

Mail Stop 3561

May 1, 2008

Charles W. Shivery
Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer
Northeast Utilities
One Federal Street
Building 111-4
Springfield, MA 01105

**Re: Northeast Utilities
Form 10-K for Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2007
Filed February 29, 2008
Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A
Filed March 31, 2008
File No. 001-05324**

Dear Mr. Shivery:

We have reviewed your filing and have the following comments. Where indicated, we think you should revise your disclosure in future filings in response to these comments. If you disagree, we will consider your explanation as to why our comments are inapplicable or a revision is unnecessary. Please be as detailed as necessary in your explanation. In some of our comments, we may ask you to provide us with information so we may better understand your disclosure. After reviewing this information, we may raise additional comments.

Please understand that the purpose of our review process is to assist you in your compliance with the applicable disclosure requirements and to enhance the overall disclosure in your filings. We look forward to working with you in these respects. We welcome any questions you may have about our comments or on any other aspect of our review. Feel free to call us at the telephone numbers listed at the end of this letter.

Form 10-K for the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2007
Exhibit 13, MD&A

1. We note the disclosure in the second and third paragraphs on page one regarding the company's use of certain non-GAAP financial measures. Please include the information required by Item 10(e)(i)(A) and (B) of Regulation S-K for each measure.

Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A
Restricted Share Units, page 33

2. As requested in comment seven from our letter dated August 21, 2007, please disclose why the committee approved a final RSU pool for 2007 of \$5,340,525. In this regard we note the disclosure that the amount was based on “corporate performance.” Please expand the discussion to include additional detail and analysis as to how the committee arrived at this amount.

Performance Cash Program, page 35

3. Please include tabular disclosure for the 2007-2009 program goals similar to the tabular disclosure for the 2005-2007 program goals. To the extent you believe disclosure of these goals is not required because it could result in competitive harm, provide us on a supplemental basis a detailed explanation for this conclusion. See instruction 4 to Item 402(b) of Regulation S-K. If disclosure would cause competitive harm, please discuss further how difficult it will be for the named executive officer or how likely it will be for you to achieve the goals or other factors.

Contractual Agreements, page 39

4. As requested in comment nine from our letter dated August 21, 2007, please provide an explanation of how you determine the appropriate payment and benefit levels under the various circumstances that trigger payments or provision of benefits upon termination or a change in control. See Items 402(b)(1)(v) and 402(j)(3) of Regulation S-K.

Please respond to these comments within 10 business days or tell us when you will provide us with a response. Please furnish a letter that keys your responses to our comments and provides any requested information. Detailed letters greatly facilitate our review. Please understand that we may have additional comments after reviewing your responses to our comments.

We urge all persons who are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosure in the filings to be certain that the filings include all information required under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and that they have provided all information investors require for an informed investment decision. Since the company and its management are in possession of all facts relating to a company’s disclosure, they are responsible for the adequacy and accuracy of the disclosures they have made.

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In connection with responding to our comments, please provide, in writing, a statement from the company acknowledging that:

- the company is responsible for the adequacy and accuracy of the disclosure in the filing;
- staff comments or changes to disclosure in response to staff comments do not foreclose the Commission from taking any action with respect to the filing; and
- the company may not assert staff comments as a defense in any proceeding initiated by the Commission or any person under the federal securities laws of the United States.

In addition, please be advised that the Division of Enforcement has access to all information you provide to the staff of the Division of Corporation Finance in our review of your filings or in response to our comments on your filings.

You may contact Blair Petrillo, Attorney-Advisor, at (202) 551-3550, Mara Ransom, Legal Branch Chief, at (202) 551-3264, or me at (202) 551-3720 with any questions.

Sincerely,

H. Christopher Owings
Assistant Director