

COMMISSIONER  
Jared S. Chicoine

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER  
Christopher J. Ellms, Jr.



TDD Access: Relay NH  
1-800-735-2964

Tel. (603) 271-3670

Website:  
[www.energy.nh.gov](http://www.energy.nh.gov)

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10  
Concord, N.H. 03301-2429

January 20, 2023

Daniel C. Goldner, Chairman  
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission  
21 South Fruit St.  
Concord, NH 03301

RE: 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, *DOE Request for Ext. and to Resolve Pending Request*

Dear Chairman Goldner:

The Department of Energy (DOE) is filing this letter to request an extension on the filing deadline for comments in this investigative docket, and to ask the Commission to resolve DOE’s pending “joint request to enlarge time and transfer issue to Docket No. IR 22-053” in Dockets Nos. DG 21-130, DG 21-132, and DG 20-105 so as to clarify and facilitate discussion of separate tracks (or a unitary track) for adjudicating the annual local delivery adjustment clause (LDAC) and the annual cost of gas supply.

On October 11, 2022, the Commission issued a procedural order in the above captioned docket requesting the electric and gas utilities to file independent technical statements on or before November 18, 2022, that responded to the Commission’s inquiries contained in the Order of Notice issued September 6, 2022. In a subsequent procedural order dated January 9, 2023, the Commission stated that the other participants in this docket may file responses to the utilities’ technical statements on or before January 23, 2023.

Respectfully, due to the press of other business and staff resources, the DOE is unable to file its responses to the utilities’ technical statements by January 23, 2023. Accordingly, DOE proposes to file its responses regarding electric and gas matters by February 2, 2023.

The relief requested is consistent with Administrative Rule Puc 202.04 requirements. The DOE respectfully submits that no rights will be adversely affected if the Commission grants this extension request because ample time will remain in which all docket participants and the Commission can review DOE’s comments. Neither will this request unduly delay the proceeding, because the first technical session is not scheduled until February 23, 2023. Given the important role DOE plays in energy procurement policy in New Hampshire, and the short extension requested, DOE will be caused undue hardship if the extension is not granted. The purposes of this docket will also be best served by granting this request for extension because the Commission will have more information and a better opportunity to investigate the broad scope of matters at issue in the February 23, 2022 technical session which, as the Commission indicated earlier, it plans to attend. Therefore, the requested extension is reasonable and appropriate.

The DOE notes that sufficient time was not available to the DOE to “make a good faith attempt to gain the consent of the other parties for the extension.” See Puc 202.04(b). However, the DOE will make a post-filing request of all parties and provide follow-up information to the Commission in the near future.

Finally, the DOE asks that the Commission grant the DOE’s pending “joint request to enlarge time and transfer issue to Docket No. IR 22-053” filed on December 28, 2022, in Dockets Nos. DG 21-130, DG 21-132 and DG 20-105. This would facilitate discussion of separate tracks for adjudicating the annual LDAC and the annual cost of gas supply, by including Northern Utilities, the state’s other gas utility, and it would allow Liberty and DOE an opportunity to file comments on this matter on or before February 2, 2023. As noted in the referenced December 28, 2022 request, this investigative docket did not exist when the Commission made its initial request.

Consistent with the Commission’s current policy, this letter is being filed solely in electronic form. Thank you for your attention to this matter, and for considering this request.

Sincerely,

*/s/ Mary E. Schwarzer*

Mary.E. Schwarzer  
Staff Attorney/Hearings Examiner



Matthew C. Young  
Staff Attorney/Hearings Examiner

Cc: Service List