

Paul R. LePage

## STATE OF MAINE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR 1 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0001

June 2, 2014

Mr. Harry Lanphear Administrative Director Maine Public Utilities Commission 18 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Director Lanphear,

On May 16, 2014, I wrote to the Commission and appointed Justice Paul Rudman as a Commissioner to Docket No. 2012-00487. In addition, I have communicated with Commissioner Littell regarding his unanticipated decision to recuse himself from the case as well. I understand that this correspondence has been included in the public docket.

As you now know, I indicated in my May 15, 2014 letter to Commissioner Littell my concern for the precedent established of using the authority established in 35-A M.R.S 108-B to lower the standard of recusals for sitting Commissioners. While I have the full faith in the integrity of the judges nominated to serve in this case and strongly believe that the parties deserve resolution to the case, this issue is more significant than one single proceeding, and I do not agree with Commissioner Littell's response. As a result, unless there are unforeseen developments, I do not anticipate appointing an additional alternative Commissioner to Docket No. 2012-00487.

I appreciate the willingness for the judges to serve in this capacity. In addition, I appreciate the Energy, Utilities and Technology Committee for working diligently to address this unique situation. I remain committed to working with the Commission and the Legislature to bring closure to this case without altering the standard of recusals that is established in law and through the Maine bar rules governing attorneys.

Sincerely,

Paul R. LePage

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Governor

Cc:

Legislative Leadership
Justice Paul Rudman
Justice John Atwood
Justice Francis Marsano
Members of the Energy, Utilities, and Technology Committee

