

780 N. Commercial Street
P.O. Box 330
Manchester, NH 03105-0330

Jessica Chiavara
Counsel

603-634-2972
jessica.chiavara@eversource.com

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

**Re: Docket No. DE 19-139; Eversource 2019 Least Cost Integrated Resource Plan
Settlement Agreement (SA) and Request for Extension of Time to File SA**


Director Howland:

The hearing in this matter is scheduled for Monday March 16, 2020. On behalf of Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy ("Eversource"), enclosed for filing in the above reference matter please find an original and six copies of a Settlement Agreement ("SA"). All parties to this docket have signed the SA.

Pursuant to NH Administrative R. Puc 203.20(e), settlement agreements are to be filed no less than five business prior to the hearing except as provided in Puc 203.20(f). Puc 203.20(f) states that the commission shall accept late-filed settlements when such acceptance (1) promotes the orderly and efficient conduct of the proceeding and (2) will not impair the rights of any party to the proceeding. Eversource respectfully requests that the Commission make the requisite findings and accept this late filing.

This settlement agreement will promote the orderly and efficient conduct of the proceeding because it will narrow the scope of the hearing to whether the proposed SA is just and reasonable and serves the public interest. Likewise, acceptance of this SA will not impair the rights of any party to the proceeding, because all parties are in agreement that settlement, as described, is appropriate. The other parties to this docket: Commission Staff and the Office of the Consumer Advocate assent to Eversource's request that the Commission accept this late-filed SA pursuant to Puc 203.20(f). Thank you for your consideration in this matter, and please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions that may arise.

Regards,



Jessica A. Chiavara
Counsel, Eversource Energy

Encl.

Cc: Service List