

Public Service of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy
Docket No. DE 20-092

Date Request Received: 10/06/2020

Date of Response: 10/20/2020

Request No. STAFF 3-007

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Request from: New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission Staff

Witness: Katherine W. Peters

Request:

Eversource: Reference Bates p. 672 – Please confirm that Eversource proposes a three year increase in the SBC for residential customers of 26.6% and a 227.3% increase for C&I customers. Please describe in detail why the proposed increases differ so much by class. Indicate why (presumably) Eversource finds a 227.3% increase in the SBC for C&I customers to be reasonable?

Response:

Through an extensive stakeholder process involving numerous stakeholders and spanning approximately nine months, there was a significant consensus including a unanimous vote from the EERS Committee and majority support from the EESE Board for the proposed 2021-2023 Plan to achieve 5% annual electric savings and 3% annual gas savings, using a 2019 baseline, with an annual year-over-year increase in savings throughout the term. The Plan reflects these desires all while being cost-effective and delivering benefits and savings to customers that exceed the costs of delivering the programs. As C&I programs offer a better cost-to-achieve, meaning it costs less to save the same amount of energy in C&I than in the Residential sector, a majority of the savings are planned to be achieved from within the C&I sector. The resulting rates to fund this Plan and achieve the proposed savings are presented on the page that Staff references in the question. Additionally, while the percentage increases mentioned in this question for the SBC rate comparing 2020 to 2023 appear large, the overall annual bill impacts to non-participants, which are also portrayed on the page referenced in the question, are much more modest. A typical Rate G customer who does not participate in the programs will experience a less than 3.5% annual bill increase, while a typical Rate R customer who does not participate in the programs will experience a less than 0.5% annual bill increase.

Additionally, as shown in the Bill and Rate Impact Analysis in Attachment M, the programs result in long-term revenue requirement reductions, which would impact all customers, and customers who choose to participate in the programs will realize additional energy and bill savings. As discussed in Chapter 1.6 in addition to energy savings the 2021-2023 programs provide positive economic impacts, environmental benefits, and higher quality buildings with improved working and living conditions and reduced maintenance costs.