

GENERAL ORDER NO. 51 INTERPRETATION OF 30 V.S.A. 248

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that the following rule shall govern the interpretation and applicability of 30 V.S.A. § 248.

A transmission line within the meaning of 30 V.S.A. § 5248, as amended effective March 31, 1972, is a line and related facilities whose primary purpose is the delivery of electric power in bulk to a distribution system or portion thereof which serves individual customers. The Public Utility Commission will assume that each of the following two types of lines are transmission lines within the meaning of 30 V.S.A. § 248, as amended, in the absence of a specific declaration by the Public Utility Commission to the contrary: (1) any line or facility designed to operate or capable of operating over 30 KV; and (2) any tie- line designed to operate or capable of operating at any voltage. The tie line is a line whose primary purpose is to interconnect portions of an electric system for area reliability purposes. Specification (1) above does not exclude any line of lower voltage if it would function primarily as a transmission line within the meaning of the first sentence of this definition.

A distribution line (or facility) whose principal purpose is to serve individual customers, and whose service to individual customers is physically interrupted only by a transformer and service drop, remains under the jurisdiction of the Environmental Board and District Environmental Commission as provided by Act 250, 10 V.S.A. § 6001.

30 V.S.A. § 248 does not include any transmission line for which a permit had been granted pursuant to 10 V.S.A. § 6001 et seq. which remains effective. This latter provision is included to comply with 1 V.S.A. § 214 (b) (2).

