

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IR 22-053

ELECTRIC AND GAS UTILITIES

Investigation of Energy Commodity Procurement Renewable Portfolio Standard; Default Service
Electric Power; Cost of Gas Methodology and Process

Comments of Dr. Margarita Patria of CRA International, Inc and Northeastern University

I am a Ph.D. Economist specializing in auction design and the economics of energy markets. I am a Principal of CRA International d/b/a Charles River Associates, Inc. (“CRA”) and an adjunct faculty at the Economics Department of Northeastern University. During my tenure with CRA, I have managed Default Service Procurement auctions for multiple utilities in Pennsylvania and Ohio, including Duke Energy Ohio, The FirstEnergy Ohio Utilities, The FirstEnergy Pennsylvania Utilities, AES Ohio, and The Duquesne Light Company. In addition, I have managed one-shot sealed bid processes to secure default service supply for low-income customers in Ohio.

I have academic knowledge and hands-on experience with different energy procurement formats, more specifically, one-shot sealed bid (often referred to as “Request for Proposals” or “RFP”) and descending-price clock auction formats. These two formats are frequently used in Default Service procurement. No one format is best in all circumstances. However, an auction format can often be used in default service. I have found that an auction format can be tailored to best achieve a wide range of primary and secondary objectives in Default Service procurements.

I recently spoke with the New Hampshire Department of Energy and the Office of Consumer Advocate. I discussed the Default Service procurement structures in various states and the relative merits of different auction formats and demonstrated CRA’s proprietary bidding platform.

I will be honored to appear in front of the State of New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) during the technical session scheduled for Thursday, February 23, 2023, at 9:00 a.m., or at any other time that is convenient to the Commission and make a presentation similar to the one mentioned above and answer any questions the Commission may have.

Respectfully Submitted,



Margarita Patria, PhD