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**Sent:** Wednesday, July 20, 2022 9:20 PM  
**To:** PUC: Clerks Office <ClerksOffice@puc.nh.gov>  
**Subject:** Docket 21-078: Public comment

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July 20, 2022            VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

Daniel Goldner, Chairman  
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission  
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10  
Concord, NH 03301-2429

RE: Docket 21-078, Petition for Electric Vehicle Make-Ready and Demand Charge Alternative Proposal – Support for Settlement Agreement

Dear Chairman Goldner:

Thank you for accepting this written testimony, urging adoption of the Settlement Agreement reached by the intervening parties to Docket DE 21-078 relative to Eversource Energy's Electric Vehicle Make-Ready and Demand Charge Alternative Proposal.

I understand that the PUC is concerned that any funds spent to support Electric Vehicle charging amounts to cost-shifting to the less affluent, who "will never drive an EV."

Less affluent drivers may be **more** likely to depend on EVs and a dependable charging system.

- People who do not own a single-family home do not have the choice to install a home-charger, and are dependent on a public charging system. (In Dover, for example, that's about 60% of residents.)
- Rural residents ordinarily must travel greater distances on more challenging terrain, in all weather, than urban drivers, so they would have greater need for a charging system on the roadways they travel.
- EVs are becoming less expensive to maintain and operate than a traditional internal combustion engine car, and manufacturers are beginning to put a larger number of them on the market.

Now that gasoline prices are escalating, the ability to forego gasoline entirely with an Electric Vehicle is more important than ever. A study of the costs of driving an EV found:

Electric cars have a lower life cycle cost (the total cost of the vehicle over its lifetime, including initial purchase cost, maintenance and operational expenses, and the residual value of the vehicle at the end of its applicable lifetime) for a lower total cost of ownership...

As of 2021, an "eGallon" (the cost of fueling a vehicle with electricity compared to a similar vehicle that runs on gasoline) was \$1.70 in New Hampshire—significantly lower than the state's average price of a gallon of gasoline: \$3.30... Such maintenance and fuel savings are reflected in the experience of police departments with electric police vehicles. The Bargersville Police Department in Indiana saved \$6,755 in fuel alone within 13 months of operating its 2019 Tesla Model 3 police car. With officers driving 22,000 miles on average annually the department's Dodge Charger had a yearly combined gas and maintenance cost of \$7,580, whereas their Tesla Model 3 had a combined electricity and maintenance cost of only \$825. **(complete study, with citations for references at <https://monadnocksustainabilityhub.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Making-the-Case-for-EV-Police-Cars-Version-2.pdf>)**

As for the "cost shifting" to non-EV drivers, which the PUC chairman wishes to avoid, it seems that Eversource estimates the cost per account would not exceed 15 cents/month. That is a minimal hardship, especially considering the \$6,755 savings within a year that the Bargersville Police department experienced.

There are other economic reasons for supporting an EV charging system. Tourism is a vital NH industry, and depends on out-of-state visitors, many of whom now drive EVs. If there is not a dependable EV charging system in New Hampshire, these potential tourists will take their business to neighboring New England states, where they can be certain of EV charging. Businesses and industries are struggling to fill vacant positions, but find it hard to hire new workers from out of state, if access to EV chargers will be uncertain in New Hampshire.

Because this settlement would make possible only a small number of new charging stations, this is the perfect opportunity to try publicly funded charging stations as a pilot. We will finally acquire data on usage and costs, allowing us to make informed decisions about this new technology going forward.

Thank you for your consideration.

Susan Richman