

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

DE 24-073

OFFICE OF THE CONSUMER ADVOCATE

Show Cause Proceeding

Procedural Order Re: Denying Motion for Revised Process

On August 28, 2024, a procedural order was issued in this docket setting a briefing schedule, with reply briefs due by November 5, 2024. On November 1, 2024, Liberty Utilities (Granite State Electric) Corp. d/b/a Liberty (Liberty or the Company) filed a motion for revised process, requesting additional time to conduct discovery and develop the factual record. The Office of the Consumer Advocate (OCA) filed an objection to the request on November 6, 2024. The New Hampshire Department of Energy (DOE) filed an objection on November 12, 2024.

In its opposition to Liberty's motion, the OCA noted that at the August prehearing conference Liberty rejected a proposal for discovery and stated the matter could be decided on briefing and all necessary facts were contained in the records in prior Commission dockets. The OCA and DOE both argued in their objection that Liberty provided no offer of proof outlining what information is missing from the available records, nor an explanation for why the missing information was not included in Liberty's initial brief.

Having reviewed the motion and objections, Liberty's motion for revised process is DENIED. Liberty has not adequately explained what information it feels is missing from the record. Nor, has Liberty explained why the reply brief could not be supported by sworn testimony or an affidavit.

For the purpose of developing a complete record and reinstating the legal briefing schedule as outlined in the August 28, 2024 procedural order, the parties shall comply with the following:

- Submission of testimony needed to support either its initial brief or anticipated reply brief shall be filed by **December 13, 2024; and**
- Reply briefs to the initial briefs shall be filed by **December 27, 2024.**

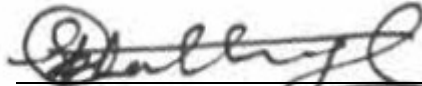
The Commission reiterates that the initial legal questions to be answered by the briefings are:

1. Whether the Company is in contempt of the terms of the settlement agreement as contained in docket DE 19-064, Order No. 26, 376 (June 30, 2020), by allegedly failing to fulfil its requirements for vegetation management as contained in the settlement?
2. If the Company is found in contempt, what is the appropriate remedy?

So ordered, this eighteenth day of November, 2024.



Daniel C. Goldner
Chairman



Pradip K. Chattopadhyay
Commissioner

Service List - Docket Related

Docket#: 24-073

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