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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10 Concord, N.H. 03301-2429

February 6, 2017

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Re: Request For Public Comment On New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission Administrative Rules

On January 5, 2017, Governor Christopher T. Sununu requested that, no later than March 31, 2017, each state agency prepare a report regarding its administrative rules. The report will outline the Commission's rules and provide an evaluation on whether each existing or proposed regulation under the Commission's jurisdiction is mandated by law or is essential to the public health, safety, or welfare. In determining whether a regulation is essential to health, safety, or welfare, the Commission will consider whether:

- (a) There is a clear need for the regulation that is best addressed by the Commission and not another agency or governmental body;
- (b) The cost of the regulation exceeds the regulation's benefits;
- (c) The regulation is the least restrictive or intrusive alternative that will fulfill the need which the regulation addresses;
- (d) The regulation unduly burdens the State's citizens or businesses, or has an unreasonably adverse effect on the State's competitive business environment; and
- (e) The effectiveness of the regulation can be reasonably and periodically measured, and there is a process in place to accomplish the same.

The Commission currently maintains in effect 21 chapters of rules, each of which was mandated by statute. The Commission's rules can be found at:

http://puc.ph.gov/Regulatory/rules.htm. Fach of the Commission's rules is typically vetted by

http://puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/rules.htm. Each of the Commission's rules is typically vetted by stakeholders, the Commission, and the Joint Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules at the time of adoption, based upon the five considerations listed above, among others.

Nonetheless, the Commission requests that you comment on any Commission rule that affects you. Please keep your comments limited to and focused on the five considerations identified by Governor Sununu.

Comments should be filed by sending an electronic version to executive.director@puc.nh.gov and by sending one original and two paper copies to:

Executive Director New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission 21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10 Concord, NH 03103

Please date your comments, list your name and address and the name and address of the party on whose behalf you are submitting comments, if different, and place "Request for Public Comment on Commission Rules" in a reference line. Comments must be received by the Commission no later than February 17, 2017.

Sincerely,

Debra A. Howland Executive Director