

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

December 14, 2011 - 10:07 a.m.
Concord, New Hampshire

REDACTED
FOR PUBLIC USE

RE: DE 11-028
UNITIL ENERGY SYSTEMS, INC.:
*Default Service for the period
February 1, 2012 through
April 30, 2012 for the Large
Customer (G1) requirements.*

PRESENT: Chairman Thomas B. Getz, Presiding
Commissioner Clifton C. Below

Sandy Deno, Clerk

APPEARANCES: Reptg. Unitil Energy Systems, Inc.:
Gary M. Epler, Esq.

Reptg. PUC Staff:
Suzanne G. Amidon, Esq.

NHPUC FEB29'12 AM 8:07

Court Reporter: Steven E. Patnaude, LCR No. 52

R E D A C T E D - FOR PUBLIC USE

ORIGINAL

I N D E X

PAGE NO.

WITNESS PANEL: TODD M. BOHAN
LINDA S. McNAMARA

Direct examination by Mr. Epler	5
Cross-examination by Ms. Amidon	14
Interrogatories by Cmsr. Below	24

* * *

CLOSING STATEMENTS BY: PAGE NO.

Ms. Amidon	26
Mr. Epler	27

E X H I B I T S

EXHIBIT NO.	D E S C R I P T I O N	PAGE NO.
7	Petition for Approval of Default Service Solicitation and Proposed Default Service Tariffs (12-09-11)	5
8	Tab A Confidential Attachment (12-09-11) {CONFIDENTIAL & PROPRIETARY}	5
9	Amendment to Settlement Agreement regarding Docket DE 09-009 (12-06-11)	5
10	RESERVED (RE: Financial Security Requirement) {CONFIDENTIAL & PROPRIETARY}	20

1 P R O C E E D I N G

2 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Okay. Good morning,
3 everyone. We'll open the hearing in Docket DE 11-028. On
4 December 9, 2011, Unitil filed a petition for approval of
5 its Default Service solicitation and proposed Default
6 Service tariff for the three month period beginning
7 February 1, 2012 for 100 percent of its Default Service
8 for its G1 customers. A secretarial letter was issued on
9 December 12 setting the hearing for this morning.

10 And, can we take appearances please.

11 MR. EPLER: Yes. Good morning, Mr.
12 Chairman and Commissioner. Gary Epler, on behalf of
13 Unitil Energy Systems, Incorporated. Thank you.

14 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Good morning.

15 MS. AMIDON: Good morning. Suzanne
16 Amidon, for Commission Staff. With me today is Grant
17 Siwinski, an Analyst in the Electric Division.

18 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Good morning. Are you
19 ready to proceed, Mr. Epler?

20 MR. EPLER: Yes, I am, Mr. Chairman. We
21 have a few documents that I'd like premarked. The first,
22 in the green binder, I believe at this point we're up to
23 Exhibit 7 in this docket. So, that would be "Exhibit 7".
24 The confidential material, "Exhibit 8". And, then, there

[WITNESS PANEL: Bohan & McNamara]

1 is a one-sheet -- two-sided one-sheet "Amendment to
2 Settlement Agreement" that I'd like marked "Exhibit 9".

3 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Okay.

4 MR. EPLER: And, I may not have put that
5 in front of Commissioner Below's chair, because I didn't
6 realize he was --

7 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Okay. The exhibits are
8 so marked.

9 (The documents, as described, were
10 herewith marked as **Exhibit 7**, **Exhibit 8**,
11 and **Exhibit 9**, respectively, for
12 identification.)

13 MR. EPLER: And, could the witnesses be
14 sworn please.

15 (Whereupon **Todd M. Bohan** and
16 **Linda S. McNamara** were duly sworn by the
17 Court Reporter.)

18 **TODD M. BOHAN, SWORN**

19 **LINDA S. McNAMARA, SWORN**

20 **DIRECT EXAMINATION**

21 BY MR. EPLER:

22 Q. Okay. Can you please state your name?

23 A. (Bohan) Todd M. Bohan.

24 Q. And, for who are you employed and in what position?

{DE 11-028} [REDACTED - FOR PUBLIC USE] {12-14-11}

1 A. (Bohan) I'm employed with Unitil Service Corp. as an
2 Energy Analyst in the Energy Contracts Department.

3 Q. Okay. You may want to speak a little closer to the
4 mike.

5 A. (Bohan) How's that?

6 Q. Thank you. As this is your first time testifying in a
7 Default Service proceeding, could you briefly describe
8 your responsibilities and expertise in this area.

9 A. (Bohan) Certainly. My primary responsibilities involve
10 electric market operations. I have administrative
11 responsibilities for daily and monthly electric
12 reporting requirements and electric market contracts
13 for Default Service supplies, including procurement,
14 cost estimation, and reconciliation. And, in addition,
15 I recently assumed the responsibilities associated with
16 the competitive electric suppliers of Unitil.

17 Q. And, Mr. Bohan, as indicated in your testimony, you
18 have both a Master's and a Doctorate in Economics from
19 Clark University, is that correct?

20 A. (Bohan) That is correct.

21 Q. Thank you. Can you please turn to the documents that
22 have been premarked for identification as -- well,
23 first, Exhibit Number 7, and if you can turn to the
24 tabs labeled "Exhibit TMB-1" and "Schedules TMB-1"

[WITNESS PANEL: Bohan & McNamara]

1 through "6". And, then, also refer to the exhibit
2 marked as "Exhibit Number 8", the confidential
3 material, and the pages there 1 through 45. Were these
4 prepared by or under your direction?

5 A. (Bohan) Yes, they were.

6 Q. And, do you have any changes, updates or corrections to
7 the information in these documents?

8 A. (Bohan) Yes, I do. If we could turn to Page 5 of my
9 testimony, which, in Exhibit 7, is also Bates stamp
10 Number 005. Line 17 and 18, the sentence reads, at the
11 bottom of the page, "The report provides a rolling
12 12-month history which covers the period from
13 December 2010 through November 2011." That time period
14 should read "November 2010 through October 2011".

15 Q. Okay. And, any other changes?

16 A. (Bohan) I have no other changes.

17 Q. Okay. Thank you. With those changes, if I were to ask
18 you the same questions today as those contained in your
19 prefiled testimony, would your answers be the same?

20 A. (Bohan) Yes.

21 Q. Okay. Thank you. I now turning to the next witness.
22 Please state your name.

23 A. (McNamara) Linda S. McNamara.

24 Q. And, where are you employed and in what position?

{DE 11-028} [REDACTED - FOR PUBLIC USE] {12-14-11}

1 A. (McNamara) I work for Unitil Service Corp. as a Senior
2 Regulatory Analyst.

3 Q. Okay. And, could you also please turn to the documents
4 that have been marked as "Exhibit Number 7" and "Number
5 8". And, in number 7, could you turn to the tabs
6 marked "Exhibit LSM-1" and the Schedules marked "LSM-1"
7 through "4". And, then, in Exhibit Number 8, the last
8 page in that exhibit, stamp page 046. Were these
9 prepared by you or under your direction?

10 A. (McNamara) Yes.

11 Q. And, do you have any changes or corrections to this
12 material?

13 A. (McNamara) No.

14 Q. And, if I were to ask you the same questions today as
15 those contained in your prefiled testimony, would your
16 answers be the same?

17 A. (McNamara) They would.

18 Q. Okay. Turning back now to Mr. Bohan. Could you please
19 briefly describe the process Unitil used to solicit the
20 Default Service power for the G1 class for the
21 three-month period February 1, 2012 through April 2012?

22 A. (Bohan) Yes. First of all, on November 8th, we issued
23 our RFP. And, that was for the three-month period
24 commencing February 1st, 2012. Communication of that

1 RFP was made to a list of 30 suppliers that had
2 previously expressed interest in receiving UES's
3 solicitations. In addition to that, the RFP was
4 communicated through an industry publication, Megawatt
5 Daily. And, during the solicitation process, UES
6 contacted potential bidders through regular telephone
7 and e-mail communications to respond to bidder
8 questions and research bidder qualifications.

9 On November 29 in 2011, UES received
10 proposals from respondents, along with background
11 information and indicative pricing. All bidders that
12 we had heard from were invited to submit final bids.
13 And, on December 6, 2011, UES received final pricing
14 from all those bidders.

15 UES then can computed its -- conducted
16 its analysis and computed its weighted average pricing
17 and compared the bids received. That information is
18 provided in Tab A - Confidential. It's on Bates stamp
19 Page Number 008.

20 Q. And, as a result of this process, who did UES select as
21 the winning bidder?

22 A. (Bohan) UES selected DTE Energy as the winning bidder
23 for the G1 Default Service supply beginning
24 February 1st, 2012.

1 MR. EPLER: Okay. At this point,
2 Mr. Chairman, I'm going to ask a couple of questions that
3 may go into confidential material. I note that there is
4 no one else in the room, other than parties to whom
5 confidential material can be shared. But we'll indicate
6 that in our discussions with the court reporter for
7 marking the transcript. Thank you.

8 BY MR. EPLER:

9 Q. Why was DTE selected as the winning bidder?

10 A. (Bohan) DTE provided the lowest overall cost of service
11 for this period.

12 Q. And, how does the weighted average cost of power for
13 the three-month period under consideration compare to
14 the weighted average cost in the current period?

15 A. (Bohan) If we could turn to Bates stamp Page 009, in
16 Exhibit 8, Confidential Tab A. At the bottom of the
17 page, in the middle column, you'll see the dollar
18 amount "60.12". That is the weighted average cost for
19 the period under consideration, February 12th --
20 February 2012 through April 2012. This is
21 approximately a 20 percent decrease from the price
22 currently in effect, which is \$75.00. And, in
23 addition, in comparison to the same period in the prior
24 year, February '11 through April 2011, it is a decrease

1 of just over 4 percent.

2 Q. Okay. I'm moving away from the confidential subject
3 matter. I'd like to change subjects, and ask you a
4 couple of questions regarding the Renewable Portfolio
5 Standards, or RPS. Are you aware that, in accordance
6 with the Commission's 2500 rules, the requirements for
7 Class I and Class II changes from 2011 to 2012?

8 A. (Bohan) Yes. It's my understanding that the percentage
9 increase for Class I goes from 2 percent to 3 percent
10 for the beginning of 2012, and, for Class II, increases
11 from 0.08 to 0.15 percent.

12 Q. And, do the RPS estimates included in your testimony
13 reflect this?

14 A. (Bohan) Yes, they do. And, if we could turn to
15 Schedule TMB-4, you will see that those percentages are
16 reflected in the class percentages in that schedule.
17 Class I is 3 percent; Class II, 0.15; Class III, 6.5;
18 and Class IV is 1 percent.

19 Q. And, could you please generally describe the market
20 price assumptions you used in calculating the estimated
21 RPS cost?

22 A. (Bohan) Certainly. In Schedule 4, you see that the
23 Class I price for -- used here is \$32. That is based
24 on an average of Renewable Energy Credit prices from

[WITNESS PANEL: Bohan & McNamara]

1 broker sheets for the period early September through
2 early December 2011. For Class II, we have not changed
3 the \$50 price that we have been using. The bid ask
4 range for those RECs has been in the \$40 to \$60 range.
5 So, we used an average. We stayed with the average of
6 \$50. For Class III and Class IV, there really is no
7 market data available. And, the Alternative Compliance
8 Payment or ACP prices for New Hampshire have not yet
9 been determined for 2012. So, we used the 2011 ACP
10 rate, rounded to \$30.

11 Q. Okay. One last area of inquiry. Are you aware that on
12 December 6, 2011 the Company filed an Amendment to the
13 Settlement Agreement in Docket DE 09-009?

14 A. (Bohan) Yes.

15 Q. And, I have distributed a copy of that amendment, and
16 it's been premarked as "Exhibit Number 9". Could you
17 briefly describe the purpose of this amendment.

18 A. (Bohan) Yes. It is my understanding that, in the
19 original settlement in DE 09-009, the Company and the
20 Staff contemplated that the Company would share its
21 confidential information with the Staff prior to
22 executing its contracts for REC purchases. This has
23 proven to generally be unworkable, as bidders do not
24 always agree to hold their bids for a time period that

{DE 11-028} [REDACTED - FOR PUBLIC USE] {12-14-11}

[WITNESS PANEL: Bohan & McNamara]

1 allows us to get that information to Staff, allow Staff
2 to review it, and then respond to us, and then go ahead
3 and execute a contract with a broker.

4 So, the amendment accordingly deletes
5 the requirement to seek prior approval from Staff.
6 And, that's why we are submitting it here. The Company
7 would still continue to provide its confidential
8 analysis in the next Default Service filing as it has
9 done in the past.

10 And, also, I'd just like to, you know,
11 recognize that the Company realizes the burden of proof
12 is on the Company to prove that the, you know, the
13 solicitation, the analysis, and the execution of that
14 contract was in the public interest.

15 Q. Okay. And, actually, there's one last issue. My
16 recollection is, at the end of the last Default Service
17 hearing, counsel for the Office of Consumer Advocate
18 pointed out that the lead/lag study that the Company
19 had filed was still subject to approval, and Staff had
20 not indicated its position on that. My understanding
21 is that the Staff has filed a memo indicating it has
22 reviewed the lead/lag study, and that it has found that
23 the Company's lead/lag study was performed in a manner
24 and comport with the Settlement Agreement and the

{DE 11-028} [REDACTED - FOR PUBLIC USE] {12-14-11}

[WITNESS PANEL: Bohan & McNamara]

1 methodology that was agreed upon. Is that your
2 understanding as well?

3 A. (Bohan) That is my understanding as well.

4 MR. EPLER: Okay. Thank you. I don't
5 have any questions for Ms. McNamara. So, I'm complete
6 with the witness panel. Thank you.

7 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Thank you. Ms. Amidon.

8 MS. AMIDON: Thank you. Good morning.

9 WITNESS BOHAN: Good morning.

10 **CROSS-EXAMINATION**

11 BY MS. AMIDON:

12 Q. And, just for the record, Mr. Bohan, you may not be
13 aware of the date that Staff filed that memorandum.
14 But, just for the record and for the Commission's
15 information, it was filed on November 18th. Do you
16 have any reason to disagree with that?

17 A. (Bohan) No. I know that was the date that it was
18 filed.

19 Q. Okay. Very good. Thank you. One of the questions
20 that I had relates to something which was customarily
21 provided by the Company in the past, where it compared
22 the three-month average of costs for customers from the
23 prior period with the prospective period contemplated
24 under the filing, so that an illustration of the cost

[WITNESS PANEL: Bohan & McNamara]

1 difference could be understood by the public. Do you
2 have an estimate that would give me that comparison or
3 does Ms. McNamara have a comparison that would deal
4 with that information?

5 A. (McNamara) On a retail level, if you turn to Exhibit 7,
6 in my testimony, which is Bates stamped Page 087, I
7 show that the current Default Service Charge, based on
8 a simple three-month average, is \$0.08236 per
9 kilowatt-hour. And, the proposed rate for this period
10 is, on average, \$0.06723 per kilowatt-hour, which is a
11 decrease of \$0.01513 per kilowatt-hour.

12 Q. And, what is that change on a percentage basis?

13 A. (McNamara) I show it on a typical bill level. I don't
14 show it on a rate level. However, I can calculate it.

15 A. (Bohan) We can do the calculation.

16 Q. Yes. If the Commission doesn't mind? I just think it
17 does provide a level of information that is easy for
18 the customers and public to understand.

19 A. (McNamara) The difference of 0.01513 as a percent of
20 the current period rate, which is a three-month average
21 rate of 0.08236, is just slightly higher than an
22 18 percent decrease.

23 Q. Okay. Thank you. I know that's a little bit of
24 detail, but I do appreciate you taking the time to do

{DE 11-028} [REDACTED - FOR PUBLIC USE] {12-14-11}

[WITNESS PANEL: Bohan & McNamara]

1 that. Mr. Bohan, I have some questions regarding the
2 purchase of RECs that the Company has made so far for
3 its 2011 compliance year. And, that is referenced in
4 Exhibit 8, at Page 011. And, this page, I noticed, was
5 not marked "confidential" as was every other page in
6 this exhibit. Could we just clarify whether this is
7 confidential or not?

8 A. (Bohan) Mr. Epler?

9 MR. EPLER: I believe --

10 **BY THE WITNESS:**

11 A. (Bohan) I think it's been standard practice that we've
12 had this in the confidential section.

13 BY MS. AMIDON:

14 Q. Okay. So, there's nothing mysterious about that not --
15 being missing from the header?

16 A. (Bohan) No.

17 Q. Okay. All right. And, I understand that this is in
18 the confidential record, so, to the extent that
19 anything appears in the record, I believe the Company
20 will have an opportunity to address it in the final
21 transcript. But, having said that, this reflects the
22 purchase of RECs to date for the 2011 compliance year,
23 is that correct?

24 A. (Bohan) That's correct.

{DE 11-028} [REDACTED - FOR PUBLIC USE] {12-14-11}

1 Q. And, thus far, it looks like _____
2 _____ with Class I, Class III, and Class
3 IV RECs. What is -- could you remind me for -- and for
4 the record the process that the Company undertakes to
5 acquire RPS compliance. I believe that you issue two
6 RFPs a year, is that correct?

7 A. (Bohan) That's correct. We typically issue two RFPs;
8 one in the fall and then one in the spring. So, to
9 date, we have only issued our first REC RFP for 2011
10 RECs.

11 Q. And, when do you anticipate issuing the second RFP?

12 A. (Bohan) That should be done in the early 2012 time
13 period, February time frame.

14 Q. Okay. And, then, the attempt will be made at that
15 time, I understand, to complete your RPS compliance by
16 acquiring RECs?

17 A. (Bohan) Yes.

18 Q. And, if you cannot find RECs that are -- that have a
19 market price below the ACP, what will the Company do
20 for compliance for 2011?

21 A. (Bohan) The Company would then have to pay the ACP in
22 order to meet that requirement.

23 Q. And, I'm not sure if you have been involved in this
24 process. But, in the experience of the Company, have

1 the prices gone, for the RECs, increase the closer you
2 got to the reporting date, which is July 1 of each
3 year, or have the market prices and the availability of
4 RECs remained somewhat reliable or steady?

5 A. (Bohan) As I -- I've only been involved with this a
6 little bit, primarily this past June/July time frame.
7 But we've actually seen some instances where there's
8 been a glut, and the prices have actually come down a
9 bit. So, it's hard to speculate as to whether they
10 would go up or go down. But the possibility of both
11 exists.

12 Q. Okay. If you would turn to Page 006 of Exhibit 8, I
13 notice that there -- this page states the number by
14 listing the bidders who responded to this particular
15 RFP. _____
16 _____ who responded to this particular RFP, as
17 compared with prior such RFPs?

18 A. (Bohan) Well, the filing here shows that we had _____
19 bidders that responded. _____
20 _____
21 _____
22 _____
23 _____ provided us with a reasonable group from which
24 to, you know, evaluate that solicitation.

1 Q. Okay. Thank you. Again, looking at Exhibit 8, and
2 understanding that this is confidential, I want to look
3 at Page 016, which indicates the "Summary of Financial
4 Security Requirements" required by the various bidders.
5 And, understanding that -- and, again, understanding
6 this is confidential, but that Bidder B is the bidder
7 who was selected by the Company. Could you explain for
8 us -- well, let me just backtrack. I understand, from
9 discussions with the Company right prior to this
10 hearing, that the selected supplier, DTE, is the same
11 supplier for the Large Customer Group for the prior
12 period, the period prior to February -- the period
13 beginning February 1, is that correct?

14 A. (Bohan) That is correct.

15 Q. Okay. And, so, _____
16 _____
17 _____, is that fair to say?

18 A. (Bohan) That is correct.

19 Q. And, Staff did not -- this didn't come to our attention
20 until we looked at this particular filing. So, I
21 understand that _____
22 _____ that relates to its contract for power
23 sales to the Company. Do you have any information that
24 you can provide today _____?

1 _____
2 _____? Or, would you be able to provide that in a
3 record request? And, Staff would not necessarily think
4 that that would have to be filed before a order could
5 be issued in this proceeding, but it's more for
6 information and background, unless the Commission
7 thinks otherwise.

8 A. (Bohan) I'd be happy to provide that as a record
9 request.

10 Q. So, it's fair to say you're not prepared to answer that
11 question today?

12 A. (Bohan) That's correct.

13 CHAIRMAN GETZ: And, that record request
14 would be confidential?

15 MS. AMIDON: Yes, it would be.

16 MR. EPLER: Yes.

17 CHAIRMAN GETZ: We'll hold Exhibit
18 Number 10.

19 **(Exhibit 10 reserved)**

20 MS. AMIDON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

21 MR. EPLER: We should be able to get
22 that in I would think by the end of the day today. We'll
23 do our best.

24 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Thank you.

1 BY MS. AMIDON:

2 Q. And, finally, I just wanted to point out a few aspects
3 of this filing that may be of interest to the
4 Commission or maybe it's just of interest to me. Which
5 is, first of all, at TMB-3, Mr. Bohan, you have the
6 "Customer Migration Report", is that correct?

7 A. (Bohan) That is correct.

8 Q. And, so, on Page 1 of that report, you -- well, Page 1
9 of the report provides information about the sales per
10 kilowatt-hour that have migrated to competitive supply.
11 Is that right?

12 A. (Bohan) That is correct.

13 Q. And, if we turn the page, that gives the number of
14 customers in the various classes that have migrated to
15 competitive supply?

16 A. (Bohan) Again, that's correct.

17 Q. Okay. And, this again, as is customary, it goes -- it
18 covers 12 months, in this case November 2010 to
19 October 2011?

20 A. (Bohan) Yes.

21 Q. Okay. Thank you. And, the final thing I was
22 interested in was the Renewable Service Option Program,
23 which is in your Exhibit TMB-6, Bates stamp 080, which
24 --

1 A. (Bohan) Correction. I think it starts on 079.

2 Q. Oh. Okay. Thank you.

3 A. (Bohan) And, then continues on for four pages.

4 Q. That is correct. Thank you. So, at this point, how
5 would you characterize the participation in that
6 program?

7 A. (Bohan) Participation in the RSO Program has been
8 relatively low.

9 Q. And, do you have any explanation for it or any activity
10 that you're going to undertake to address the
11 participation?

12 A. (Bohan) Well, the Company will continue to, you know,
13 promote the program. But we just have not had that
14 much interest in it. My inclination is that a good
15 part of that has to do with the current economic
16 conditions. It's an added cost. And, the customers
17 just may be a little bit reluctant to take on that cost
18 in this type of environment.

19 Q. And, are you aware that the Staff has set up a meeting
20 in January to review your Company's, National Grid, and
21 Public Service Company of New Hampshire's Renewable
22 Service Option Program?

23 A. (Bohan) Yes. I'm aware of that meeting.

24 Q. All right. And, at that point, perhaps the Company

[WITNESS PANEL: Bohan & McNamara]

1 will have some recommendations or thoughts that they
2 can offer on how to stimulate participation in the
3 program?

4 A. (Bohan) Sounds good.

5 Q. Thank you. Well, finally, I forgot one question, and
6 that actually has to do with Mr. Furino's testimony
7 from the last hearing regarding the Small Customer
8 Group. At that point, I believe there was some
9 discussion about whether the Company was thinking of
10 deviating from the laddered portfolio approach to
11 acquiring power for the Small Customer Group, or to
12 adopting a different approach, maybe similar to
13 National Grid's approach, where they procure power in
14 six month increments at 100 percent of their supply
15 needs. Are you aware of whether the Company has had
16 any further discussions internally on this issue?

17 A. (Bohan) Those discussions actually took place between
18 Mr. Furino and myself. I was here at the last hearing,
19 and I understand that, you know, what he mentioned.
20 And, we've also had discussions on this. And, one
21 project in front of me is to actually undertake the
22 research necessary to make a review of the solicitation
23 process and potentially provide any recommendations to
24 the Commission about changing the solicitation process.

{DE 11-028} [REDACTED - FOR PUBLIC USE] {12-14-11}

[WITNESS PANEL: Bohan & McNamara]

1 Q. Do you have any idea when you would be making any
2 recommendations to the Commission?

3 A. (Bohan) Hopefully, before the next Default Service
4 procurement.

5 Q. And, help me, is that in March?

6 A. (Bohan) That would be in early 2012, yes. Our next
7 solicitation would be in early March.

8 MS. AMIDON: Okay. Thank you. And,
9 that concludes my cross-examination. Thank you.

10 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Thank you.

11 BY CMSR. BELOW:

12 Q. I'd like to clear up a couple of the date references on
13 Pages 010 and 011 of the confidential Exhibit 8. On
14 011, the title of the table is "For Loads to be Served
15 Beginning February 1, 2012", but then it says "Summary
16 of REC Purchases for 2011 RPS Compliance". Is it, in
17 fact, for the 2011 calendar year compliance?

18 A. (Bohan) Bear with me for just a second. Okay. So,
19 we're looking at Bates stamp Page 011?

20 Q. Yes. And, in the upper left, --

21 A. (Bohan) Yes.

22 Q. -- you know, it starts off "UES Default Service RFP
23 Issued November 8, 2011". Perhaps the next line is
24 just part of the title, "For Loads to be Served

{DE 11-028} [REDACTED - FOR PUBLIC USE] {12-14-11}

[WITNESS PANEL: Bohan & McNamara]

1 Beginning February 1, 2012"?

2 A. (Bohan) Yes. This isn't pertaining to loads to be
3 served beginning February 1st, 2012. This is a summary
4 of REC purchases to date for 2011.

5 Q. Okay. And, then, on the previous page, 010, that's
6 what it starts off by saying, but the last sentence
7 says: "Lastly, the schedule shows the percentage of
8 2010 REC requirements purchased to date." Should that
9 be "2011"?

10 A. (Bohan) Yes, it should.

11 CMSR. BELOW: Okay. Thanks.

12 WITNESS BOHAN: My apologies for the
13 oversight.

14 CMSR. BELOW: That's all.

15 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Anything further,
16 Mr. Epler?

17 MR. EPLER: No, I don't believe so, Mr.
18 Chairman. Oh. I'm sorry.

19 CHAIRMAN GETZ: We have a volunteer.

20 MR. EPLER: I've just been corrected by
21 my witness.

22 WITNESS BOHAN: I just want to clarify
23 something. Ms. Amidon asked me when our next solicitation
24 would be. I think our solicitation may go out earlier

{DE 11-028} [REDACTED - FOR PUBLIC USE] {12-14-11}

[WITNESS PANEL: Bohan & McNamara]

1 than that. You know, the results of that and everything
2 will take place in early to mid March. But the
3 solicitation itself is going out, you know, well in
4 advance of that. So, that may be earlier, rather than
5 later.

6 MS. AMIDON: Thank you.

7 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Okay. Then, I think
8 there's nothing further for the witnesses. So, you're
9 excused. Thank you.

10 Is there any objection to striking the
11 identifications and admitting the exhibits into evidence?

12 (No verbal response)

13 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Hearing no objection,
14 they will be admitted into evidence. Is there anything
15 prior to opportunity for closings?

16 (No verbal response)

17 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Hearing nothing, then,
18 Ms. Amidon.

19 MS. AMIDON: Thank you. The Staff has
20 reviewed the filing, and we believe that the Company
21 followed the requirements that the Commission approved in
22 Order Number 24,511, in preparing the RFP, soliciting the
23 bids, evaluating the bids, and selecting a supplier. And,
24 we believe the resulting rates are market-based. So, we

1 recommend that the Commission approve the Petition.

2 Further, we request that the Commission
3 accept and approve the Amendment to the RPS Settlement
4 Agreement, which was filed in Docket 09-009, Unitil's 2009
5 Default Service proceeding. That was presented as
6 "Exhibit 9" by the Company today.

7 And, finally, we ask that the Commission
8 approve the lead/lag study and allow the results to be
9 incorporated into the filings, based on the Staff's
10 recommendation.

11 Finally, we have no objection to the
12 Company's request for confidential protection of the
13 information in Tab B -- I mean "Tab A", as that is
14 customarily granted by the Commission in these dockets,
15 and we don't see anything different in this particular
16 filing.

17 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Thank you. Mr. Epler.

18 MR. EPLER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We
19 agree with the request for approvals that have been
20 recited by the Staff. The approval of the Default Service
21 filing as requested in the Petition, the Motion for
22 Confidential Treatment, and approval of the Amendment to
23 the Settlement Agreement in Docket DE 09-009, and the
24 lead/lag study. Thank you very much.

1 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Okay. Thank you. Then,
2 we'll take the matter under advisement and close the
3 hearing.

4 (Whereupon the hearing ended at 10:41
5 a.m.)
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