



DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10
Concord, N.H. 03301-2429

August 26, 2021

Dianne Martin, Chairwoman
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
21 South Fruit Street
Concord, NH 03301-2429

**Re: DE 21-078 Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy
Make Ready and Demand Charge Alternative Proposals**

Chairwoman Martin:

On August 25, 2021, representatives of Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy, (Eversource), the Department of Environmental Services, Conservation Law Foundation, Clean Energy New Hampshire, Chargepoint, and the Department of Energy Regulatory Support Division (Division) met in technical session to discuss preliminary issues relevant to this proceeding, including the development of a procedural schedule for the docket.

The technical session participants agreed to recommend the following procedural schedule to the Commission, if the Commission continues to consider all or a portion of the petition in this proceeding:

Action or Event	Date or Deadline
Set 1 Data Requests to Eversource	September 7, 2021
Eversource Responses to Set 1 Data Requests	September 21, 2021
Set 2 Data Requests to Eversource	October 5, 2021
Eversource Responses to Set 2 Data Requests	October 19, 2021
Technical Session	October 25, 2021, 10 a.m.
Set 3 Data Requests to Eversource	November 15, 2021
Eversource Responses to Set 3 Data Requests	December 3, 2021
Technical Session	January 21, 2022
Division/OCA/Intervenor Testimony	February 25, 2022
Data Requests to Division/OCA/Intervenors	March 11, 2022

Division/OCA/Intervenor Responses to Data Requests	March 25, 2022
Technical Session/Settlement Conference	March 31, 2022
Hearing Date Range	April 10-24, except April 13-14.

At hearing, the parties and intervenors provided the Commission with extensive input regarding an Eversource request to remove the petition to DE 20-170. Eversource and several of the intervenors expressed support for the request, primarily citing administrative efficiencies that would be gained. Eversource also noted that considering Eversource's make-ready in DE 20-170 will inform the Commission when it comes to considering Unital's proposal in its rate case consistent with Commission Order No. 26,486. The Division did not support removing the make-ready issues to DE 20-170, in light of the limited opportunities for discovery remaining on the compacted schedule, limited review of the make-ready proposal that would be afforded to parties pursuant to such a decision, and because make-ready investments were not a noticed issue in DE 20-170. The Division did support removal of the demand charge alternative proposal to DE 20-170, as rate design matters were noticed issues in DE 20-170, and addressed in the Commission's Order in IR 20-004, which preceded this proceeding.

If the Commission intends to review some or all of the issues in the petition within this proceeding, the Division, on behalf of the technical session participants, respectfully requests that the Commission approve the proposed procedural schedule for this proceeding.

Due to the time sensitivity surrounding discovery, if the Commission intends to remove all issues from this proceeding into DE 20-170, as requested by Eversource, the technical session participants respectfully request that the Commission issue that determination by Monday, August 30, 2021.

Sincerely,

/s/ *Brian D. Buckley*

Brian D. Buckley
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New Hampshire Department of Energy

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