



**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**

**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**DOCKET NO. DE 24-070**

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE d/b/a EVERSOURCE ENERGY**

**Request for Change in Distribution Rates**

**PETITION TO INTERVENE**

Hancock Lumber Company, Inc., Monadnock Paper Mills, Inc., Pike Industries, Inc., and the University System of New Hampshire (collectively, the “Rate LG Customer Consortium” or the “Consortium”) submit this Petition to Intervene in the above-captioned proceeding pursuant to RSA 541-A:32, and Puc 203.17 and 203.02. Each member of the Consortium is an electric ratepayer of Public Service Company of New Hampshire (“PSNH” or the “Company”), and each member has at least one electric account that is served under PSNH’s Large General Delivery Service Rate LG class.

Founded in 1848, Hancock Lumber operates high-efficiency sawmills, lumberyards, component manufacturing facilities, and full-service kitchen design showrooms. Their mission is to create a work environment that recognizes employees as human beings and ultimately enhances the lives of everyone who works there. Led by over 700 employees, Hancock Lumber is a multi-year recipient of the ‘Best Place to Work in Maine’ award. A seventh-generation, family-owned integrated forest products company that is passionate about their people-first and values-driven culture, innovation drives them to work smarter so their customers don’t have to work harder. Hancock Lumber operates a high-efficiency sawmill in Madison, NH.

Founded in 1819 and based in Bennington, NH, Monadnock Paper Mills, Inc. works with the world's leading brands to craft and customize environmentally responsible performance papers for commercial printing, packaging and technical applications. Monadnock is committed to environmental stewardship and maintains that fiber-based alternatives to plastic can be cost-efficient, environmentally sensitive, and beautiful.

Pike Industries, Inc., a CRH Company, operates quarries, aggregate crushing, and hot mix asphalt production facilities throughout Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont, providing specification products for all state and FAA applications. Established in 1872 and headquartered in Belmont, NH, Pike is a recognized leader in road and highway infrastructure advocacy because strong economies require safe and efficient transportation.

The University System of New Hampshire (“USNH”) is the largest provider of postsecondary education in the state and is comprised of Keene State College, Plymouth State University, and the University of New Hampshire. USNH institutions offer a full array of postsecondary educational opportunities and residential campuses are integrated into the communities of Durham, Plymouth and Keene. UNH’s Durham campus is New Hampshire’s flagship public research university, serving over 14,000 undergraduate and graduate students. UNH is a leader in energy innovation in New Hampshire; the Durham campus operates on a highly efficient district energy system that UNH continues to develop and modernize to serve students, faculty, and the community.

On June 11, 2024, PSNH filed a Petition for Approval of Temporary and Permanent Rates (“Petition”) seeking an overall increase in annual distribution revenue of \$182 million, approval for a performance-based ratemaking (“PBR”) plan, and certain changes to the rate design of the Company’s electric delivery charges. On June 28, 2024, the New Hampshire

Public Utilities Commission (“PUC” or “Commission”) issued Order No. 27,029, commencing an adjudicative proceeding, as well as scheduling a prehearing conference for July 22, 2024, and setting July 12, 2024, as the deadline for filing petitions to intervene.

RSA 541-A:32 provides, among other things, that the presiding officer of an agency shall grant a petition for intervention if it demonstrates that the “petitioner’s rights, duties, privileges, immunities or other substantial interests may be affected by the proceeding.” Each member of the Consortium is a Rate LG electric customer of PSNH and will be directly and substantially affected by the issues to be considered in this proceeding. The Consortium members’ interests are not adequately represented by the present parties, and, therefore, it would be detrimental to the public interest to deny this Petition to Intervene.

Moreover, the Consortium members’ substantial interests as time-of-use customers will be impacted by the rate design proposal described in the testimony of Ms. Amparo Nieto. In its initial filing, PSNH advocates for enhancing efficiency and equity properties of PSNH’s existing rates, and for sending price signals to customers that will incentivize efficient usage of its system and therefore more efficient expansion of the grid. Contrary to these goals, PSNH’s rate design proposal does not address longstanding cross-subsidization and inefficiency issues with the Company’s rate design for Rate LG customers that must be resolved for these stated objectives to be realized. In this proceeding, the Consortium intends to present evidence and argument on a rate design alternative to PSNH’s proposal for Rate LG customers that is superior in terms of efficiency and equity.

As required by Commission Order No. 27,029, this Petition to Intervene is being filed on or before July 12, 2024, and is therefore timely filed consistent with RSA 541-A:32, I (a). Moreover, because this Petition to Intervene is being filed in advance of the scheduled

prehearing conference, as required by RSA 541-A:32, I (c), the interests of justice and the orderly and prompt conduct of the proceeding will not be impaired by allowing the Consortium's intervention.

WHEREFORE, the Consortium members request that the Commission grant this Petition to Intervene.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Perkins', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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cc. Service List in DE 24-070