

**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

DE 07-097

ORDER OF NOTICE

On April 21, 2008, Public Service Company of New Hampshire (PSNH) filed with a petition, with supporting testimony and schedules, requesting a mid-term adjustment to its stranded cost recovery charge (SCRC) effective with bills rendered on and after July 1, 2008. The Commission approved the current average SCRC rate of 0.72 cents per kilowatt hour (kWh) in Order No. 24,807 (December 17, 2007) in this docket. Although PSNH currently projects no change to its SCRC rates, PSNH said it is likely the final requested SCRC rates will change as it will update its cost projections and rate calculations prior to hearing as is customary with its mid-year adjustment filing.

Addressing its preliminary calculation of no change to its SCRC rates, PSNH stated that an increase in current market energy prices has caused a decrease in the above-market portion of power purchases from independent power producers that are included in stranded costs. Additionally, decommissioning costs related to the former Connecticut Yankee and Maine Yankee nuclear units decreased. Those decreases were offset by results of actual data through March 2008, thereby resulting in no estimated change to the SCRC rate, pending its submittal of updated data, PSNH said.

PSNH stated that on July 1, 2008 it will begin using a new customer service billing system and requested that the Commission approve the change to its stranded cost recovery charge by June 24, 2008 to allow PSNH sufficient time to test the rate change on the new billing

system. Concurrent with its filing, PSNH filed a separate request in docket DE 07-096 for a mid-year adjustment to its energy service rate effective July 1, 2008.

Additionally, on April 30, 2008, PSNH filed a request docketed as DE 08-071 to adjust its distribution rates, effective July 1, 2008, to recover costs associated with its major storm cost reserve. On May 14, 2008, PSNH also filed for an annual adjustment to its transmission cost adjustment mechanism also effective July 1, 2008, docketed as DE 08-069. For administrative efficiency, the Commission will hold hearings in each of the four proceedings on the same date; however, each proceeding will be separately noticed.

The filing raises, inter alia, issues related to whether PSNH's calculations and estimates of costs and revenues are reasonable, whether the resulting rates are just and reasonable as required by N.H. RSA 378:5 and 8, and whether PSNH should apply the rates on a bills-rendered basis. Each party has the right to have an attorney represent them at their own expense.

Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby

ORDERED, that, pursuant to N.H. Admin. Rules Puc 203, a hearing on this petition and PSNH's other rate adjustment filings be held before the Commission located at 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire on June 11, 2008 beginning at 9:00 a.m.; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that the sequence of hearings on that date shall be as follows: DE 08-071 (distribution rate); DE 07-096 (energy service rate); DE 07-097 (stranded cost recovery charge); and DE 08-069 (transmission cost adjustment mechanism); and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that pursuant to N.H. Admin. Rules Puc 203.12, PSNH shall notify all persons desiring to be heard at this hearing by publishing a copy of this Order of Notice no later than May 22, 2008, in a newspaper with general circulation in those portions of

the state in which operations are conducted, publication to be documented by affidavit filed with the Commission on or before June 11, 2008; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that pursuant to N.H. Admin. Rules Puc 203.17, any party seeking to intervene in the proceeding shall submit to the Commission seven copies of a Petition to Intervene with copies sent to PSNH and the Office of the Consumer Advocate on or before June 6, 2008, such Petition stating the facts demonstrating how its rights, duties, privileges, immunities or other substantial interest may be affected by the proceeding, as required by N.H. Admin. Rule Puc 203.17 and RSA 541-A:32,I(b); and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that any party objecting to a Petition to Intervene make said Objection on or before June 11, 2008.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this sixteenth day of May, 2008.



Debra A. Howland
Executive Director & Secretary

Individuals needing assistance or auxiliary communication aids due to sensory impairment or other disability, should contact the Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator, NHPUC, 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire 03301-2429; 603-271-2431; TDD Access: Relay N.H. 1-800-735-2964. Notification of the need for assistance should be made one week prior to the scheduled event.