



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 1
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BOSTON, MA 02109-3912

December 21, 2016

Mr. Craig A. Wright
Director, Air Resources Division
New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services
29 Hazen Drive
Concord, NH 03302-0095

Dear Mr. Wright:

EPA has concluded its review of the Eversource - Newington Station (Newington) Draft Temporary Permit issued on November 17, 2016. We appreciate the timely notice on the issuance of the draft permit and the opportunity to participate in the public comment process.

Per the project description, fuel oil sulfur limits for Newington units NT1, NTAB1, and NTAB2 in the Draft Temporary Permit are consistent with emission rates incorporated into the October 6, 2016 modeling analysis submitted to EPA. The modeling analysis characterized 1-hour sulfur dioxide (SO₂) concentrations with respect to the 2010 1-hour SO₂ Primary National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for the New Hampshire seacoast region. The characterization was intended to meet the state's obligations under the SO₂ Data Requirements Rule (40 CFR Part 51 Subpart BB).

In our review, EPA has found that the modeling analysis used by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NH DES) to characterize impacts from Newington appropriately follows EPA modeling guidance. The draft emission limits, which represent a 50% decrease in allowable SO₂ emissions from the affected units at Newington (when compared to the current limit), are protective of the 1-hour SO₂ NAAQS.

EPA has no adverse comments to the Eversource - Newington Draft Temporary Permit. We look forward to receiving the final Temporary Permit and NH DES's response to any comments which may be received during the public comment process.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Leiran Biton of my staff at biton.leiran@epa.gov or (617) 918-1267.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ida E. McDonnell".

Ida E. McDonnell, Manager
Air Permits, Toxics and Indoor Programs Unit

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