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February 22, 2010

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

To: The Legislative Joint Fiscal Committee  
Rep. Michael J. Obuchowski, Chair  
Sen. Ann Cummings, Vice-Chair  
Sen. Diane Snelling, Clerk  
Rep. Janet Ancel  
Sen. Susan Bartlett  
Rep. Martha Heath  
Rep. Mark Larson  
Sen. Richard Sears, Jr.  
Sen. Peter Shumlin  
~~Rep. Richard Westman~~

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 October 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Vermont Department of Public Service



David O'Brien  
Commissioner

Enclosure



**Public Service Department Expenditures  
Related to Proceedings  
At the  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
For the period  
October 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009**

**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.

**Expenditures**

|  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| For FERC related activity affecting Vermont <sup>1</sup> | \$495.26        |
| Indirect Expenditures <sup>2</sup>                       | <u>\$55.70</u>  |
| Total Expenditures <sup>3</sup> for the Quarter          | <b>\$550.96</b> |

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<sup>1</sup>In 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 October 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009.

§20. Particular proceedings; personnel

(b) Proceedings, including appeals therefrom, 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;

<sup>2</sup>Indirect expenditures include telephone, postage and copying expense.

<sup>3</sup> Expenditures include amounts actually paid for the quarter.