THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DE 16-463

UNITIL ENERGY SYSTEMS, INC.

2016 Least Cost Integrated Resource Plan

ORDER OF NOTICE

On April 18, 2016, Unitil Energy Systems, Inc. (Unitil) filed its 2016 Least Cost Integrated Resource Plan (LCIRP) pursuant to RSA 378:38 and Order No. 25,651 (April 17, 2014) as amended by a secretarial letter dated April 29, 2014. Because the filing contains material determined by Unitil to be confidential, Unitil filed a Motion for Confidential Treatment and Protective Order with the LCIRP. On May 9, 2016, the Office of Consumer Advocate filed a letter of participation pursuant to RSA 363:28.

Unitil's LCIRP filing contains an overview of Unitil's planning procedures along with related appendices, including Unitil's distribution planning and design guidelines, separate evaluations of Unitil's Capital Region distribution system planning and its Seacoast Region distribution planning, load history and ten-year design forecasts for both the Capital and Seacoast regions. In addition, the LCIRP includes separate reliability studies for the Capital and Seacoast Regions, and Unitil's demand side management report.

The petition 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/2016/16-463.html.

The filing raises, inter alia, issues related to whether Unitil's planning process is adequate as defined by the requirements set forth in RSA 378:38 and RSA 378:39, and whether the LCIRP

adequately addresses the Commission's requirements set forth in Order No. 25,651. 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 Prehearing Conference, pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.15, be held before the Commission located at 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire on September 12, 2016 at 2:00 p.m., at which each party will provide a preliminary statement of its position with regard to the petition and any of the issues set forth in N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.15; and it is

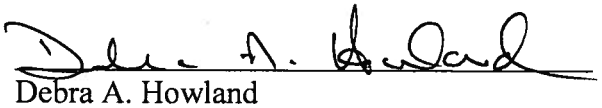
FURTHER ORDERED, that, immediately following the Prehearing Conference, Unitil, the Staff of the Commission and any Intervenors hold a Technical Session to review the petition; and it is

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 22, 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 9, 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 9, 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 12, 2016.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this fifteenth 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.