

NORTHEAST UTILITIES SYSTEM  
Form 35-CERT  
November 23, 2004

File No. 70-10177

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

Application of Northeast Utilities, ) CERTIFICATE PURSUANT TO RULE 24  
NU Enterprises, Inc. ) UNDER THE PUBLIC UTILITY HOLDING  
Select Energy, Inc. ) COMPANY ACT OF 1935  
on Form U-1 )

Pursuant to the requirements of Rule 24 under the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935, Northeast Utilities ("NU"), a registered holding company, hereby files this quarterly report as required by the Securities and Exchange Commission's order authorizing the use of proceeds of financing transaction for investment in Exempt Wholesale Generators. (HCAR No. 35-27868, June 30, 2004, and HCAR No. 35-27868A, July 2, 2004, File No. 70-10177) ("Order").

For the quarter ended September 30, 2004, the following information is reported pursuant to the Order.

1)

A computation in accordance with rule 53(a) (as modified by the Commission's order in this proceeding) of NU's aggregate investment in EWGs.

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As of September 30, 2004, NU's aggregate investment in EWGs was approximately \$448.2 million, or 53.0% of its average Consolidated Retained Earnings for the most recent four quarters of approximately \$846.3 million.

2)

A computation in accordance with rule 53(a) setting forth NU's aggregate investment in EWGs as a percentage of (a) total consolidated capitalization; (b) net utility plant; (c) total consolidated assets; and (d) aggregate market value of NU's common equity, all as of the end of the quarter.

|   | <b>As of September 30, 2004</b>   |          |
|---|-----------------------------------|----------|
|   | <b>(Thousands<br/>of Dollars)</b> | <b>%</b> |
| NU's aggregate investment in EWGs               | \$ 448,174                        | -        |
| a) Total consolidated capitalization            | 6,956,753                         | 6.4      |
| b) Net utility plant                            | 5,739,485                         | 7.8      |
| c) Total consolidation assets                   | 11,541,452                        | 3.9      |
| d) Aggregate market value of NU's common equity | 2,318,909                         | 19.3     |

3)

Consolidated capitalization ratios of NU, CL&P, PSNH and WMECO as of the end of the quarter, with consolidated debt to include all short-term debt and non-recourse debt of the EWG(s):

| <b>NU Consolidated</b>        | <b>As of September 30, 2004</b>   |          |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------|
|                               | <b>(Thousands<br/>of Dollars)</b> | <b>%</b> |
| Common shareholder's equity   | \$ 2,318,909                      | 33.3 %   |
| Preferred stock               | 116,200                           | 1.7      |
| Long-term and short-term debt | 2,929,700                         | 42.1     |
| Rate reduction bonds          | 1,591,944                         | 22.9     |
|                               | \$ 6,956,753                      | 100.0 %  |

**The Connecticut Light and Power Company  
(CL&P)****As of September 30, 2004  
(Thousands  
of Dollars)                      %**

|                               |    |           |         |
|-------------------------------|----|-----------|---------|
| Common shareholder's equity   | \$ | 786,028   | 26.0 %  |
| Preferred stock               |    | 116,200   | 3.8     |
| Long-term and short-term debt |    | 1,098,147 | 36.3    |
| Rate reduction bonds          |    | 1,026,389 | 33.9    |
|                               | \$ | 3,026,764 | 100.0 % |

**Public Service Company of New Hampshire  
(PSNH)****As of September 30, 2004  
(Thousands  
of Dollars)                      %**

|                               |    |           |         |
|-------------------------------|----|-----------|---------|
| Common shareholder's equity   | \$ | 397,908   | 30.2 %  |
| Long-term and short-term debt |    | 480,088   | 36.4    |
| Rate reduction bonds          |    | 440,476   | 33.4    |
|                               | \$ | 1,318,472 | 100.0 % |

**Western Massachusetts Electric Company  
(WMECO)****As of September 30, 2004  
(Thousands  
of Dollars)                      %**

|                               |    |         |         |
|-------------------------------|----|---------|---------|
| Common shareholder's equity   | \$ | 162,225 | 30.7 %  |
| Long-term and short-term debt |    | 241,651 | 45.7    |
| Rate reduction bonds          |    | 125,078 | 23.6    |
|                               | \$ | 528,954 | 100.0 % |

4)

Analysis of the growth in consolidated retained earnings which segregates total earnings growth of NGC and each additional EWG from that attributable to other subsidiaries of NU.

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Retained earnings statement as of September 30, 2004:

|   | NGC       |    | NU Consolidated<br>(Thousands of Dollars) |
|---|-----------|----|---|
| Beginning balance as of July 1, 2004    | \$ 39,405 | \$ | 840,082                                   |
| Additions:                              |           |    |   |
| Net income                              | 9,238     |    | 39,117                                    |
| Deductions                              |           |    |   |
| Dividends declared - common shares      | 7,000     |    | 46  |
| Ending balance as of September 30, 2004 | \$ 41,643 | \$ | 879,153                                   |

5)

A statement of revenues and net income for each EWG for the twelve months ending as of the end of the quarter:

| Twelve Months Ended September 30, 2004 | NGC<br>(Thousands of Dollars) |
|--|-------------------------------|
| Revenues                               | \$152,314                     |
| Net Income                             | \$ 40,762                     |

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SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935, the undersigned company has duly caused this Certificate to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

NORTHEAST UTILITIES  
(Registered Holding Company)

/s/ John P. Stack

John P. Stack  
Vice President - Accounting and Controller  
Northeast Utilities  
P.O. Box 270  
Hartford, CT 06141-0270  
November 23, 2004