# STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DE 19-106 DE 19-108

## PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE d/b/a EVERSOURCE ENERGY

2019 Transmission Cost Adjustment Mechanism Petition for Adjustment to Stranded Cost Recovery Charge

### **ORDER OF NOTICE**

Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (Eversource) adjusts its energy service rates on February 1 and August 1 of each year. In the above-referenced dockets, Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (Eversource) filed requests for adjustments to its average transmission cost adjustment mechanism (TCAM) rate and average stranded cost recovery charge (SCRC) rate, also for effect on August 1, 2019.

#### A. TCAM RATE

On May 31, 2019, Eversource filed a letter notifying the Commission that it will propose an adjustment to its TCAM rate for effect on August 1. According to Eversource, once it receives complete information on wholesale transmission rates from the Independent System Operator-New England, Eversource will file testimony and exhibits, and the proposed rates. Eversource's letter and subsequent docket filings, other than any information for which confidential treatment is requested of or granted by the Commission, will be posted to the Commission's website at <a href="http://puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2019/19-106.html">http://puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2019/19-106.html</a>.

#### B. SCRC RATE

On June 6, 2019, Eversource filed a petition containing a preliminary request for an adjustment to the SCRC rate effective August 1, 2019, with supporting testimony. The SCRC

rate mechanism currently recovers two types of costs. Part 1 costs consist of the rate reduction bond (RRB) charge, calculated to recover the principal, net interest, and fees related to RRBs issued in connection with Eversource's divestiture of its generating facilities in Docket No.

DE 17-124. Part 2 costs are "ongoing" stranded costs consisting primarily of the over-market value of energy purchased from independent power producers (IPPs) and the amortization of payments previously made for IPP buy-downs and buy-outs, as approved by the Commission.

As part of the divestiture of Eversource's generating facilities, Part 2 costs also recover various new costs, including the costs of retained power entitlements and any unsecuritized, prudently incurred decommissioning (if any), environmental, or other residual costs or liabilities related to the generating facilities. In addition, calculation of the SCRC rate takes into account a refund of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) revenue that Eversource receives through the RGGI auction.

Eversource estimated that the average residential customer would pay an average SCRC rate of 1.849 cents per kilowatt hour (KWh) beginning with services rendered on and after August 1, 2019. This is an increase compared to the current residential customer SCRC rate of 1.522 cents per kWh. Eversource calculated the preliminary August 1, 2019 RGGI adder rate to be negative 0.129 cents per kWh, compared to the current rate of negative 0.134 cents per kWh. Eversource stated that it will update the proposed SCRC rate prior to the merits hearing using more recent data.

Eversource's petition and subsequent docket filings, other than any information for which confidential treatment is requested of or granted by the Commission, will be posted to the Commission's website at <a href="http://puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2019/19-108.html">http://puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2019/19-108.html</a>.

These filings raise, inter alia, issues related to whether Eversource's assumptions and estimates of stranded costs are appropriately calculated and are reasonable; whether Eversource used the appropriate method to calculate the proposed TCAM rate; whether it properly calculated the proposed TCAM rate and the proposed SCRC rate consistent with prior Commission orders; and whether the proposed TCAM rate and the proposed SCRC rate are just and reasonable as required by RSA 374:2, and RSA 378:5 and :7. Each party has the right to have an attorney represent the party at the party's own expense.

### Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby

**ORDERED**, that a Hearing, pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.12, be held before the Commission located at 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire in Docket No. DE 19-106 on July 19, 2019 at 10:00 am, and in Docket No. 19-108 on July 19, 2019 at 11:00 am; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.12, Eversource shall notify all persons desiring to be heard at this hearing by publishing a copy of this Order of Notice no later than July 5, 2019, 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 July 16, 2019; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that consistent with N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.17 and Puc 203.02, any party seeking to intervene in the proceeding shall submit to the Commission seven copies of a Petition to Intervene with copies sent to Eversource and the Office of the Consumer Advocate on or before July 16, 2019, such Petition stating the facts demonstrating how its rights, duties, privileges, immunities, or other substantial interest may be affected by the proceeding, consistent with N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.17; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that any party objecting to a Petition to Intervene make said Objection on or before July 19, 2019.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this twentieth day of June, 2019.

Debra A. Howland Executive Director

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. I-800-735-2964. Notification of the need for assistance should be made one week prior to the scheduled event.

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