

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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February 9, 2018

Re: DE 18-009, Competitive Electric Power Suppliers
Recommended Waiver of Puc 2004.06(a)(2) Requirement for CEPS
Direct Bill Inclusion of Starting and Ending Meter Reads

To Interested Persons:

On January 30, 2018, Commission Staff filed a memorandum recommending that the Commission grant to all competitive electric power suppliers (CEPS) a waiver of N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 2004.06(a)(2), which requires that any bill issued directly by a CEPS rather than through utility consolidated billing must include "[t]he starting meter reading and the ending meter reading for the billing period."

Staff referenced the waiver of that rules provision granted to Constellation NewEnergy, Inc. (CNE) by secretarial letter issued on December 29, 2017 in Docket DM 17-024. Staff indicated that the starting and ending meter reads are not sent in electronic data interchange (EDI) transactions between the electric distribution utilities and the CEPS; instead, only the total consumption for the billing period is sent through EDI. As a result, the information required to comply with Puc 2004.06(a)(2) is not readily available to CEPS that directly bill their customers for electric energy service. Staff noted that there are a number of other CEPS that directly bill their customers and therefore face similar compliance constraints as CNE, and Staff expressed its belief that those other CEPS also require a waiver of Puc 2004.06(a)(2).

Staff therefore recommended that a waiver of Puc 2004.06(a)(2) be granted to all CEPS for a two-year period, anticipating that a rulemaking proceeding will be initiated during such time period to delete or amend that particular rules provision.

The Commission has reviewed the proposed rules waiver recommended by Staff and has determined that a two-year waiver of Puc 2004.06(a)(2) for all CEPS would serve the public interest and would not disrupt the orderly and efficient resolution of matters before the Commission, as required under Puc 201.05.

Accordingly, all CEPS are granted a waiver from the provisions of Puc 2004.06(a)(2) for a period of two years from the date of this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Debra A. Howland".

Debra A. Howland
Executive Director

cc: Service List/Docket File