

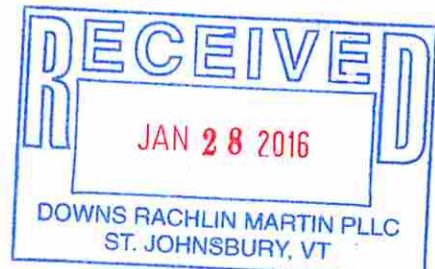
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**State of Vermont
Public Service Board**

MEMORANDUM



To: Parties in PSB Docket No. 8300

From: Judith C. Whitney, Acting Clerk of the Board *ycw*

Re: Schedule for Technical Hearings

Date: January 26, 2016

Technical hearings in this Vermont Public Service Board ("Board") proceeding are scheduled to occur during the week of February 22, 2016. Based upon the testimony filed to date, the Board has scheduled the hearings for February 23 and 24. The hearings will take place in the Board's hearing room on the third floor of the People's United Bank Building at 112 State Street in Montpelier.

In preparation for the hearings, the Board hereby asks that the parties submit a proposed order of witnesses by February 2, 2016.

Parties are encouraged to prepare this proposed order of witnesses collaboratively. The Petitioner, Entergy Nuclear Vermont Yankee, LLC and Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc., is requested to take the lead in communicating with other parties. The witness schedule should identify the specific day on which each witness will testify. In addition, each party should identify the amount of time that party anticipates using to cross-examine each witness. In developing the schedule, parties should be sure to incorporate time that the Board could be expected to use for its questions.

The Board strongly encourages parties to focus their cross-examination, wherever possible, to optimize the use of hearing time. Time estimates should represent good-faith estimates, rather than placeholders for potential cross-examination. Following receipt of the parties' proposals, the Board will establish a schedule for witnesses and, if necessary, set limits on the amount of time for cross-examination.

To facilitate the hearings, the Board also intends to adopt the following procedures:



- The Board anticipates that hearings will run from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. If necessary, the Board may commence the hearings at 9:00 a.m. or extend them to as late as 7:00 p.m. The parties should prepare the proposed schedule of witnesses using the dates set out above.
- Each day, before the commencement of hearings, a member of the Board's staff will meet with parties' representatives in the hearing room to discuss procedural issues that may arise that day. The first of these meetings will take place at 9:00 a.m. on February 23, 2016. All parties intending to present evidence or conduct examination that day *must* attend the procedural conference that morning. Issues to be discussed will include the schedule for the day, marking of exhibits, identification of allegedly confidential information that may be presented that day, objections to testimony or exhibits, and other matters.
- For each day, the Board intends to adopt the following schedule:
 - The hearings will recess for lunch from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.
 - The Board will schedule a 15-minute morning break around 10:30 a.m. and a 15-minute afternoon break around 3:00 p.m.
- Parties are encouraged to stipulate to the admission of any prefiled testimony and prefiled exhibits to which no party has objected.
- The Board will not permit witnesses to orally summarize their testimony.
- At the beginning of the day, parties should mark for identification any exhibits that they plan to introduce (including those to be used in cross-examination). To the extent feasible, parties should plan to mark each document as a separate exhibit, rather than introducing all of a witness's exhibits or a collection of different documents as a single exhibit. Parties should also prepare a written list of all exhibits (an electronic version would also be appreciated). Parties should ensure that, for exhibits that were not prefiled, and for their exhibit lists, they have sufficient copies to distribute to the Board, Board staff, and other parties. Parties should distribute exhibits that have not been prefiled with other parties prior to the commencement of hearings for that day.
- Witnesses should arrive at the hearing at least one-half hour prior to their estimated starting time, unless the witness is the first witness of the day.
- The time used to introduce witnesses, prefiled testimony, and exhibits should be kept to a minimum.

- Parties are reminded that their cross-examination of witnesses will be strictly limited to issues that are within the scope of their intervention.

Each party that has not already done so should send the Clerk of the Board (at psb.clerk@vermont.gov) electronic copies of prefilled testimony and exhibits.¹ Also, parties should file electronic copies of briefs and reply briefs at the same time they file the written copies. To the extent that parties file this material in .pdf format, the Board requests that parties ensure that the .pdf file is encoded in a manner that allows text to be searched and selectively extracted. Alternatively, parties should submit the prefilled testimony, exhibits, and briefs in their original, non-pdf format.

1. Parties need not file copies, electronically, of confidential testimony and exhibits.