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PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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June 10, 2015

Debra A. Howland, Executive Director
NH Public Utilities Commission
21 S. Fruit St., Ste. 18
Concord, NH 03301

**Re: DE 15-137 Energy Efficiency Resource Standard
Staff Report of 6/3/15 Technical Session**

Dear Ms. Howland:

After the prehearing conference in the above-referenced matter on Wednesday, June 3, 2015, Commission Staff ("Staff") met in a tech session with parties¹ and other members of the public. The group discussed ideas for the procedural schedule, the many substantive issues to be addressed in developing an Energy Efficiency Resource Standard ("EERS") policy, the need for additional expertise, the consolidation of intervenors, and ways in which interested members of the public can participate in the docket's process.

On the procedural schedule, the group talked generally about a March 2016 hearing, with an implementation date of January 1, 2017. With respect to activities and events leading up to the hearing, the group decided to first get expert assistance on best-practice approaches to develop an EERS at a technical session scheduled for **June 25 at 1:30 pm**, at the Commission or the Department of Environmental Services (DES), as space requires.

At that technical session, the group intends to hear from representatives of the Regulatory Assistance Project ("RAP")TM, Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships ("NEEP"), and one or more energy efficiency stakeholders' advisory bodies in other New England states. These entities have existing, accessible EERS knowledge and experience for NH stakeholders to tap into and use to develop an efficient, informed, and collaborative process. Staff will make the necessary arrangements with RAP, NEEP, and the New England energy efficiency boards for their participation in the technical session.

In addition to developing the procedural schedule, the group also intends to use the next technical session to (1) identify the fundamental building blocks that would be required to implement an EERS and the possible sequence in which issues could be efficiently addressed; and (2) consider whether there are any areas of interest or expertise that are not represented by

¹ On the record at the prehearing conference, the Commission granted all petitions to intervene filed to date but indicated that a written version of the ruling would be issued.

the existing group and how to recruit those missing participants into the work of the docket. From that technical session, the Commission will receive additional recommendations from the Staff and participants.

In addition to the scheduling/scoping technical session, the group decided to schedule, in a three-week cycle, a series of technical sessions intended to permit in-depth group discussion and exploration of the fundamental EERS building blocks. To secure space and time for the first few of those technical sessions, the group reserves the following dates, with the details and agenda to be determined: **Monday, June 29, 1:30 pm, Monday, July 20, 1:30 pm, and Thursday, August 13, 1:30 pm.**

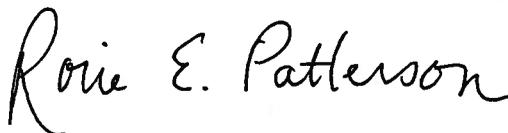
The location of the meetings will be determined and published to the service list by Staff. Although not a tech session in this docket, the group discussed a June 19 meeting of the Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Energy (EERE) Board, at which an expert from RAP™ is will present on the topic of decoupling.

On the issue of party consolidation, the group decided that it is premature to require any at this time. To the extent that any issues or concerns about this develop, the Staff and parties Commission may address those up at that time.

The group discussed ways for the Commission to keep the process and the developments within the docket accessible to the public, some of which may not formally participate as parties. Ways to accomplish this goal could include maintaining an "Interested Persons" service list, for individuals interested in receiving issuances of the Commission (*e.g.*, secretarial letters, orders) but not wanting to formally intervene in the docket. We also talked about the responsibilities and rights of intervention. Support for continued Commission outreach with regulators and legislators about the developments in this docket, including the scheduling of substantive technical sessions, was expressed. Staff also discussed the Commission's virtual case files on its website, and notes here that hyperlink to the electronic file for that docket is <http://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2015/15-137.html>.

Thank you for your time and assistance with these requests. Please contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,



Rorie E. Patterson
Staff Attorney

cc: Service List and other participants at tech session

SERVICE LIST - EMAIL ADDRESSES - DOCKET RELATED

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- b) Serve an electronic copy with each person identified on the Commission's service list and with the Office of Consumer Advocate.
- c) Serve a written copy on each person on the service list not able to receive electronic mail.

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