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THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



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PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION 21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10 Concord, N.H. 03301-2429 September 19, 2018

Andy Beauchamp, Regulatory Licensing and Reporting Direct Energy Business Marketing, LLC 12 Greenway Plaza, Suite No. 250 Houston, TX 77046

Re: DM 18-105, Direct Energy Business Marketing, LLC Application to Renew Registration as Competitive Electric Power Supplier

Dear Mr. Beauchamp:

On July 20, 2018, Direct Energy Business Marketing, LLC (DEBM) filed an application to renew its registration as a competitive electric power supplier (CEPS).

Commission Staff filed a memorandum on September 19, 2018 that summarizes the filing made by DEBM in connection with its registration renewal and Staff's analysis of the completed application. Staff concluded that the application complies with the requirements of Puc 2003 and Puc 2006.01. Staff recommended approval of DEBM's registration renewal application for a three-year term beginning on the expiration date of the currently active registration, October 8, 2018, and ending at the close of business on October 8, 2021. In addition, Staff recommended that the renewed registration authorize DEBM to operate in the franchise areas of Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (Eversource), Liberty Utilities (Granite State Electric) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities (Liberty), New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc. (NHEC), and Unitil Energy Systems, Inc. (Unitil) and to be permitted to provide service only to large commercial customers.

DEBM's application for renewed registration as a CEPS authorized to operate in the franchise areas of Eversource, Liberty, NHEC, and Unitil and to provide service only to large commercial customers is approved for a term beginning on October 8, 2018 and ending at the close of business on October 8, 2021. Pursuant to Puc 2003.02(a), DEBM must submit its next renewal application at least 60 days prior to the expiration of the approved registration period, on or before August 9, 2021.

Please be aware that registered CEPS are subject to specific requirements contained in Puc 2000 – Competitive Electric Power Supplier and Aggregator Rules. These rules are available at: <u>http://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Rules/PUC2000.pdf</u>. In

particular, note that, under Puc 2003.03(e), if a CEPS's financial security instrument will not be renewed or extended beyond its expiration date, it must (1) provide written notice to the Commission of such non-renewal or non-extension no less than 60 days prior to the expiration date, and (2) file with the Executive Director a replacement financial security instrument meeting the requirements of the rules no less than 30 days prior to the expiration date, and that, under Puc 2003.03(f), a CEPS that fails to comply with the requirement to file a replacement financial security instrument is subject to fines, suspension, or revocation pursuant to Puc 2005.

Please also note that each CEPS must input into a shopping comparison website, maintained by the Commission, information regarding its standard pricing policies, charges, and key terms for residential and small commercial customers. This information must be updated whenever it changes, but no less frequently than once per month. These requirements are intended to comply with <u>RSA 374-F:4-b</u>, <u>II and Puc 2004.03(a)</u>. Following its initial registration, each CEPS will be sent by electronic mail a link to the website through which it must input the required information.

In addition, all CEPS must comply with the renewable portfolio standard (RPS) requirements of RSA 362-F. The RPS obligation applies to every "provider of electricity," as defined in RSA 362-F:2, XIV, which includes registered CEPS. Please also refer to the Puc 2500 rules for further details regarding RPS compliance and reporting requirements. RPS compliance is on a calendar year basis and must be reported to the Commission by July 1 of the subsequent calendar year. Pursuant to RSA 378:49 and Puc 2004.05, all CEPS also must comply with the requirement to disclose environmental characteristics of the electricity they sell to retail customers.

Sincerely,

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Debra A. Howland Executive Director

cc: Service List Docket File

SERVICE LIST - EMAIL ADDRESSES - DOCKET RELATED

Pursuant to N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.11 (a) (1): Serve an electronic copy on each person identified on the service list.

Executive.Director@puc.nh.gov amanda.noonan@puc.nh.gov andy.beauchamp@directenergy.com bryan.connelly@puc.nh.gov david.goyette@puc.nh.gov leszek.stachow@puc.nh.gov ocalitigation@oca.nh.gov tom.frantz@puc.nh.gov

Docket #: 18-105-1 Printed: September 19, 2018

FILING INSTRUCTIONS:

a) Pursuant to N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.02 (a), with the exception of Discovery, file 7 copies, as well as an electronic copy, of all documents including cover letter with: DEBRA A HOWLAND

DEBRA A HOWLAND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR NHPUC 21 S. FRUIT ST, SUITE 10 CONCORD NH 03301-2429

- b) Serve an electronic copy with each person identified on the Commission's service list and with the Office of Consumer Advocate.
- c) Serve a written copy on each person on the service list not able to receive electronic mail.