

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20426

August 14, 2006

In Reply Refer To:
Maine Public Service Company,
Docket No. ER00-1053-018

Wendy N. Reed, Esq.
Wright & Talisman, P.C.
1200 G Street, N.W.
Suite 600
Washington, D.C. 20005-3802

Dear Ms. Reed:

1. On June 15, 2006, you submitted, on behalf of Maine Public Service Company (MPS), an annual update filing reflecting changes to the MPS's Open Access Transmission Tariff (OATT) decreasing the rate for Network Integration Service from \$33.86 per kW/year to \$31.60 per kW/year. Your filing also reflected a new transmission loss factor, which is the same as the loss factor accepted by the Commission in Docket No. ER06-762-000.¹
2. Notice of the filing was published in the *Federal Register*, 71 Fed. Reg. 38,392 (2006), with interventions and protests due on or before July 6, 2006. Timely motions to intervene and comments were filed by WPS Energy Services (ESI) and Houlton Water Company (Houlton). The Maine Public Utilities Commission filed an out-of-time motion to intervene. Houlton also filed a protest expressing concerns regarding the filing.
3. Houlton and ESI note that historically they have engaged in discussions with MPS resulting in a settlement resolving the issues raised by MPS's annual filing under the formula rate. Houlton and ESI request that the Commission defer final action on MPS's filing to allow the parties an opportunity to resolve their concerns. Houlton and ESI state that they are authorized to state that MPS supports this request for a deferral.

¹ See *Maine Public Service Company*, Docket No. ER06-762-000 (April 17, 2006) unpublished delegated letter order.

4. Pursuant to 18 C.F.R. § 385.214 (2006), the timely motions to intervene serve to make movants parties to this proceeding.

5. As the parties are engaged in ongoing discussions with a view towards resolving Houlton's concerns amicably, and noting that with respect to the last such filing the parties were able to reach agreement on all issues,² the Commission will accept and suspend this filing and make it effective June 1, 2006, as requested, subject to refund and further Commission order.

6. MPS is directed to inform the Commission no later than October 3, 2006 on the status of negotiations and file an amendment to its June 15, 2006 filing, as necessary, to reflect the resolution of the issues.

By direction of the Commission.

Magalie R. Salas,
Secretary.

² See *Maine Public Service Company*, Docket No. ER00-1053-015, *et al.* (August 11, 2005).