016) (order denying stay); 155 FERC \P 61,087 (Apr. 22, 2016) (order denying stay).

decision; and (2) the NY DEC acted within its statutory authority in denying the certification, and its denial was not arbitrary or capricious.

- On May 16, 2016, the New York Attorney General filed a complaint against Constitution at the FERC (CP13-499) seeking a stay of the December 2014 order granting the original certificates, as well as alleging violations of the order, the Natural Gas Act, and the Commission's own regulations due to acts and omissions associated with clear-cutting and other construction-related activities on the pipeline right of way in New York.
 - In July 2016, the FERC rejected the NY AG's filing as procedurally deficient, and declined to stay of the Certificate Order
- Tree felling and site preparation continues, but the long-term status of the pipeline is currently unknown. Constitution will submit its monitoring reports monthly rather than weekly until activities resume in 2018.

Non-New England Pipeline Proceedings

The following pipeline projects could affect ongoing pipeline proceeding in New England and around the country:

- Southeast Market Pipelines Project (CP14-554, CP15-16, CP15-17)
 - Florida Southeast Connection, LLC, Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC and Sabal Trail Transmission, LLC (Sabal Trail) filed for a Section 7(c) certificates in Sept. – Nov. 2014.
 - The three separate but connected natural gas transmission pipeline projects project total approximately 685.5 miles of natural gas transmission pipeline and provide transportation service for up to approximately 1.1 billion cubic feet per day of natural gas to markets in Florida and the southeast United States.
 - Certificates of public convenience and necessity were granted Feb. 2, 2016.
 - Project construction began in August 2016, and in June and July 2017,
 Commission Staff authorized the pipelines to commence service on completed facilities.
 - On August 22, 2017, the DC Circuit vacated and remanded the FERC's certificate order, holding that the FERC's environmental review of the project failed to adequately consider the downstream effects of greenhouse gas emissions resulting from increased power generation.¹²⁵
 - The DC Circuit held that FERC must either quantify and consider the project's downstream carbon emissions or explain in more detail why it cannot do so. According to the court, quantification would permit the agency to compare the emissions from this project to emissions from other projects, to total emissions from the state or the region, or to regional or national emissions-control goals. Without such comparisons, it is difficult to see how FERC could engage in "informed decision making" with respect to the greenhouse-gas effects of this project, or how "informed public comment" could be possible.
 - This opinion could have significant consequences for future pipeline proceedings at FERC.
 - On September 27, 2017, the FERC issued a Draft Supplemental EIS, estimating the pipeline would potentially increase the Florida GHG emission inventory between 3.7 and 9.7 percent.

 $^{^{124}}$ Fla. Southeast Connection, LLC, 154 FERC \P 61,080, 61 (Feb. 2, 2016) (order issuing certificate).

¹²⁵ Sierra Club v. FERC, 2017 U.S. App. LEXIS 15911 (D.C. Cir. Aug. 22, 2017).

 In the supplemental EIS, the FERC stated that it "could not find a suitable method to attribute discrete environmental effects to GHG emissions."

• Millennium Pipeline Valley Lateral Project (CP16-17)

- On July 21, 2017, Millennium Pipeline Company, L.L.C. (Millennium) filed a Request for Notice to Proceed with Construction of its Valley Lateral Project in Orange County, New York.
 - The Valley Lateral Pipeline will connect the existing Millennium Pipeline to the 680 MW CPV Valley Energy Center.
- To receive a notice to proceed, Millennium was required to demonstrate that it had obtained all federally-required environmental permits and authorizations, including authorizations under the Clean Water Act (CWA). Millennium stated that the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (New York DEC) had waived its authority to issue a water quality certification under Section 401 of the CWA by failing to act before the statutorily-imposed deadline.
 - In August 2017, the NY DEC denied the water quality certification to the Valley Lateral Project, citing the D.C. Circuit's recent ruling in Sierra Club v. FERC and the FERC's "lack of a complete environmental review."
- By Letter Order issued on September 15, 2017, the FERC agreed with Millennium, finding that the New York DEC had waived its authority to issue or deny a water quality certification. Because the NY DEC had received Millennium's Section 401 certification in November 2015, but did not rule on it until August 2017, FERC ruled that NY DEC, as the certifying agency, had therefore failed to act within the statutory timeframe and had waived its certification authority. The FERC's order effectively nullifies the NY DEC's August 2017 rejection of the water quality certification.
 - The NY DEC, on October 13, 2017, filed a Request for Rehearing and Stay of the FERC's September 15, 2017, Order. On November 15, the FERC denied the requests for rehearing, stay, and rescission.
- Millennium sought, and on October 3, 2017, the FERC granted, a one year extension of time to complete construction of the Valley Lateral Project and make it available for service by November 2018.
- On October 27, 2017, the FERC issued a Notice to Proceed, granting Millennium's request to begin construction of the Valley Lateral.
 - The NY DEC, on October 30, 2017, filed a Request for Stay of the Notice to Proceed. The November 15 Order also denied the October 30 request for stay.

• Northern Access Project (CP15-115)

 On Feb. 3, 2017, the FERC issued an order authorizing National Fuel Gas Supply Corporation and Empire Pipeline, Inc. to construct and operate pipeline, compression,

¹²⁶ Millennium Pipeline Co., L.L.C., 160 FERC ¶ 61,065 (Sept. 15, 2017), reh'g denied, 161 FERC ¶ 61,186 (Nov. 15, 2017).

¹²⁷ Millennium Pipeline Co., L.L.C., 161 FERC ¶ 61,186 (Nov. 15, 2017) ("November 15 Order").

On Oct. 30, 2017, NY DEC also petitioned the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit for a temporary stay of the FERC's Notice to Proceed until the FERC acts on NY DEC's request for rehearing of the Declaratory Order. *In re New York State Department of Environmental Conservation v. FERC*, 2d Cir. No. 17-3503, Petitioner's Emergency Petition for a Writ of Prohibition (Oct. 30, 2017) (Emergency Petition). NY DEC also requested the court to stay the effectiveness of the Notice to Proceed on an interim basis while the court considers the merits of its petition. *Id.* at 34. On Nov. 2, 2017, the court granted an administrative stay pending consideration of the petition by the next available three-judge panel. *In re New York State Dep't of Envtl. Conservation v. FERC*, 2d Cir. No. 17-3503 (Nov. 2, 2017). NY DEC's Emergency Petition is pending at the court.

- and ancillary facilities in McKean County, Pennsylvania, and Allegany, Cattaraugus, Erie, and Niagara Counties, New York (Northern Access Project)
- In March 2017, Allegheny Defense Project and Sierra Club (collectively Allegheny) filed a request for rehearing of the FERC's order and on August 31, 2017, FERC issued an Order Denying Stay
 - Consistent with its previous authorization, FERC found no evidence of irreparable harm in letting the project go forward.
- Despite the FERC's Order, the project remains halted pending the outcome of National Fuel's fight with the NY DEC's April denial of a Clean Water Act permit.
 - NY DEC found National Fuel's application for a water quality certification, as well as for stream and wetlands disturbance permits, failed to comply with water regulations aimed at protecting wetlands and wildlife and that the pipeline failed to explore construction alternatives.

NAESB WGQ Version 3.1 Standards (RM96-1)

On September 29, the North American Energy Standards Board ("NAESB") submitted an informational status report summarizing the development and summary of the changes that resulted in the issuance of Version 3.1 of the NAESB Wholesale Gas Quadrant ("WGQ") Standards. This report will not be noticed for public comment.

XIV. State Proceedings & Federal Legislative Proceedings

• Massachusetts Emissions Allowance Auctions: Stakeholder Input on Auction Design Parameters
In an action that could have implications for the New England Markets, the Massachusetts (MA)
Department of Environmental Protection ("MassDEP") issued on August 11, 2017 final regulations to ensure that
MA will meet the 2020 statewide greenhouse gas ("GHG") emissions limits mandated by MA's 2008 Global
Warming Solutions Act ("GWSA"). Section 7.74¹²⁹ of those regulations reduces carbon dioxide ("CO₂") emissions
from MA-based power plants by imposing an annually declining aggregate emissions cap on MA's 21 large fossil
fuel-fired generators. Operators of those facilities will have to offset their CO₂ production with allowances (a
limited authorization to emit one metric ton of CO₂ in a calendar year). Allowances will be allocated directly in
2018 based on historical generation. Beginning with compliance year 2019, Section 7.74 requires auctioning of
the emissions allowances that facilities must use to comply with the regulation. Allowances may be traded
between facilities and a limited quantity may be banked from year to year.

The MA Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs ("EEA") and the MassDEP are seeking stakeholder input on implementation of emissions allowance auctions under Section 7.74, and have posed the following questions:

- Are there additional special considerations that should be taken into account for an auction of this type occurring in a single state?
- When and how often should allowance auctions occur?
- Other than regulated power plants, should any other entities be allowed to purchase allowances?
- Should there be a minimum reserve price, and, if so, what should it be?
- What limits should there be on the number of allowances that can be purchased by a single bidder?
- Is there a need to protect certain information about auction bids or results from public release?

Additional information about 310 CMR 7.74 (Reducing CO₂ Emissions from Electricity Generating Facilities) is available at: http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/climate-energy/climate/ghg/electricity-generatoremissions-limits.html.

Are there any particular design elements that should be considered because of the number of regulated facilities and facility owners?

To provide input on the auction design parameters, interested stakeholders may, by November 15, 2017, provide additional input by submitting written comments to <u>climate.strategies@state.ma.us</u>. This input will be used to inform auction design activities planned for 2018. Additional opportunities to provide input may be provided.

To receive further emails about this stakeholder process, including meeting announcements, go to https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/C22Z6YR to provide your contact information.

• NG Advantage (NY) Permit Challenge (RJI No.: 2017-0799; RJI No.: 2017-0800)

Chenango Valley Central School District and various nearby residents Petitioners have initiated proceedings against the Town of Fenton, New York Planning Board and NG Advantage, LLC to halt NG Advantage, LLC's ("NG Advantage") proposed construction of a natural gas compressor facility that would extract gas up to 4000 psi and transport the compressed natural gas to NG Advantage customers. Petitioners are concerned that the project infringes on the rights of those who live near the transfer station. They are specifically concerned about the site's proximity to schools, and the burden it could place on local roads.

A judicial decision on whether the Town of Fenton followed proper procedures with respect to zoning laws in approving the Project has been held in reserve while Supreme Court Judge Ferris Lebous reviews oral arguments and submissions. The Project is currently halted pending judgment.

XV. Federal Courts

The following are matters of interest, including petitions for review of FERC decisions in NEPOOL-related proceedings, that are currently pending before the federal courts (unless otherwise noted, the cases are before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit). An "**" following the Case No. indicates that NEPOOL has intervened or is a litigant in the appeal. The remaining matters are appeals as to which NEPOOL has no organizational interest but that may be of interest to Participants. For further information on any of these proceedings, please contact Pat Gerity (860-275-0533; pmgerity@daypitney.com).

Demand Curve Changes (17-1110**)
 Underlying FERC Proceedings: ER14-1639¹³⁰
 Petitioners: NextEra, NRG, PSEG

On April 3, 2017, NextEra, NRG and PSEG ("Petitioners") again petitioned the DC Circuit Court of Appeals for review of the FERC's Demand Curve orders, which, as previously reported, had been remanded back to the FERC at the FERC's request following the first appeal by Petitioners. Petitioners' statement of issues and other initial procedural submissions, as well as the FERC's initial submissions, were filed May 8. The Clerk granted on June 2 the interventions filed by NEPOOL, NESCOE, CT PURA, and CPV. Petitioner's Brief was filed on September 8, and corrected on September 18 (for compliance with the Court's rules on acronyms and abbreviations). Respondent FERC's Brief was filed on 11/21/2017; Intervenors for Respondent Brief(s) is to be filed 12/12/2017; Petitioner Reply Brief, 1/11/2018; Deferred Appendix, 01/25/2018; and Final Briefs, 2/01/2018. On November 28, NRDC and CLF jointly moved for leave to participate as amici curiae and filed an amicus curiae brief in support of the FERC On December 5, the Court granted NRDC/CLF leave to participate as amici curiae and the Clerk lodged the Nov 28 amicus curiae brief. As noted herein, Intervenors for Respondent Briefs are due December 12.

 $^{^{130}}$ 147 FERC \P 61,173 (May 30, 2014) (Demand Curve Order); 150 FERC \P 61,065 (Jan. 30, 2015) (Demand Curve Clarification Order); 155 FERC \P 61,023 (Apr. 8, 2016) (Demand Curve Remand Order); 158 FERC \P 61,138 (Feb. 3, 2017) (Demand Curve Remand Rehearing Order).

FCA10 Results (16-1408) and FCA9 Results (16-1068)
 Underlying FERC Proceedings: ER16-1041¹³¹ ER15-1137¹³²
 Petitioners: UWUA Local 464 and Robert Clark

UWUA Local 464 and Robert Clark ("Petitioners") filed petitions for review of the FERC's orders on the FCA10 and FCA9 Results Filings, consolidated by the Court on January 31, 2017. With Final Briefs submitted on June 26, 2017, all briefing is complete and this matter is before the Court.

NEPGA PER Complaint and FCM Jump Ball and Compliance Proceedings (16-1023/1024)
 Underlying FERC Proceeding: ER14-1050;¹³³ EL14-52;134 EL15-25¹³⁵
 Petitioner: NEPGA

As previously reported, NEPGA filed, on January 19, 2016, a petition for review of the FERC's orders on NEPGA's first PER Complaint. On February 24, 2016, the Court granted NEPGA's motion to consolidate this proceeding with 16-1024. Briefing was completed on November 28, 2016. Oral argument was held October 27, 2017 before Judges Griffith, Sentelle and Randolph. This matter is now pending before the Court.

Base ROE Complaints II & III (2012 & 2014) (15-1212)
 Underlying FERC Proceedings: EL13-33; EL14-86¹³⁶
 Appellants: New England Transmission Owners

As previously reported, the TOs filed a petition for review of the FERC's orders in the 2012 and 2014 ROE complaint proceedings on July 13, 2015. On August 14, 2015, the TOs filed an unopposed motion to hold this case in abeyance pending final FERC action on the 2012 and 2014 ROE Complaints (see Section I above). On August 20, 2015, the Court granted the TOs' motion to hold the case in abeyance, subject to submission of status reports every 90 days. The most recent status report, the ninth such report filed, was filed on November 13, 2017. In that report, the parties again indicated, ultimately, that the proceedings upon which the TOs based their request for abeyance of this appeal remain ongoing. This case continues to be held in abeyance.

• FCM Pricing Rules Complaints (15-1071**, 16-1042) (consol.) Underlying FERC Proceeding: EL14-7, EL15-23¹³⁸ Petitioners: NEPGA, Exelon

On March 31, 2015, NEPGA filed a petition for review of the FERC's orders on NEPGA's FCM Administrative Pricing Rules Complaint. Following briefing, oral argument was held October 6, 2017 before Judges Srinivasan, Wilkins and Sentelle. This matter is now pending before the Court.

¹³¹ 155 FERC ¶ 61,273 (June 16, 2016); 157 FERC ¶ 61,060 (Oct. 27, 2016).

^{132 153} FERC ¶ 61,378 (Dec. 30, 2015); 151 FERC ¶ 61,226 (June 18, 2015).

¹³³ 153 FERC ¶ 61,224 (Nov. 19, 2015); 153 FERC ¶ 61,223 (Nov. 19, 2015); 147 FERC ¶ 61,172 (May 30, 2014).

¹³⁴ 153 FERC ¶ 61,222 (Nov. 19, 2015); 150 FERC ¶ 61,053 (Jan. 30, 2015).

^{135 153} FERC ¶ 61,222 (Nov. 19, 2015); 150 FERC ¶ 61,053 (Jan. 30, 2015).

¹³⁶ 147 FERC ¶ 61,235 (June 19, 2014); 149 FERC ¶ 61,156 (Nov. 24, 2014); 151 FERC ¶ 61,125 (May 14, 2015).

¹³⁷ 150 FERC ¶ 61,064 (Jan. 30, 2015); 146 FERC ¶ 61,039 (Jan. 24, 2014).

¹³⁸ 154 FERC ¶ 61,005 (Jan. 7, 2016); 150 FERC ¶ 61,067 (Jan. 30, 2015).

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