

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
Docket No. DE 23-068
Electric & Gas Utilities
2024-2026 Triennial Energy Efficiency Plan

PETITION TO INTERVENE OF ACADIA CENTER

Pursuant to the Commission's Commencement of Adjudicative Proceeding and Notice of a Prehearing Conference dated July 13, 2023, N.H. Admin. Rules, Puc 203.17, and in accordance with the standards of RSA 541-A:32, Acadia Center hereby submits this petition to intervene in the above-captioned docket ("Petition").

In support of its petition, Acadia Center states the following:

1. Acadia Center is a non-profit, research and advocacy organization incorporated in the State of Maine and committed to advancing the clean energy future in the Northeast. Acadia Center is at the forefront of efforts to build clean, low carbon and consumer friendly economies. Acadia Center's approach is characterized by reliable information, comprehensive advocacy and problem solving through innovation and collaboration.
2. Acadia Center has been active in New Hampshire and other northeastern states in researching and promoting consumer-friendly energy efficiency programs, including related rate design that preserves incentives to use energy wisely, gives consumers greater control over energy bills, and modernizes tariffs to account for economic costs and benefits. Acadia Center experts have researched and written about energy efficiency as a least cost resource and its role in a distributed energy future, including "Energy Efficiency: Engine of Economic Growth"¹, "UtilityVision,"² and "Utility Rate Design Principles for Advancing a Consumer-Friendly Energy System"³ and commented on efficiency programs in New England states, New York and Eastern Canadian provinces.
3. Acadia Center through its Next Generation Energy Efficiency framework⁴ is working with coalitions and partners across the Northeast to strengthen the role of efficiency in improving housing quality, reduce emissions and support environmental justice, align energy efficiency and electrification, and sustain investments in efficiency as the leading energy resource in the power grid.
4. Acadia Center has considerable experience and expertise in matters relating to New Hampshire energy and electric utility policy. At the Public Utility Commission, Acadia Center has participated in the docket related to an Energy Efficiency Resource Standard, DE 17-136, the docket establishing new net metering tariffs (DE 16-576) and was a member of the Grid Modernization Working Group established in IR 15-296. In collaboration

¹ See: <https://acadiacenter.org/resource/energy-efficiency-engine-of-economic-growth/>

² See: <http://acadiacenter.org/utilityvision/>

³ See: <http://acadiacenter.org/document/utility-rate-design-principles/>

⁴ See: <https://acadiacenter.org/resource/next-generation-energy-efficiency-brief/>

with utilities, government entities, consumer groups, and Acadia Center partners, Acadia Center also engaged in the docket, DE 20-092, relating to the 2021-2023 Triennial Energy Efficiency Plan.

5. Acadia Center has previously engaged as a member of the Energy Efficiency Resource Standard (EERS) Committee, which worked to expand the budget and role for stakeholders in developing the initial 2018-2020 plan and participated in Committee meetings and submitted written and oral comments on the NH Electric & Gas Utilities' April 1, 2020 and July 1, 2020 Draft 2021-2023 Plans.⁵ Acadia Center commented on multiple components of the draft plans, including energy savings, commitment to cost-effective energy efficiency programs, economic development, outreach to constituents, workforce development and training, weatherization, data tracking, active demand reduction, energy optimization, marketing and education, building codes and others.

7. As a leading energy efficiency policy organization in the Northeast, Acadia Center has long been a member of energy efficiency program processes at the regional level, serves on the Energy Efficiency Advisory Council in Massachusetts and its staff has served as chair and vice chair of the Connecticut Energy Efficiency Board.

8. To build consumer-friendly clean energy systems, Acadia Center spends considerable time, effort, and monetary resources working to ensure that utility rate design preserves incentives to use energy wisely and fairly incentivizes clean distributed generation throughout New England and the northeastern region.

9. Collectively, Acadia Center's staff has a combined several decades of experience on the impact of utility rate design on consumer adoption of energy efficiency and clean energy technologies, and the ability of consumers to control their energy bills. As such, Acadia Center's participation in this proceeding is in the interests of justice.

10. Accordingly, Acadia Center's rights, duties, privileges, immunities or other substantial interests may be affected by this proceeding. Allowing Acadia Center to intervene will not impair the orderly and prompt conduct of the proceedings as demonstrated by substantial contributions and participation in other dockets.

WHEREFORE, Acadia Center respectfully requests that it be granted full intervenor status in this proceeding.

Respectfully submitted,



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⁵ See: <https://acadiacenter.org/resource/comments-to-the-draft-of-the-2021-2023-new-hampshire-statewide-energy-efficiency-plan/>

<https://acadiacenter.org/>

Dated: July 20, 2023

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing petition has on this 20^h day of July 2023 been sent by email to the service list in Docket No. DE 23-068.

Daniel Sosland
President, Acadia Center