

APPENDIX A: Factual Error in the Examiner's Discussion of Primary Lines

In discussing what transmission lines are subject to license as primary lines of the Northfield Mountain project, the Examiner says, "The Applicants point out . . . that some power from other sources will at all times be transmitted on . . . the lines extending south to the Ludlow switching yard and north to the Vermont Nuclear switching yard . . ." (Initial Decision, p. 12). The staff, while supporting the Examiner's order on transmission lines, notes, to prevent confusion, that the above assertion is inaccurate, both as a representation of applicants' position and as a statement of fact relating to the transmission situation. It is believed that the Examiner may have misread applicants' correct statement that the Ludlow and Vermont Nuclear lines will always be carrying some power (App. Br., pp. 50-53; Tr. 1510-1511). However, on occasion the power carried will be entirely from the Northfield Mountain project. Staff witness Joseph J. A. Jessel testified that when the Northfield Mountain and Vermont Nuclear projects are generating at full capacity to meet the Convex system peak demand, these lines will be loaded only with Northfield Mountain power (Tr. 1511). For purposes of determining what transmission lines are part of the project, this condition is perhaps the most important one to be examined.