

## April 1, 2022

## BY E-MAIL

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

Re: Unitil Energy Systems, Inc. Annual REP VMP Report 2021

DE 21-139

Dear Director Howland:

Enclosed for filing on behalf of Unitil Energy Systems, Inc. ("UES" or "Company") is the Company's Reliability Enhancement Program ("REP") and Vegetation Management Program ("VMP") Annual Report ("Report") pursuant to the provisions of the Settlement Agreement in DE 10-055, Order No. 25,656 in DE 14-063, and Order No. 26,007 which approved the Settlement Agreement in Docket No. DE 16-384. Please note that the Company previously filed in this docket its *planned* VMP activities for fiscal year 2022 on November 16, 2021, pursuant to Order 26,388 in DE 20-098. Accordingly, the instant filing contains the reconciliation of expenditures during fiscal year 2021.

As required by Section 7.2 of the DE 16-384 Settlement Agreement, UES will continue to reconcile actual VMP and REP program O&M expenses for future calendar years to an amount of \$4,858,739. For calendar year 2021, the Company spent \$5,292,913 in VMP expense and \$208,494 of REP expenses related to VMP for a grand total of \$5,501,407. In calendar year 2021, the Company collected \$930,739 from Consolidated Communications, providing for a net total expenditure of \$4,570,668. The net expenditure of \$4,570,668 is subtracted from the \$4,858,739 for a total overcollection of \$288,071. Due to the large carryover cycle trim work explained in the report, the Company is proposing to not refund the over-collection through the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> On April 20, 2017, the Commission approved the Settlement Agreement in DE 16-384, which among other things, states that in an annual compliance filing, the Company will continue to reconcile actual calendar year vegetation management and reliability enhancement O&M expenses with test year costs. Any over- or under-collection shall be reflected in the Company's Schedule EDC (External Delivery Charge) on May 1 of the following year or, with approval of the Commission, the Company may credit unspent amounts to future vegetation management program expenditures.

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Company's External Delivery Charge and instead to carryover the over-collection to the 2022 program year to fund a portion of the carryover cycle trim work.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions concerning this filing.

Sincerely,

Patrick Taylor

Attorney for Unitil Energy Systems, Inc.

Enclosure

cc: Donald Kreis, Esq., Office of the Consumer Advocate