

Joint Petitioners are not insensitive to the desire expressed by the State Parties, and apparently also by certain other parties, to focus on settlement negotiations without having to prepare for the technical hearings scheduled to begin on January 22, 2018. However, because the State Parties' motion does not propose alternate dates that would enable the Commission to issue a decision in this Docket by this Spring, the motion increases the risk that a decision would not be rendered in sufficient time for any appeals to be exhausted such that the transaction can close by December 31, 2018, the target closing date and the date by which the licenses issued by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission ("NRC") for the Vermont Yankee site must be transferred to NorthStar, if the NRC grants Joint Petitioners' license transfer request.

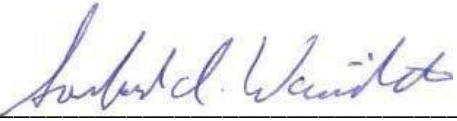
Joint Petitioners respectfully submit that the better course would be to keep the second week of already-scheduled technical hearing (to begin January 29, 2018) on calendar, and for the Commission to advise the parties concerning which subsequent days in February on which the Commission is available to continue and to complete the hearing. By taking the first week of technical hearing off the calendar, while leaving the second week on calendar, the parties would have some "breathing room" to continue settlement negotiations, but an actual and proximate hearing date would remain available in the event those negotiations break down.

As for the already-noticed public hearing currently scheduled for January 18, 2018, Joint Petitioners propose that it be kept on schedule, or alternatively a new notice be issued on January 17, 2018, for a public hearing to be held on January 29, 2018. In that event, the Commission could hold a pre-hearing conference for the technical hearing on January 26, 2018, hold the public hearing on January 29, 2018, and commence the technical hearing on January 30, 2018.

DATED: January 12, 2018

Respectfully submitted,

QUINN EMANUEL URQUHART &
SULLIVAN, LLP
Attorneys for Entergy Nuclear Vermont Investment
Company, LLC, Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.,
and Entergy Nuclear Vermont Yankee, LLC

By: 

Sanford I. Weisburst*
Ellyde R. Thompson*
Jonathan B. Oblak^
Ingrid E. Scholze*
51 Madison Avenue, 22nd Floor
New York, NY 10010
(212) 849-7170
sandyweisburst@quinnemanuel.com


*admitted *pro hac vice*
^ *pro hac vice* motion pending

John Marshall
Downs Rachlin Martin PLLC
90 Prospect Street
St. Johnsbury, VT 05819-2241
(802) 748-8324
jmarshall@drm.com

Daniel Richardson
Tarrant, Gillies & Richardson
44 East State Street
P.O. Box 1440
Montpelier, Vermont 05601-1440
(802) 223-1112
drichardson@tgrvt.com

Wilschek Iarrapino Law Office PLLC
Attorneys for NorthStar Decommissioning
Holdings, LLC, NorthStar Nuclear
Decommissioning Company, LLC, NorthStar

Group Services, Inc., LVI Parent Corp., and
NorthStar Group Holdings, LLC

By: 

Joslyn L. Wilschek
35 Elm Street, Suite 200
Montpelier, VT 05602
(802) 249-7663
joslyn@ilovt.net