

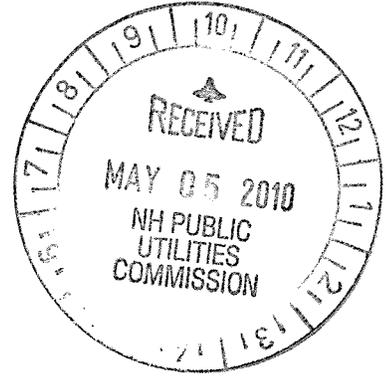
STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
Inter-Department Communication

DATE: May 5, 2010
AT (OFFICE): NHPUC

FROM: George McCluskey *gmm*
Analyst

SUBJECT: Docket No. DE 09-137
Unitil Energy Services, Inc.
Time-of-Use Pilot Program
Request for Additional Time

TO: Debra A. Howland
Executive Director



In Order No. 25,079 (February 26, 2010), the Commission approved a time-of-use pilot program proposed by Unitil Energy System, Inc. (UES) in the above-captioned docket for the months of June, July and August 2010.. UES proposed to conduct the time-of-use pilot with its Massachusetts affiliate, Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company. Consequently, the Company had also requested the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities (Mass. DPU) for approval of the pilot program.

UES notified the Commission on March 19, 2010 that the Mass. DPU may not approve the proposed pilot in time for UES to prepare for implementation in June 2010. On April 6, 2010, UES formally asked the Commission for additional time to comply with Order No. 25,079 until the summer of 2011 given that the Mass. DPU had not taken any action on the proposal.

On April 22, 2010, UES notified Staff that the Mass. DPU had approved the pilot program on April 12. The Mass. DPU did not establish time bounds in which the pilot had to be conducted despite being informed that the summer of 2010 was no longer realistic.

Based on this series of events, Staff recommends that the Commission grant approval of UES' request to implement the pilot in 2011 instead of 2010. While the Mass. DPU apparently did not affirmatively acquiesce to UES' proposal to implement the pilot in 2011, UES appears to be confident that such affirmation is not necessary. Though it is unfortunate that the pilot can't take place this year, the work undertaken by the parties in the New Hampshire and Massachusetts proceedings will be put to good use in the summer of 2011.

Let me know if you have any questions.