

Notice Number 2024-25Rule Number Puc 1600

1. Agency Name & Address:

**Public Utilities Commission
21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, New Hampshire, 03301**

2. RSA Authority: RSA 365:8, I(b), (e), (l)

3. Federal Authority: _____

4. Type of Action:

Adoption X

Repeal _____

Readoption XReadoption w/amendment X5. Short Title: **Tariffs and Special Contracts**

6. (a) Summary of what the rule says and of any proposed amendments including whether the rule implements a state statute for the first time:

The Public Utilities Commission (PUC) proposes to adopt, readopt, or readopt with amendment all of the rules in Puc 1600 governing the submission of tariffs and special contracts to the PUC. The Puc 1600 rules define relevant terms used in the rule set, require PUC approval prior to implementation of tariffs, prescribe criteria for the filing tariffs, prescribe procedures for requesting approval of tariff including reporting and documentation requirements, prescribe procedures for the filing and approval of special contracts, and instruct utilities how to implement their rate changes. Most of the existing rules in Puc 1600 are scheduled to expire 3-4-24 but have been extended pursuant to RSA 541-A:14-a. If the existing rules are not readopted, the submission of tariffs and special contracts would not be governed by rules and procedural, reporting, and documentation requirements would not be clear.

These rules are substantially the same as the existing Puc 1600 rules, but contain additional definitions of “compliance tariff” and “compliance tariff pages”, “effective date”, “issue date”, “proposed tariff”, and “proposed tariff revisions”. The rules also contain clarifications, including the adoption of a new Part Puc 1606 on implementation of rate changes. The rules do not implement a state statute for the first time.

6. (b) Brief description of the groups affected:

Puc 1600 applies to regulated utilities in the state.

6. (c) Specific section or sections of state statute or federal statute or regulation which the rule is intended to implement:

Rule	Specific State Statute the Rule Implements
Puc 1601.01(a) – (d)	RSA 365:8, V and XII
Puc 1601.01(e)	RSA 365:8, V and XII; RSA 378:9
Puc 1602.01 – Puc 1602.14	RSA 365:8, V and XII
Puc 1603.01 – Puc 1603.08	RSA 365:8, V and XII; RSA 378:1-3
Puc 1604.01 – Puc 1604.09	RSA 365:8, V and XII; RSA 378:5-10
Puc 1605.01 – Puc 1605.03	RSA 365:8, V and XII; RSA 378:6
Puc 1606.01	RSA 365:8, V and XII; RSA 363-B
Puc 1607.01 – Puc 1607.04	RSA 365:8, V and XII; RSA 378:18

7. Contact person for copies and questions including requests to accommodate persons with disabilities:

Name: **Sarah Fuller, Esq.** Title: **Senior Advisor**
Mailing **N.H. Public Utilities Commission** Phone #: **603-271-6044**
Address: **21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10** Fax#:
Concord, NH 03301 E-mail: **Sarah.F.Fuller@puc.nh.gov**
TTY/TDD Access: Relay NH 1-800-735-2964
or dial 711 (in NH)

8. Deadline for submission of materials in writing or, if practicable for the agency, in the electronic format specified: **Monday, April 8, 2024**

☐ Fax ☒ E-mail ☐ Other format (specify):

9. Public hearing scheduled for:

Date and Time: **Monday, April 1, 2024 at 2:00 pm**
Physical **N.H. Public Utilities Commission, Hearing Room A**
Location: **21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10, Concord, NH 03301**
Electronic
Access (if applicable): **N/A**

10. Fiscal Impact Statement (Prepared by Legislative Budget Assistant):

FIS # 24:022 , dated 02/14/2024

1. **Comparison of the costs of the proposed rule(s) to the existing rule(s):**

There is no difference in cost when comparing the proposed rules to the existing rules.

2. **Cite the Federal mandate. Identify the impact on state funds:**

No federal mandate, no impact on state funds.

3. **Cost and benefits of the proposed rule(s):**

A. **To State general or State special funds:**

None.

B. **To State citizens and political subdivisions:**

None.

C. **To independently owned businesses:**

None.

11. Statement Relative to Part I, Article 28-a of the N.H. Constitution:

The proposed rules do not mandate or assign any new, expanded, or modified programs or responsibilities to any political subdivision of the State of New Hampshire, and therefore do not violate Part I, Article 28-a of the N.H. Constitution by necessitating additional local expenditures by a political subdivision.