THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DE 16-823

PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE d/b/a EVERSOURCE ENERGY

Petition for Adjustment to Stranded Cost Recovery Charge

ORDER OF NOTICE

On September 30, 2016, Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (Eversource) filed a petition to set its average stranded cost recovery charge (SCRC) rate for effect with services rendered on and after January 1, 2017. In support of its petition, Eversource filed the testimony of David F. Bidmead, along with related exhibits and attachments. The petition and subsequent docket filings, other than any information for which confidential treatment is requested of or granted by the Commission, will be posted to the Commission's website at http://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2016/16-823.html.

The SCRC recovery mechanism was established pursuant to the Agreement to Settle PSNH Restructuring in Docket No. DE 99-099 (Restructuring Agreement). The Restructuring Agreement defined the stranded costs of PSNH, now known as Eversource, and categorized them into three different parts—Part 1, Part 2 and Part 3. Part 1 and Part 3 costs are fully recovered. The remaining costs recovered through the SCRC rate mechanism are Part 2 costs, which are "ongoing" stranded costs, consisting primarily of the over-market value of energy purchases from independent power producers (IPPs), and the amortization of payments previously made for IPP buy-downs and buy-outs approved by the Commission. Pursuant to Order No. 25,644 (May 9, 2014), Eversource includes in the calculation of the SCRC rate Eversource's share of customer refunds from the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI).

Pursuant to RSA 125-O:23,II and Order No. 25,644, RGGI auction proceeds in excess of $1.00 per share shall be rebated to all electric service customers. Eversource uses the SCRC rate mechanism to rebate such excess proceeds to its customers.

Eversource is currently billing an average SCRC rate of 0.084 cents per kilowatt hour (kWh) for the period July 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016. Order No. 25,909 (June 28, 2016). In this filing, Eversource estimates an average base SCRC rate of 0.146 cents per kWh, and a RGGI rebate credit of (0.101) cents per kWh, resulting in an average SCRC rate of 0.045 cents per kWh for 2017. Eversource said that it will update the estimate of the 2017 SCRC cost and revenues, and the SCRC rate, before the hearing in this docket.

The filing raises, inter alia, issues related to whether Eversource's assumptions and estimates of costs and revenues are reasonable and whether the resulting rates are just and reasonable as required by RSA 378:5 and 378:7. Each party has the right to have an attorney represent the party at the party's own expense.

Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby

ORDERED, that a Prehearing Conference, pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.15, be held before the Commission located at 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire on October 27, 2016 at 1:30, at which each party will provide a preliminary statement of its position with regard to the petition and any of the issues set forth in N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.15; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that, immediately following the Prehearing Conference, Eversource, the Staff of the Commission and any Intervenors hold a Technical Session to review the petition; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.12, Eversource shall notify all persons desiring to be heard at this hearing by publishing a copy of this Order of Notice no later than October 13, 2016, in a newspaper with general circulation in those portions of the state in which operations are conducted, publication to be documented by affidavit filed with the Commission on or before October 25, 2016; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that consistent with N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.17 and Puc 203.02, any party seeking to intervene in the proceeding shall submit to the Commission seven copies of a Petition to Intervene with copies sent to Eversource and the Office of the Consumer Advocate on or before October 25, 2016, such Petition stating the facts demonstrating how its rights, duties, privileges, immunities or other substantial interest may be affected by the proceeding, as required by N.H. Code Admin. Rule Puc 203.17 and RSA 541-A:32,I(b); and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that any party objecting to a Petition to Intervene make said Objection on or before October 27, 2016.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this tenth day of October, 2016.

Debra A. Howland /acl

Debra A. Howland
Executive Director

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.