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May 10, 2016

Re: DE 15-271, Examination of Electric Distribution Utility Interconnection and Queue Management Processes for Net-Metered Customer-Generators -- Effect of Legislative Amendments on Net Metering Program Capacity Allocation Procedures

To the Parties:

On May 2, 2016, two legislative enactments became effective that potentially affect certain provisions of the Net Metering Program Capacity Allocation Procedures (Procedures) approved by the Commission in Order No. 25,874 issued on March 22, 2016 and implemented by the three regulated electric distribution utilities thereafter.

Commission Staff (Staff) filed a memorandum on May 6, 2016 recommending that the Commission clarify how the Procedures should be administered in light of these recent legislative changes. Staff indicated it had reviewed both House Bill 1116 (HB 1116), relative to net metering, and Senate Bill 378 (SB 378), relative to the availability of net metering tariffs, and had identified three areas in which utility administration of the Procedures may be potentially affected: (1) the status of utility net metering waitlists, (2) milestones applicable to previously waitlisted net metering projects, and (3) the need for Commission group net metering host authorization prior to utility net metering capacity allocation.

The Commission has reviewed Staff's memorandum and has determined that the recommended clarifications are warranted. Accordingly, the Commission hereby clarifies as follows:

1. Utility Net Metering Waitlists. Effective as of May 2, 2016, all proposed net metering projects on the utility waitlists should receive net metering program capacity allocations and be removed from the waitlists.
2. Milestones Applicable to Previously Waitlisted Projects. All such proposed net metering projects removed from the utility waitlists and issued net metering program capacity allocations effective as of May 2, 2016 shall have a period of 30 days until June 1, 2016 to demonstrate compliance with all applicable milestones and other requirements otherwise required by the Procedures.

3. Group Net Metering Host Authorization. Effective as of May 2, 2016, no proposed group net metering project will be granted a net metering program capacity allocation by the relevant utility unless and until the project's customer-generator group host has been registered by the Commission, notwithstanding any contrary or inconsistent provision in the Procedures. This requirement applies to any project intending to group net meter that had not been granted a utility net metering capacity allocation or waitlist position prior to May 2, 2016.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Debra A. Howland". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Debra A. Howland
Executive Director

cc: Docket File
Service List

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Pursuant to N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.11 (a) (1): Serve an electronic copy on each person identified on the service list.

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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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