STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DE 24-070

PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE d/b/a EVERSOURCE ENERGY

Request for Change in Distribution Rates

<u>Procedural Order Re: Proposed Procedural Schedule; Delineation of Topics for</u> November and January Commission-Attended Prehearing Technical Conferences

The Commission APPROVES the proposed, partly assented-to procedural schedule filed by Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (Eversource) on October 14, 2024. In its October 14 filing, Eversource indicated that a majority of the parties to this proceeding granted their concurrence to the proposed procedural schedule, and that no parties had indicated their opposition to the proposal as of that date. As of today, November 5, 2024, no objections to the Eversource procedural schedule proposal have been filed, nor have any other comments or responses regarding the proposed schedule been filed into this instant docket.

On October 24, 2024, Eversource, in a joint filing with the New Hampshire

Department of Energy (DOE), requested that the Commission designate "high-level topics" for the November 19 and November 20, 2024 Commission-attended prehearing technical conferences in this proceeding. No objections or other responses to the Eversource-DOE filing have been made as of today. The Commission hereby responds with the following indications of the high-level topics for the November 19 and November 20 prehearing technical conferences. Regarding these November conferences, the Commission will focus on the Eversource Vegetation Management, Customer Operations, and Digital Strategy programs (e.g., 'Fee Free,' 'New Start,'), the Allocated Cost of Service\Marginal Cost of Service\Rate Design Study, with the potential to address other topics, as time permits. The

Commission will also be propounding record requests on Eversource regarding these matters in a separate procedural order today.

The Commission expects that the January 7 and January 8, 2025 prehearing technical conferences will have a focus on Eversource's proposals relating to capital investments and Operations & Maintenance (O&M) expense made in the 2023 test year. The Commission does acknowledge the filing made by the 'Rate LG Customer Consortium' intervenor party, requesting that the January prehearing technical conferences "...include rate design as a topic..." and that "...customer-facing rate design will...be addressed during one of the Commission's January prehearing technical conferences." The Commission will make an effort to accommodate this request in January to the extent feasible, but encourages the 'Rate LG Customer Consortium' to avail of the party-discovery and testimonial process, in case time is short at the January conferences.

The Commission will also take up the DOE request for remote participation of its personnel and consultants, filed on November 4, 2024, in the near future.

So ordered, this fifth day of November, 2024.

Daniel C. Goldner Chairman Pradip K. Chattopadhyay

Commissioner

Service List - Docket Related

Docket#: 24-070

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