



April 16, 2015

**BY OVERNIGHT MAIL AND E-MAIL**

Debra A. Howland, Executive Director and Secretary  
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission  
21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10  
Concord, NH 03301-2429

**RE: Docket No. DE 13 – 195 UES LCIRP**

Dear Director Howland:

On behalf of Unitil Energy Systems, Inc. ("UES" or "the Company"), please accept this letter as a request for extension of time of nine months to file its next Least Cost Integrated Resource Plan ("LCIRP") pursuant to RSA 378:38.

The New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission's ("Commission") Order in UES's last LCIRP docket (Order No. 25,651 issued April 17, 2014 in DE 13-195) requires the Company to submit a new LCIRP filing by July 16, 2015, unless ordered otherwise. RSA 378:38 was amended, effective August, 15, 2014. Under the previous version of the statute, a LCIRP filing was due every two years, and in setting the next filing date, the Commission appears to have measured the two-year mark from the date of the initial filing date (UES had filed its LCIRP on July 16, 2013, and the Commission ordered the next filing to be made on July 16, 2015).

RSA 378:38 now provides that a new filing is due within two years from the date of the last order regarding a company's least cost plan, or no later than 5 years from the date of the last LCIRP filing. Accordingly, under the amended statute UES would not have to file until April 16, 2016, if the Commission were to approve a request for an extension from the filing date set in Order No. 25.651.

UES requests an extension of nine months until April 16, 2016 to file its next LCIRP. The Company has recently engaged a consultant to assist in a review of "Smart Grid" issues, but the results of this engagement are not expected until later this year. As RSA 378:38,IV requires the LCIRP to include an assessment of the costs and benefits of Smart Grid technologies, the Company submits that its next LCIRP would benefit from the receipt of, and opportunity to consider its consultant's input. The requested extension would provide that time.

The Company has discussed this request with Commission Staff and the Office of Consumer Advocate, and neither oppose the motion. Representatives of the Company

are available at the convenience of the Commission to respond to any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary Epler". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Gary" and the last name "Epler" clearly distinguishable.

Gary Epler  
Attorney for Unitil Energy Systems, Inc.

cc: Susan Chamberlin, Consumer Advocate