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NORTHEAST UTILITIES SYSTEM

Form 8-K

May 19, 2004

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549-1004

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the  
Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported)  
May 19, 2004

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Commission File Number 1-5324  
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NORTHEAST UTILITIES  
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(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

MASSACHUSETTS  
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04-2147929  
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(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)

(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

174 BRUSH HILL AVENUE, WEST SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS 01090-0010  
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(Address of principal executive offices)  
(Zip Code)

(413) 785-5871  
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(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Not Applicable  
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(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Item 5. Other Events

On May 19, 2004, Northeast Utilities ("NU") issued a news release relating to a decision by the court hearing its merger litigation with Consolidated Edison. The news release is filed with this Form 8-K as Exhibit 99.1.

Exhibit Index

Exhibit 99.1 Northeast Utilities News Release dated May 19, 2004.

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SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

NORTHEAST UTILITIES  
(registrant)

By: /s/ David R. McHale  
Name: David R. McHale  
Title: Vice President and Treasurer

Date: May 19, 2004