# STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

#### DE 24-065

# UNITIL ENERGY SYSTEMS, INC.

#### 2024 Default Service Solicitations

## SUPPLEMENTAL ORDER OF NOTICE

On June 14, 2024, the Commission issued Order No. 27,020, in which it required Unitil Energy Systems, Inc. (UES or the Company) to file

with the Commission, no later than July 25, 2024, a proposal for an expanded ISO-New England market-based procurement approach, as delineated in this Order, for the Company's upcoming February-July 2025 energy service period, to be assessed by the Commission in a future phase of this proceeding.

Order No. 27,020 at 9-10. UES submitted this filing on July 25, 2024. All docket filings, other than any information subject to confidential treatment, are available on the Commission's website at

https://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2024/24-065.html.

The filing presents, *inter alia*, the following additional issues: whether UES's default service procurement process should be modified in accordance with its proposal for an ISO-New England market-based procurement tranche of 30 percent of the load through direct Real-Time ISO-New England market acquisitions for its small and medium customer groups, and associated technical proposals; whether UES's decision to not propose a change to expand self-supply to the Company's large customer group is just and reasonable; whether this proposal is consistent with the principles elucidated in prior Commission orders regarding UES's default service procurement process: Order No. 24,511 (September 9, 2005), Order No. 24,921 (December 12, 2008), Order No. 25,397 (July 31, 2012), and Order No. 26,679

(September 9, 2022), Order No. 26,694 (September 30, 2022), Order No. 26,973 (March 15, 2024), and Order No. 27,020 (June 14, 2024); as well as the Electric Utility Restructuring Policy Principles governing default service in RSA 374-F:3, V(c)–(e); and whether the resulting rates would be just and reasonable as required by RSA 374:2, and RSA 378:5 and RSA 378:7. Also, the Commission will consider whether further expansion of the ISO-New England-based market-procurement tranche(s) within this default service round, beyond that proposed by the Company, is advisable. Accordingly, a further phase of this adjudicative proceeding will be convened to address these issues.

The Commission will be conducting any hearings scheduled in this matter in person. The Commission will consider requests to conduct hearings using a hybrid format to permit remote participation by a specific individual only if the Commission has determined that a sufficient reason has been provided for why that individual would be unable to attend in person. Any party requesting that a specific individual be permitted to participate remotely should file a written request with the Commission's Clerk's Office no later than fifteen (15) days prior to the hearing date. If the Commission determines that one or more individuals will be permitted to appear remotely, then individuals in the Commission's hearing room, including the Commissioners, will be broadcast on a web-enabled platform.

### Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby

**ORDERED**, that a further phase of this adjudicative proceeding be commenced for the purpose of reviewing and resolving the foregoing issues pursuant to RSA chapter 541-A, RSA 374-F:3, V(c)–(e), RSA 374:2, RSA 378:5, and RSA 378:7, and the Commission's procedural rules; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that the Commission will hold a hearing in this matter at its offices located at 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire, on September 12, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. Three hours shall be allotted for this hearing; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that any entity or individual may petition to intervene and seek to be admitted as a party in this proceeding. Each party has the right to have an attorney represent the party at the party's own expense; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that, consistent with N.H. Admin. R., Puc 203.17 and Puc 203.02, any entity or individual seeking to intervene in the proceeding shall file with the Commission a petition to intervene with copies sent to UES and any other parties on the service list, on or before August 30, 2024. The petition shall state the facts demonstrating how the petitioner's rights, duties, privileges, immunities, or other substantial interests may be affected by the proceeding, consistent with N.H. Admin. R., Puc 203.17; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that any party objecting to a petition to intervene make said objection on or before September 6, 2024; and it is

testimony, motions, or other documents intended to become part of the record in this proceeding with the Commission. Pursuant to the secretarial letter issued on March 17, 2020, which is posted on the Commission's website at <a href="https://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Secretarial%20Letters/20200317-SecLtr-Temp-Changes-in-Filing-Requirements.pdf">https://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Secretarial%20Letters/20200317-SecLtr-Temp-Changes-in-Filing-Requirements.pdf</a>, all Commission rules requiring the filing of paper copies are suspended until further notice. Parties may elect to submit any filing in electronic form unless otherwise ordered by the Commission. Filings will be considered filed as of the time the electronic copy is received by the Commission; and it is

DE 24-065 - 4 -

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that routine procedural inquiries may be made by contacting the Commission's Clerk's Office at (603) 271-2431 or <a href="ClerksOffice@puc.nh.gov">ClerksOffice@puc.nh.gov</a>. All requests to the Commission should be made in a written pleading filed with the Commission. Unless otherwise authorized by law, *ex parte* communications are prohibited; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that pursuant to N.H. Admin. R., Puc 203.12, UES shall notify all entities and individuals desiring to be heard at this hearing by publishing a copy of this order of notice on its website no later than two business days after the date of issue, such publication to be documented by affidavit filed with the Commission on or before August 30, 2024. In addition, the Clerk shall publish this order of notice on the Commission's website no later than two business days after the date of issue; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED,** that any hearings in this matter shall be conducted in accordance with the previously issued hearing guidelines.

So ordered, this twenty-third day of August, 2024.

Daniel C. Goldner Chairman

Pradip K. Chattopadhyay

airman Commissioner

Individuals needing assistance or auxiliary communication aids due to sensory impairment or other disability should contact the NHPUC, 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire 03301-2429; 603-271-2431; TDD Access: Relay N.H. 1-800-735-2964. Notification of the need for assistance should be made one week prior to the scheduled event.

DE 24-065 - 5 -

# Service List - Docket Related

Docket#: 24-065

Printed: 8/23/2024

**Email Addresses** 

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