

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Inter-Department Communication

DATE: December 18, 2015

AT (OFFICE): NHPUC

RF David

FROM: David Goyette, Utility Analyst III

NHPUC 22DEC15AM11:15

SUBJECT: DM 15-490, ENGIE Retail, LLC d/b/a Think Energy
Application for Registration as Competitive Electric Power Supplier

TO: Commissioners
Debra Howland, Executive Director

Executive Summary

ENGIE Retail has applied to become a competitive electric power supplier. ENGIE Retail submitted certificates demonstrating it completed EDI testing with Eversource Energy, NHEC, Liberty Utilities, and Unitil Energy Systems, and a surety bond in the amount of \$100,000, and a request for a waiver of the five-year and 150-day term requirement for financial security. ENGIE Retail stated that it intends to serve residential, small commercial, and industrial customers. Staff believes the filing is acceptable. Staff recommends the Commission approve the application and a related rule waiver request, and authorize ENGIE Retail to provide service in the franchise areas of Eversource, Liberty, NHEC, and UES, for a five year initial registration period.

Background and Analysis

On November 30, 2015, ENGIE Retail, LLC (f/k/a GDF Suez Retail Energy Solutions, LLC) d/b/a Think Energy (ENGIE Retail) filed an application to register as a competitive electric power supplier (CEPS). ENGIE Retail's application included documentation that demonstrates it has completed electronic data interchange (EDI) testing with Liberty Utilities (Granite State Electric) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities (Liberty), New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc. (NHEC), Public Service Company of New Hampshire, d/b/a Eversource Energy (Eversource), and Unitil Energy Services, Inc. (UES), evidence that it is able to obtain supply in the New England energy market, and sample contracts for residential and small commercial customers. The application also included a surety bond in the amount of \$100,000, which became effective on November 19, 2015 and expires on April 17, 2021, which is five-years and 139 days after the date the application was filed, and which bond names the Commission as obligee.

On December 11, 2015, ENGIE Retail filed a revised application which included a surety bond rider that changes the name of the principal from GDF Suez Retail Energy Solutions, LLC to ENGIE Retail, LLC. On December 18, 2015, ENGIE Retail filed

a request for a waiver of Puc 2003.03(a)(5), which requires that the financial security filed with a CEPS renewal application have an expiration date not less than 5 years and 150 days after the date the application is filed.

Staff has reviewed the information in the application and, if the Commission were to grant approval of the waiver request of the financial surety term requirement, believes it meets the requirements of Puc 2003 and 2006.01. Staff recommends that the Commission grant the request for a waiver of Puc 2003.03(a)(5) and that the Commission approve the registration for a term of five years. Staff also recommends that, if the Commission grants the requested waiver, the Commission notify ENGIE Retail that the financial security rules are likely to change during 2016 and that ENGIE Retail should monitor the rulemaking process in Docket No. DRM 13-151 and plan accordingly with respect to future operations in New Hampshire.

ENGIE Retail filed documentation that demonstrates it has completed EDI testing with Eversource, Liberty, NHEC, and UES. Staff, therefore, recommends that the Commission approve ENGIE Retail's application to register as a CEPS, and that it permit ENGIE Retail to serve residential, commercial, and industrial customers in the service areas of Eversource, Liberty, NHEC, and UES.

SERVICE LIST - EMAIL ADDRESSES - DOCKET RELATED

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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FILING INSTRUCTIONS:

- a) Pursuant to N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.02 (a), with the exception of Discovery, file 7 copies, as well as an electronic copy, of all documents including cover letter with:
- DEBRA A HOWLAND
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
NHPUC
21 S. FRUIT ST, SUITE 10
CONCORD NH 03301-2429
- 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.