

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
BEFORE THE  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Docket No. DE 23-044

Liberty Utilities (Granite State Electric) Corp. d/b/a Liberty  
Energy Service for the Period February 1, 2024 – July 31, 2024

DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

CHRISTOPHER GREEN,

AARON J. DOLL,

AND

MYKA HAYWARD

December 7, 2023



1 **I. INTRODUCTION**

2 **Q. Please state your full name, business address, and position.**

3 A. [CG] My name is Christopher M. D. Green, and my business address is 602 South Joplin  
4 Avenue, Joplin, Missouri, 64801. I am the Manager of Energy Market Operations as part  
5 of the centralized Energy Support Services Department for Liberty Utilities Service  
6 Corp. (“LUSC”), which provides services to Liberty Utilities (Granite State Electric)  
7 Corp. d/b/a Liberty (“Granite State,” “Liberty,” or “the Company”). Part of my  
8 responsibilities are to oversee the procurement of power for Energy Service for Granite  
9 State as well as the procurement of Renewable Energy Certificates (“RECs”).

10 A. [AD] My name is Aaron J. Doll, and my business address is 602 South Joplin Avenue,  
11 Joplin, Missouri, 64801. I am the Senior Director of Energy Strategy in the Liberty  
12 Central Region for Liberty Utilities Service Corp. (“LUSC”), which provides services to  
13 The Empire District Electric Company d/b/a Liberty (“Empire”). Beginning in 2022, I  
14 assumed responsibility for overseeing the procurement of power for Energy Service for  
15 Liberty Utilities (Granite State Electric) Corp., (“Liberty” or the “Company”) and the  
16 procurement of Renewable Energy Certificates (“RECs”).

17 A. [MH] My name is K. Myka Hayward-Hawkins, and my business address is 602 South  
18 Joplin Avenue, Joplin, Missouri, 64801. I am a Project Specialist II, in the centralized  
19 Energy Support Services Department for Liberty Utilities Service Corp. (“LUSC”),  
20 which provides services to Liberty Utilities (Granite State Electric) Corp. d/b/a Liberty  
21 (“Granite State,” “Liberty,” or “the Company”). Part of my roles and responsibilities are  
22 to assist with the procurement of power for Energy Service for Granite State and verify

1 the Company's compliance with New Hampshire Renewable Portfolio Standards.

2 **Q. Please describe your educational background and training.**

3 A. [CG] I graduated from Northwest Missouri State University in 2011 with a Bachelor of  
4 Science in Financial Management. I also received a Master of Business Administration  
5 from Northwest Missouri State University in 2012.

6 A. [AD] I graduated from Missouri State University in 2003 with a Bachelor of Science  
7 degree in Psychology and a minor in Philosophy. I received a Master of Business  
8 Administration from Missouri State University in 2008.

9 A. [MH] I graduated from Pittsburg State University in 2018 with a Bachelor of Business  
10 Administration in Marketing and Management. I received a Master of Business  
11 Administration from Pittsburg State University in 2019.

12 **Q. Please describe your professional background.**

13 A. [CG] In March 2015, I was hired into the LUSC energy trading group that operates in the  
14 Southwest Power Pool, Inc. ("SPP"). During my tenure I have held various positions  
15 with primary responsibilities including budgeting company transmission costs,  
16 overseeing the LUSC REC (Renewable Energy Credit) portfolio, managing SPP hedging  
17 mechanism impacts, generation and load forecasting, fuel and purchased power reporting,  
18 and work with the integrated resource planning ("IRP") process. In my current role, my  
19 primary responsibility has been for the Granite State Default Service program as well as  
20 adhering to the New Hampshire Public Utilities Electric Renewable Portfolio Standard.

1 A. [AD] I have worked for LUSC for approximately 17 years mostly with Empire, the  
2 Company's electric affiliate in the Midwest. I worked in the Planning and Regulatory  
3 Department for six years as a Planning Analyst and was responsible for load forecasting,  
4 weather normalization, and sales and revenue variance analysis. In 2012, I transferred to  
5 Empire's Supply Management department as the Market Risk Manager and eventually  
6 the Manager of Market Settlements and Systems. In this capacity, I worked to facilitate  
7 the migration of the daily power marketing activities from the SPP Energy Imbalance  
8 Market ("EIS") to the SPP Integrated Marketplace ("IM") and oversaw the procurement  
9 of Transmission Congestion Rights ("TCRs"). I also provided oversight of meter  
10 management, market settlements, and market applications.

11 In 2016, I was promoted to Director of Electric Procurement. In this role, I was  
12 responsible for the procurement of fuel for electrical generation, the day-to-day  
13 interfacing, systems and settlements with SPP as it relates to the IM, the long-term and  
14 short-term load forecasting, and the production cost modeling. I also provided regulatory  
15 support relating to those responsibilities. In 2019, I was promoted to Senior Director of  
16 Energy Strategy which added strategic planning and regulatory assistance to my existing  
17 responsibilities.

18 A. [MH] I began working at Liberty Utilities (LUSC) in March of 2019 as an Associate  
19 Analyst of Market Operations. During this time, I worked in both the Day-Ahead and  
20 Real-Time markets in SPP. In March of 2021, I transitioned to Associate Construction  
21 Planner – Electric Operations, I spent time working with Liberty's customers and  
22 designing line operation jobs on the distribution system. I returned to the Energy

1 Procurement department in March of 2022 as a Project Specialist II. I support several  
2 ongoing projects across the Company, with primary focuses being Liberty-Empire and  
3 Granite State Energy Procurement processes.

4  
5 **Q. Have you previously testified before the New Hampshire Public Utilities  
6 Commission (“Commission”)?**

7 A. [CG] Yes. I testified before the Commission in Docket No. DE 23-044, Liberty’s 2023  
8 Default Service Filing.

9 A. [AD] Yes. I testified before the Commission in Docket No. DE 22-024, Liberty’s 2022  
10 Default Service Filing.

11 A. [MH] No.

12  
13 **Q. Have you testified before any other state regulatory agencies?**

14 A. [CG] No.

15 A. [AD] Yes. I have testified before the Kansas Corporation Commission, the Oklahoma  
16 Corporation Commission, the Missouri Public Service Commission, the Kentucky  
17 Public Service Commission, and the Arkansas Public Service Commission.

18 A. [MH] No.

19 **II. PURPOSE OF TESTIMONY**

20 **Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?**

21 A. The purpose of our testimony is to support the Company’s request for Commission  
22 approval of Liberty’s proposed Energy Service rates for both (i) the Large and Medium

1 Commercial and Industrial Customer Group (“Large Customer Group”<sup>1</sup>) and (ii) the  
2 Residential and Small Commercial Customer Group (“Small Customer Group”<sup>2</sup>) for the  
3 six-month period February 1, 2024, through July 31, 2024. Our testimony will describe  
4 the process used by Liberty to procure Energy Service for both the Large and Small  
5 Customer Groups and how the Company proposes to meet its 2023 Renewable Portfolio  
6 Standard (“RPS”) obligations.

7 **Q. Please provide the list of schedules attached to your testimony.**

8	A.	Schedule AJD/CG/MH-1	Energy Service RFP February 1, 2024, through July 31,
9			2024
10		Schedule AJD/CG/MH -2	Energy Service Procurement Summary
11		Schedule AJD/CG/MH -3	Comparison of Change in Futures Prices to Change in
12			Procurement Costs
13		Schedule AJD/CG/MH -4	Energy Service Contract for the Large Customer Group
14			February 1, 2024, through April 30, 2024 and Energy
15			Service Contract for the Small Customer Group February
16			1, 2024, through July 31, 2024, with Constellation
17			Energy Generation, LLC
18		Schedule AJD/CG/MH -5	Energy Service Contract for the Large Customer Group
19			May 1, 2024, through July 31, 2024, with DTE Energy
20			Trading
21		Schedule AJD/CG/MH -6	Summary of November 1, 2023, RPS Solicitation
22		Schedule AJD/CG/MH -7	Summary of 2023 and 2024 REC Positions
23		Schedule AJD/CG/MH -8	Summary of 2023 REC Purchase Agreements

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<sup>1</sup> The Large Customer Group consists of the following rate classes: G-1 (General Service Time-Of-Use), G-2 (General Long-Hour Service), EV-L (Large Commercial EV Charging), and EV-M (Medium Commercial EV Charging).

<sup>2</sup> The Small Customer Group consists of the following rate classes: D (Domestic Service); D-10 (Domestic Service with Optional Peak Load Pricing); M (Outdoor Lighting); T (Limited Total Electrical Living Rate); V (Limited Commercial Space Heating); G-3 (General Service); D-11 (Battery Storage Pilot Time-of-Use); and D-12 (Residential EV Charging Time-of-Use).

1 **III. ENERGY SERVICE BIDDING PROCESS**

2 **Q. Why does Liberty need to procure Energy Service for both the Large and Small**  
3 **Customer Groups for the period beginning February 1, 2024?**

4 A. Pursuant to the procurement process approved by the Commission, which we describe  
5 later in our testimony, Liberty procures power supply through contracts having two three-  
6 month terms for the Large Customer Group and a six-month term for the Small Customer  
7 Group. Liberty's currently effective Energy Service supply contracts for both the Large  
8 and Small Customer Groups expire on January 31, 2024. Therefore, to ensure that  
9 Energy Service continues to be available, Liberty requires new Energy Service supply  
10 arrangements beginning February 1, 2024.

11 **Q. Please describe the process Liberty used to procure its Energy Service supply for**  
12 **the six-month period beginning February 1, 2024.**

13 A. Liberty conducted its procurement of Energy Service supply consistent with the  
14 principles of the electric restructuring statute, RSA 374-F, and previous Commission  
15 orders. The Company complied with the solicitation, bid evaluation, and procurement  
16 process set forth in the Settlement Agreement dated November 18, 2005, which was  
17 approved by the Commission in Order No. 24,577 (Jan. 13, 2006) in Docket No. DE 05-  
18 126, amended by Order No. 24,922 (Dec. 19, 2008) in Docket No. DE 08-011, amended  
19 by Order No. 25,601 (Nov. 27, 2013) in Docket No. DE 13-018, and further amended by  
20 Order No. 25,806 (Sept. 2, 2015) in Docket No. DE 15-010 (as amended through these  
21 subsequent orders, the "Settlement Agreement"). On November 1, 2023, Liberty issued a

1 request for proposals (“RFP”) for certain power supply services and sought suppliers for  
2 Liberty’s Energy Service covering both the Large and Small Customer Groups.

3 **Q. Was the Company’s solicitation for the period beginning February 1, 2024,**  
4 **consistent with the Commission-approved process for Energy Service?**

5 A. Yes, Liberty’s Energy Service RFP was conducted consistent with the Settlement  
6 Agreement.

7 **Q. Could you describe the nature of the RFP that Liberty issued?**

8 A. On November 1, 2023, and consistent with past practice, Liberty issued an RFP to several  
9 potential suppliers soliciting power for the period February 1, 2024, through July 31,  
10 2024. Liberty also distributed the RFP to all members of the New England Power Pool  
11 (“NEPOOL”) Markets Committee and posted the RFP on Liberty’s energy supply  
12 website. As a result, the RFP had wide distribution throughout the New England energy  
13 supply marketplace. The RFP requested fixed pricing for each month of service on an as-  
14 delivered energy basis. Prices could vary by month and by service; that is, the prices did  
15 not have to be uniform across the entire service period or between the three load blocks.  
16 A copy of the RFP is provided as Schedule AJD/CG/MH-1.

17 **Q. Did the Company consider a market-based tranche that was encouraged by the**  
18 **Commission in Order No. 26,854?**

19 A. Liberty has several concerns regarding the market-based tranche that the Commission  
20 encouraged and chose not to include it in the most recent solicitation. Liberty’s concerns  
21 are as follows:



- 1           • As required by Order No. 24,577 (Jan. 13, 2006) in Docket No. DE 05-126,  
2           amended by Order No. 24,922 (Dec. 19, 2008) in Docket No. DE 08-011,  
3           amended by Order No. 25,601 (Nov. 27, 2013) in Docket No. DE 13-018, and  
4           further amended by Order No. 25,806 (Sept. 2, 2015) in Docket No. DE 15-  
5           010, any significant change to the practice of Default Service procurement  
6           would have to be ordered by the Commission.
  
- 7           • Introducing a large change to the Company’s solicitation process is  
8           inappropriate due to the Department of Energy’s ongoing investigation into the  
9           procurement of Default Service.
  
- 10          • Possible adverse impacts created by Community Power Aggregation due to the  
11          small size of the Small Customer Group.
  
- 12          • Possible adverse impacts created by introducing the pricing variability  
13          associated with market activities to a customer group that is accustomed to  
14          fixed price.

15 **IV. RESULTS OF ENERGY SERVICE BIDDING**

16 **Q. Did Liberty receive responses to the RFP?**

17 A. Yes. Indicative proposals were received on November 28, 2023. Final proposals were  
18 received on December 5, 2023. None of the bidders made their provision of Liberty’s  
19 Energy Service contingent upon the provision of any other service.

1 **Q. Was participation in this RFP like past solicitations?**

2 A. Yes. As in recent RFPs, several bidders elected to not participate in this RFP due to the  
3 perceived volatility in the energy markets, uncertainty regarding costs from the Mystic  
4 Cost of Service agreement, and the unknown effects of the New Hampshire Community  
5 Aggregation programs.

6 **Q. How do the current futures prices for electricity and natural gas compare to the**  
7 **futures prices at the time of the Company's previous solicitations?**

8 A. The futures market prices for electricity and natural gas at the time of receiving final bids  
9 for the previous two solicitation periods on December 13, 2022, and June 20, 2023, as  
10 well as current futures market prices, are shown in Schedule AJD/CG/MH-3. These are  
11 the most recent solicitations for the Small Customer Group. As shown, current electric  
12 wholesale and natural gas future prices are lower as compared to the prior year's final  
13 bids that were received on December 13, 2022 and when compared to the June 20, 2023,  
14 futures prices. The proposed retail prices for the Small Customer Group are similarly  
15 lower when compared to the retail prices currently in rates.

16 **Q. Did Liberty select any of the proposals received in response to the RFP?**

17 Yes. Liberty evaluated the bids received and selected the supplier that: (i) provided a bid  
18 that was conforming to the RFP; (ii) had the lowest price; (iii) met the credit  
19 requirements described in the RFP; and (iv) passed our qualitative evaluation. On  
20 December 5, 2023, Liberty entered into a wholesale Transaction Confirmation with  
21 Constellation Energy Generation, LLC, winning bidder, to provide Energy Service to  
22 both the Large Customer Group for the three-month period February 1, 2024, through

1 April 30, 2024, Block A and the Small Customer Group six-month period February 1,  
2 2024, through July 31, 2024, Block C. Together, a Transaction Confirmation and a  
3 Master Power Agreement provide the terms for the purchase of Energy Service from a  
4 supplier. A copy of the Transaction Confirmation between Constellation and Liberty,  
5 with certain confidential sections redacted, is attached as Schedule AJD/CG/MH-4. A  
6 copy of the Constellation Master Power Agreement was filed with the Commission on  
7 March 20, 2006, in Docket No. DE 06-115 (Energy Service proceeding), and the First  
8 Amendment to that Master Power Agreement was filed with the Commission on  
9 September 15, 2009, in Docket No. DE 09-010 (Energy Service proceeding).

10 On December 5, 2023, Liberty entered into a wholesale Transaction Confirmation with  
11 DTE Energy Trading, the winning bidder, to provide Energy Service to the Large  
12 Customer Group for the three-month period May 1, 2024, through July 31, 2024.  
13 Together, a Transaction Confirmation and a Master Power Agreement provide the terms  
14 for the purchase of Energy Service from a supplier. A copy of the Transaction  
15 Confirmation between DTE and Liberty, with certain confidential sections redacted, is  
16 attached as Schedule AJD/CG/MH -5. A copy of the DTE Master Power Agreement was  
17 filed with the Commission on December 14, 2009, in Docket No. DE 09-010 (Energy  
18 Service proceeding).

19

1 **Q. Does the Company have a value of the contracts with Constellation and DTE?**

2 A. The notional value of the transactions with Constellation and DTE is just over \$15.0  
3 million, based on the contracted fixed prices and Liberty’s forecast of retail sales for this  
4 Energy Service period for the combined large and small customer groups.

5 **V. RENEWABLE PORTFOLIO STANDARD**

6 **Q. What are the RPS obligations for 2023 and 2024?**

7 A. As specified in the RPS statute, RSA 362-F, a provider of electricity must obtain and  
8 retire certificates sufficient in number and class type to meet the following minimum  
9 percentages of total megawatt-hours of electricity supplied by the provider to its  
10 customers that year:

<b>NH-RPS Classes</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>
RPS Class I	11.0%	11.9%
RPS Class I Thermal	2.2%	2.2%
RPS Class II	0.7%	0.7%
RPS Class III	8.0%	8.0%
RPS Class IV	1.5%	1.5%
Total	23.4%	24.3%

11

12 **Q. How does Liberty expect to satisfy its RPS obligations consistent with the RPS rules**  
13 **as promulgated by the Commission?**

14 A. On February 18, 2009, Liberty entered into an amended settlement agreement with the  
15 Commission Staff and the Office of Consumer Advocate intended to resolve all issues  
16 associated with the process by which Liberty would comply with the requirements of the  
17 RPS statute and the PUC 2500 rules (“Amended RPS Settlement”). The Amended RPS  
18 Settlement was approved by the Commission in Order No. 24,953 (March 23, 2009) in

1 Docket No. DE 09-010. The Amended RPS Settlement provides that the Company may  
2 satisfy RPS obligations by providing either RECs for each RPS class from the NEPOOL  
3 Generation Information System (“NEPOOL-GIS”) or by making an Alternative  
4 Compliance Payment (“ACP”) to the State of New Hampshire’s Renewable Energy  
5 Fund. As specified in the Amended RPS Settlement, Liberty requested bidders to  
6 provide a separate RPS Compliance Adder with their bids. This RPS Compliance Adder  
7 is the incremental charge by a bidder for agreeing to take on the RPS obligation with the  
8 Energy Service obligation.

9 **Q. Did any of the winning bidders include a RPS Compliance Adder in their bids?**

10 A. No. None of the bidders provided an RPS Compliance Adder in any of their bids.

11 **Q. Is Liberty proposing any changes to the Renewable Portfolio Standard Adder at this**  
12 **time?**

13 A. No. Liberty is proposing to not change the current Commission-approved Renewable  
14 Portfolio Standard Adder as discussed in the Energy Service hearing of June 28, 2023.

15 Liberty issued a request for proposals on November 1, 2023, for the acquisition of New  
16 Hampshire RPS compliant RECs to meet its forecasted 2023 and a portion of its 2024  
17 obligations. The results of Liberty’s November 1, 2023, solicitation are included in  
18 Schedule AJD/CG/MH -2, Exhibit 10. At this time, Liberty has completed its analysis,  
19 selected winning bidders, but has not completed contract negotiations. Liberty plans on  
20 providing an update in the Energy Service filing scheduled for June 2024. At that time

1 Liberty will propose a new Renewable Portfolio Standard Adder based on both RPS  
2 solicitation results and market prices.

3 **Q. What happens if Liberty's actual RPS compliance costs are different from those**  
4 **used in calculating the Renewable Portfolio Standard Adder?**

5 A. Liberty reconciles its costs of RPS compliance with the revenue billed to customers from  
6 the Renewable Portfolio Standard Adder. This reconciliation occurs as part of the annual  
7 Energy Service reconciliation.

8 **Q. Has Liberty been able to contract for RECs?**

9 A. Yes. In June 2023, Liberty was able to contract for Class II RECs to help meet a portion  
10 of its 2023 RPS obligations. A summary of the results of Liberty's June 2023 RPS  
11 solicitation is included in Schedule AJD/CG/MH -6. Schedule AJD/CG/MH-7 is a  
12 summary of Liberty's RPS positions. As shown in Schedule AJD/CG/MH -7, Liberty  
13 expects to spend up to \$3,805,942 to meet its 2023 RPS Obligations and forecasts up to  
14 \$4,426,746 to meet its 2024 RPS Obligations. Schedule AJD/CG/MH -8 is a list of the  
15 contracts Liberty has executed with RPS REC suppliers for vintage 2023 NH RPS  
16 compliant RECs.

17 **Q. When will Liberty issue the next REC request for proposals?**

18 A. Liberty plans to issue an RPS solicitation in May 2024 to procure RECs to satisfy its  
19 2023 RPS obligations and a portion of the 2024 RPS obligations.

1 **VI. CONCLUSION**

2 **Q. When will Liberty issue the next RFP for Energy Service?**

3 A. The Large Customer Group rates and the Small Customer Group rates proposed in this  
4 filing will both end on July 31, 2024. Per the terms of the Settlement Agreement, Liberty  
5 will next issue an RFP for both groups in May 2024. For purposes of notice to the  
6 Commission, the following table illustrates Liberty's proposed timeline for the next RFP:

<b>RFP Process Steps</b>		<b>Proposed May 2024 RFP</b>
RFP Issued		May 1, 2024
Indicative Bids Due		June 11, 2024
Final Bids Due		June 18, 2024
Energy Service Filing to Commission		June 21, 2024
Commission Order Needed		June 28, 2024
Service Begins		August 1, 2024

7

8 **Q. Does this conclude your testimony?**

9 A. Yes, it does.