

DR 98-097

NEW HAMPSHIRE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

**New Hampshire Electric Cooperative Restructuring Surcharge
Compliance Filing**

Order NISI Approving Delay in Adjusting Restructuring Surcharge

O R D E R N O. 23,305

September 27, 1999

On September 13, 1999, the New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc. (Cooperative or Company) filed a letter and supporting testimony to maintain its current Restructuring Surcharge rate of \$0.00075 per kWh through December 31, 1999, followed by an increase to \$0.00154 per kWh on January 1, 2000. This increase would coincide with an expected decrease to the Power Cost Recovery charges. The Cooperative has indicated that at this time, prior to October 1, 1999, it is only requesting approval to maintain its current Restructuring Surcharge, and can await a decision on changing the Restructuring Surcharge until later in the year following Staff's audit of 1998 Cooperative Restructuring expenses.

Staff has reviewed the filing, and based upon the expected small size of the rate increase, and expected decrease in the Cooperative's Power Cost Recovery charges, agrees the change to the Restructuring Surcharge should be delayed until January 1, 2000 to avoid multiple rate changes for customers and the corresponding administrative burden for the Company.

We believe that the Cooperative's filing and Staff's concurrence therewith are reasonable positions and, therefore, we will grant the Cooperative's request to delay adjustment of its restructuring surcharge.

Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby

ORDERED NISI, that the New Hampshire Electric Cooperative continue its current Restructuring Surcharge of \$0.00075 until December 31, 1999 and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that the Petitioner shall cause a copy of this Order Nisi to be published once in a statewide newspaper of general circulation or of circulation in those portions of the state where operations are conducted, such publication to be no later than October 4, 1999 and to be documented by affidavit filed with this office on or before October 12, 1999; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that all persons interested in responding to this petition be notified that they may submit their comments or file a written request for a hearing on this matter before the Commission no later than October 14, 1999; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that any party interested in responding to such comments or request for hearing shall do so no later than October 22, 1999; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that this Order Nisi shall be effective October 25, 1999, unless the Commission provides

otherwise in a supplemental order issued prior to the effective date; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that the Petitioner shall file a compliance tariff with the Commission on or before _____, 1999, in accordance with N.H. Admin. Rules, Puc 1603.02(b).

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this twenty-seventh day of September, 1999.

_____ Douglas L. Patch Chairman	_____ Susan S. Geiger Commissioner	_____ Nancy Brockway Commissioner
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Attested by:

Thomas B. Getz
Executive Director and Secretary