

DR 98-178

GRANITE STATE ELECTRIC COMPANY

1998-1999 Cooperative Interruptible Service Program

Order Approving Program

O R D E R N O. 23,297

September 13, 1999

On October 1, 1998, Granite State Electric Company (GSEC) filed a two page letter with the Commission requesting to continue its Cooperative Interruptible Service (CIS) Program under the same terms as its 1997-1998 program. GSEC's CIS Program is closed to new participants as the result of Order No. 23,041, Order Approving Amended Offer of Settlement, issued October 7, 1998 in Docket DR 98-012. However, four grandfathered customers are still currently served under pre-existing CIS service agreements. The Company's CIS Program provides credits to these four large commercial and industrial customers based on the customer's ability and willingness to interrupt load as requested by ISO-NE during capacity shortages. On January 4, 1999, funding for the CIS program was approved through GSEC's Conservation and Load Management budget in Order No. 23,097 (January 4, 1999) in Docket DR 98-177.

Given the amount of time left in the current program, we will approve GSEC's CIS program under the 1997-1998 payment terms for the remainder of the November 1, 1998 to October 31, 1999 program year. If the Company chooses to offer this program

for the 1999-2000 program year, the Commission directs GSEC to file a petition with supporting documentation by October 1, 1999. Because GSEC is open to retail competition, we expect the petition to address the reasons GSEC distribution customers should fund an interruptible load program. We also expect the Company to file with its petition a table detailing each interruption event in the past program year. We direct the Commission Staff to complete a thorough review of this program if the Company chooses to petition for its continuation.

Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby

ORDERED, that Granite State Electric Company's Cooperative Interruptible Service Program is approved for the period November 1, 1998 to October 31, 1999.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this thirteenth day of September, 1999.

Douglas L. Patch
Chairman

Susan S. Geiger
Commissioner

Nancy Brockway
Commissioner

Attested by:

Claire D. DiCicco
Assistant Secretary