



April 14, 2014

NHPUC 15APR'14AM10:04

Via Overnight Delivery and E-Filing

Debra A. Howland, Executive Director and Secretary
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, NH 03301

Re: Unitil Energy Systems, Inc.
DE 14-078

Dear Director Howland:

Please accept this letter as the request of Unitil Energy Systems, Inc., ("UES") for a partial waiver from the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission's ("Commission") Order No. 25,643 in docket DE 14-078.

Before the Commission in DE 14-078 was a recommendation from the Electric Assistance Program's ("EAP") Advisory Board to make three program changes in light of a continued surplus in the EAP fund, in order to reduce the surplus and to help prevent its recurrence. The recommendations were to: (1) raise the maximum income eligibility level from 175% to 200% of the federal poverty guidelines; (2) further increase three of the program's discount tiers; and (3) restart the two year period for the temporary increases approved in Order No. 25,544. The Commission found that the Advisory Board's recommendations were consistent with statutory directives which mandate reduction of the EAP surplus, as well as the manner that they be reduced, and that using the surplus to assist EAP customers was the better option than simply refunding the surplus. Accordingly, the Commission ordered that the discount rates of EAP Tiers 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 shall be 9%, 23%, 37%, 53% and 77%, respectively, for a period of 24 months beginning thirty days from the date of the Order.

UES notes that 30 days from the date of Order No. 25,643 (March 28, 2014) is April 27, 2014. At this time, in docket DE 14-063, UES has pending before the Commission its last Step Increase under the Settlement Agreement approved by the Commission in DE 10-055, UES's last rate case. Under the Settlement Agreement, the Step Increase is scheduled to take effect beginning May 1, 2014. Therefore, to allow for administrative efficiency and to avoid confusion for the EAP customers who would have two rate changes taking place within several days, UES requests a waiver to allow it to implement the revised discount rates for the EAP Tiers for a period of 24 months beginning on May 1, 2014, rather than April 27, 2014. UES submits that this minor

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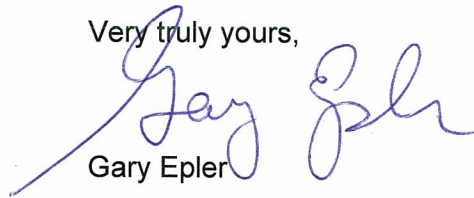
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change in the starting date of the 24 month long revised discount rate will be, in all other respects, entirely consistent with the Commission's Order approving the EAP Advisory Board's recommendation.

The Company circulated a draft of this letter to the Commission Staff and the Office of Consumer Advocate prior to filing. The Staff have no objections to the request. The position of the OCA was not known at the time of filing

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions concerning this request. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gary Epler", is written over the typed name.

Gary Epler

cc: Susan Chamberlin, Consumer Advocate
Michael Sheehan, Staff Attorney
