THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

CHAIRMAN Thomas B. Getz

COMMISSIONERS Clifton C. Below Amy L. Ignatius

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND SECRETARY Debra A. Howland

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION 21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10

Concord, N.H. 03301-2429

May 25, 2010

Tel. (603) 271-2431

FAX (603) 271-3878

TDD Access: Relay NH 1-800-735-2964

> Website: www.puc.nh.gov

DE 09-137, Unitil Energy Services, Inc.

Distribution Energy Resources

Extension of Time

To the Parties:

Re:

On April 7, 2010, Unitil Energy Systems, Inc. (UES) filed a request for additional time to begin the Time-of Use (TOU) pilot program approved by Commission Order No. 25,079 (02/26/09). The TOU pilot is to be conducted jointly by Unitil in New Hampshire and its affiliate, Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company (Fitchburg), in Massachusetts. In its April 7th request, Unitil stated that Fitchburg had not received an order from the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities (MDPU) approving the TOU pilot program which effectively makes a June 2010 start date problematic. Unitil represented in its request that Commission Staff supports the request and the Office of the Consumer Advocate does not oppose the request.

In further support of its request to delay implementation of the pilot program, on April 30, 2010, UES notified the Commission that the MDPU had, on April 12, 2010, approved the pilot program with "certain compliance requirements but otherwise did not establish time bounds on the conduct of the pilot program."

Inasmuch as the purpose of conducting a joint pilot was to achieve maximum efficiency at the lowest cost to ratepayers in both states, the Commission has determined that the request is reasonable. Accordingly, UES' request is granted. As set out in the settlement agreement approved by Commission Order No. 25,079, UES must file for approval of final tariff pricing provisions including time periods, TOU rates and critical peak criteria for Commission approval at least 60 days in advance of the default service period which now begins May 1, 2011.

> Sincerely, ulia A. Houla &

Debra A. Howland **Executive Director**