

**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**DE 06-061**

**ORDER OF NOTICE**

The Energy Policy Act of 2005 (EPAct) was signed into law on August 8, 2005. Sections 1251, 1252 and 1254 of the EPAct require state commissions to consider five new federal standards that have been added to Title I of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act and make specific determinations as to whether implementation of the standards is appropriate.

The first three standards, which concern Net Metering, Fuel Sources and Fossil Fuel Generation Efficiency, are set forth in Section 1251 of EPAct. For these standards, state commissions have up to two years after enactment, or until August 8, 2007, to commence consideration of the standards. The EPAct provides that state commissions have up to three years, or until August 8, 2008, to complete consideration and determine whether to adopt the additional standards.

The fourth standard for consideration, under Section 1252 of EPAct, concerns Time-Based Metering and Communications or "Smart Metering". The EPAct requires that each state regulatory authority conduct an investigation and determine whether it is appropriate for electric utilities "to provide and install time-based meters and communications devices for each of their customers which enable such customers to participate in time-based pricing rate schedules and other demand response programs." The EPAct requires state commissions to commence investigation of Smart Metering no later than August 8, 2006, and make a final determination no later than August 8, 2007. Section 1252 contemplates the possibility that no

consideration is necessary if certain "prior state action" criteria occurred within the last three years.

The fifth standard for consideration, under Section 1254 of EPAct, concerns Interconnection. Under this standard, interconnection service means interconnection to the local distribution company of an electric customer who has on-site generation in accordance with the interconnection standards developed by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers: IEEE Standard 1547 for Interconnecting Distributed Resources with Electric Power Systems. State commissions are required to commence consideration of this standard by August 8, 2006, and determine whether to adopt the standard by August 8, 2007.

In order to commence the investigation of these new standards, a prehearing conference has been scheduled for May 16, 2006.

**Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby**

**ORDERED**, that a Prehearing Conference be held before the Commission located at 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire on May 16, 2006 at 10:00 a.m., at which each party will provide a preliminary statement of its position; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that, immediately following the Prehearing Conference, interested parties and the Staff of the Commission hold a Technical Session to discuss the investigation and establish a proposed procedural schedule; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, the Executive Director of the Commission shall notify the public of the Prehearing Conference by publishing this Order of Notice in a newspaper of general distribution no later than May 1, 2006.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this twenty-fourth day of April, 2006.

  
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ChristiAne G. Mason  
Assistant Executive Director and Secretary

Individuals needing assistance or auxiliary communication aids due to sensory impairment or other disability, should contact the Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator, NHPUC, 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire 03301-2429; 603-271-2431; TDD Access: Relay N.H. 1-800-735-2964. Notification of the need for assistance should be made one week prior to the scheduled event.