

June 11, 2019

Debra Howland  
Executive Director  
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission  
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10  
Concord, NH 03301-2429

NHPUC 11JUN19PM4:05

RE: Docket No. DE 19-057  
Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy  
Notice of Intent to File Rate Schedules

Request for Commission to Accept Late-Filed Settlement Pursuant to Puc 203.20(f)

Dear Director Howland:

On March 22, 2019, Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy ("PSNH" or the "Company") filed with the Commission its Notice of Intent to File Rate Schedules pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rule Puc 1604.05 pertaining to its request for temporary rates. On April 26, 2019, the Company filed with the Commission testimony, attachments and other information supporting that request. Pursuant to that submission, PSNH sought an increase in temporary rates of approximately \$33 million effective July 1, 2019 pending the Commission's determinations on the Company's permanent rate request. Also on April 26, 2019, the Company filed with the Commission its Notice of Intent to File Rate Schedules pertaining to its request for permanent rates and on May 28, 2019, the Company's permanent rate filing was filed seeking a permanent rate increase of approximately \$70 million. A hearing on the Company's temporary rate request is scheduled to occur on June 18, 2019.

The parties to the docket met in a technical session on June 5, 2019 to discuss the discovery on the Company's temporary rate request and the potential for settlement of the Company's temporary request. Settlement discussions have continued following the June 5, 2019 session and PSNH believes that the parties have reached a settlement agreement in principle. While the language of a settlement agreement among the parties has not been finalized, it should be completed within the next few days.

Pursuant to Puc 203.20(e) settlements and stipulations are to be filed no less than 5 days prior to a hearing, except as provided in 203.20(f). Holding to the requirement of Puc 203.20(e), a settlement agreement would be due to be filed by today, June 11, 2019. However, as noted, though there is an agreement in principle, a final agreement has not been completed for filing.

Puc 203.20(f) provides that a late-filed settlement agreement will be accepted by the Commission if that agreement promotes the orderly and efficient conduct of the proceeding and will not impair the rights of any party to the proceeding. PSNH submits that obtaining a

settlement agreement on temporary rates would promote the orderly and efficient conduct of the proceeding far more than requiring the parties to litigate the Company's temporary rate request. Moreover, in that the settlement agreement will be among all current parties to the proceeding, would only be for temporary rates, and would only be effective during the temporary rate phase of the proceeding, accepting a late-filed settlement agreement will not impair the rights of any party to the proceeding.

PSNH has requested the concurrence of the other parties to the docket and reports that the Commission Staff, the Office of Consumer Advocate, and Clean Energy New Hampshire agree with this request. The Way Home was not able to respond by the time requested before filing. Accordingly, PSNH requests that the Commission allow the parties to file a settlement agreement on temporary rates by June 13, 2019, which would still allow sufficient time for review in advance of the hearing scheduled for June 18, 2019.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your assistance with this matter.

Very truly yours,



Matthew J. Fossum  
Senior Counsel

CC: Service List