THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DE 15-147

UNITIL ENERGY SYSTEMS, INC.

2013 and 2014 Displaced Distribution Revenue Due to Net Metering Generation

SUPPLEMENTAL ORDER OF NOTICE

On May 14, 2015, Unitil Energy Systems, Inc. (Unitil) filed a request to recover revenue displaced due to net metering for calendar years 2013 and 2014. The request was made pursuant to New Hampshire Code Admin Rule Puc 903.02(o) which sets forth the process whereby an electric distribution utility may petition the Commission for reconciliation of the net effects of net metering on its default service and distribution revenues and expenses. Unitil proposes to recover displaced revenue due to net metering generation through its External Delivery Charge (EDC) rate.

The EDC rate is a reconciling rate factor consisting of several components, the filing of which is typically made by the Company during June, for rates effective on a service rendered basis on and after August 1 of that same year. Unitil's proposal would add a new component to the EDC to recover revenue displaced due to net metering generation, subject to the review and approval of the Commission. At the time of the filing, Unitil requested a total recovery of $41,628, of which $15,261 relates to 2013, and $26,367 relates to 2014. Unitil had submitted a similar proposal in Docket No. DE 14-170, a prior EDC docket.

On May 18, 2015, the Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA) filed a letter of participation pursuant to RSA 363:28. The Commission issued an Order of Notice on June 4, 2015, scheduling a prehearing conference on June 23, 2015.

On January 25, 2016, Staff filed a letter reporting that the parties to the docket had issued discovery in the docket and held several technical sessions with the Company. Based on its review, Staff concluded that the method used by Unitil to calculate the amount of revenue displaced by net metering is appropriate, and that the next step was consideration of a settlement of the issues.

On April 11, 2016, Unitil filed a Joint Settlement Agreement among itself, the OCA and Staff. The Joint Settlement Agreement states that the parties agree that the methodology proposed by Unitil to estimate the displaced revenue associated with net metering is reasonable, and satisfies the requirements of RSA 362-A:9,VII and New Hampshire Code Admin Rules Puc 903.02(o). The signing parties also agreed that Unitil will include in its EDC tariff a provision allowing the displaced revenue associated with net metering to be recovered from customers through the EDC.

The original filing and subsequent docket filings, other than any information for which confidential treatment is requested of or granted by the Commission, will be posted to the Commission's website at http://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2015/15-147.html.

The filing raises, inter alia, issues related to whether the Settlement Agreement is just and reasonable and consistent with RSA 362-A:9,VII and New Hampshire Code Admin Rules Puc 903.02(o) and whether the resulting rates are just and reasonable as required by RSA 374:2 and RSA 387:7. Each party has the right to have an attorney represent the party at the party's own expense.

Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby

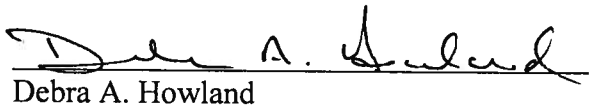
ORDERED, that a Hearing, pursuant to Puc 203.12,, be held before the Commission located at 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire on September 6, 2016 at 1:30 p.m.; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.12, Unitil shall notify all persons desiring to be heard at this hearing by publishing a copy of this Order of Notice no later than August 9, 2016, in a newspaper with general circulation in those portions of the state in which operations are conducted, publication to be documented by affidavit filed with the Commission on or before September 1, 2016; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that consistent with N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.17 and Puc 203.02, any party seeking to intervene in the proceeding shall submit to the Commission seven copies of a Petition to Intervene with copies sent to Unitil and the Office of the Consumer Advocate on or before September 1, 2016, such Petition stating the facts demonstrating how its rights, duties, privileges, immunities or other substantial interest may be affected by the proceeding, as required by N.H. Code Admin. Rule Puc 203.17 and RSA 541-A:32,I(b); and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that any party objecting to a Petition to Intervene make said Objection on or before September 6, 2016.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this first day of August, 2016.



Debra A. Howland
Executive Director

Individuals needing assistance or auxiliary communication aids due to sensory impairment or other disability should contact the Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator, 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.