

P.I.

July 12, 2012

STATE OF VERMONT
LEGISLATIVE JOINT FISCAL COMMITTEE
ONE BALDWIN STREET
MONTPELIER, VT 05633-5701

To: The Legislative Joint Fiscal Committee

Sen. Ann Cummings, Chair
Rep. Martha Heath, Vice-Chair
Rep. Carolyn Branagan, Clerk
Rep. Janet Ancel
Sen. Diane Snelling
Sen. John Campbell
Rep. Mitzi Johnson
Sen. Jane Kitchel
Rep. David Sharpe
Sen. Richard Sears

Enclosed is the Quarterly Report of costs and expenditures for proceedings of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission [30 V. S. A. § 20 (b)(9)] covering the period from January 1, 2012 through March 31, 2012.

Respectfully Submitted,
Vermont Department of Public Service

Elizabeth Miller
Commissioner

Enclosure

**Public Service Department Expenditures
Related to Proceedings
At the
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
For the period
January 1, 2012 through March 31, 2012**

General Description of Activity

The Department takes action at FERC to protect the interest of Vermont ratepayers in many different proceedings. We have FERC counsel on contract to monitor general FERC actions and proceedings and to also represent Vermont's interests in particular proceedings. For example, the Department has been active at FERC in ensuring fairness in cost allocations for utility projects and in ensuring Vermont's interests are represented in New England transmission projects. The issues vary from quarter to quarter but it is crucial to Vermont consumers that the Public Service Department intervenes at FERC when necessary to ensure that the costs flowing back to Vermont ratepayers as a result of FERC activity and proceedings are true, accurate, just and reasonable. The expenditures reported below are consistent with prior periods and are in line with expectations.

Expenditures

For FERC related activity affecting Vermont ¹	\$ 28,462.00
Indirect Expenditures ²	<u>\$ 4,118.75</u>
Total Expenditures ³ for the Quarter	<u>\$ 32,5810.75</u>

¹In accordance with Title 30, § 20 (b) (9) the department of public service provides the following quarterly report for expenditures related to FERC proceedings affecting the State of Vermont Utilities for the period January 1, 2012 through March 31, 2012.

§20. Particular proceedings; personnel

(b) Proceedings, including appeals there from, for which additional personnel may be retained are:

(9) Proceedings in the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission which involve Vermont utilities or which may affect the interests of the state of Vermont. Costs under this subdivision shall be charged to the involved electric or natural gas companies pursuant to section 21(a) of this title. In cases where the proceeding is generic in nature the costs shall be allocated to electric or natural gas companies in proportion to the benefits sought for the customers of such companies from such advocacy. The public service board and the department of public service shall report quarterly to the joint fiscal committee all costs incurred and expenditures charged under the authority of this subsection, and the purpose for which such costs were incurred and expenditures made;

²Indirect expenditures include telephone, postage and copying expense.

³ Expenditures include amounts actually paid for the quarter.

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Enclosed is the Quarterly Report of costs and expenditures for proceedings of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission [30 V. S. A. § 20 (b)(9)] covering the period from April 1, 2012 through June 30, 2012.

Respectfully Submitted,
Vermont Department of Public Service

Elizabeth Miller
Commissioner

Enclosure

**Public Service Department Expenditures
Related to Proceedings
At the
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
For the period
April 1, 2012 through June 30, 2012**

General Description of Activity

The Department takes action at FERC to protect the interest of Vermont ratepayers in many different proceedings. We have FERC counsel on contract to monitor general FERC actions and proceedings and to also represent Vermont's interests in particular proceedings. For example, the Department has been active at FERC in ensuring fairness in cost allocations for utility projects and in ensuring Vermont's interests are represented in New England transmission projects. The issues vary from quarter to quarter but it is crucial to Vermont consumers that the Public Service Department intervenes at FERC when necessary to ensure that the costs flowing back to Vermont ratepayers as a result of FERC activity and proceedings are true, accurate, just and reasonable. The expenditures reported below are consistent with prior periods and are in line with expectations.

Expenditures

For FERC related activity affecting Vermont ¹	\$ 31,293.00
Indirect Expenditures ²	\$ <u>294.42</u>
Total Expenditures³ for the Quarter	<u>\$ 31,587.42</u>

¹In accordance with Title 30, § 20 (b) (9) the department of public service provides the following quarterly report for expenditures related to FERC proceedings affecting the State of Vermont Utilities for the period April 1, 2012 through June 30, 2012.

§20. Particular proceedings; personnel

(b) Proceedings, including appeals there from, for which additional personnel may be retained are:

(9) Proceedings in the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission which involve Vermont utilities or which may affect the interests of the state of Vermont. Costs under this subdivision shall be charged to the involved electric or natural gas companies pursuant to section 21(a) of this title. In cases where the proceeding is generic in nature the costs shall be allocated to electric or natural gas companies in proportion to the benefits sought for the customers of such companies from such advocacy. The public service board and the department of public service shall report quarterly to the joint fiscal committee all costs incurred and expenditures charged under the authority of this subsection, and the purpose for which such costs were incurred and expenditures made;

²Indirect expenditures include telephone, postage and copying expense.

³ Expenditures include amounts actually paid for the quarter.