

780 N. Commercial Street P.O. Box 330 Manchester, NH 03105-0330

Jessica Chiavara Counsel

Cell: 315-313-3264 jessica.chiavara@eversource.com

February 24, 2022

Via electronic mail only

Daniel Goldner, Chair New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission 21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10 Concord, NH 03301-2429

RE: Docket Nos. DE 11-250; 14-238; 22-004 - Implementation of the Clean Energy Fund Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy

Chair Goldner:

Pursuant to Order No. 26,577 (February 4, 2022), Order *nisi* Approving with Conditions the Amended Joint Proposal for Use of Clean Energy Fund, interested persons were directed to submit comments or a written request for a hearing stating the reason and basis for a hearing by February 15, 2022, while any party interested in responding to such comments or request for hearing were directed to do so by February 24, 2022. As a party to this matter, Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy ("Eversource" or "the Company") provides this response to the request by the Office of the Consumer Advocate ("OCA") for a hearing in this matter, and the response of the Department of Energy ("DOE") supporting the OCA's request and making certain recommendations regarding administration of the Clean Energy Fund.

The Company supports the positions of both the OCA and DOE, and agrees that a hearing is warranted regarding how to best design and administer the funds dedicated to the Clean Energy Fund and its programs. Eversource also would like to reiterate the DOE's statement that "it is important to note that the Clean Energy Fund effectively represents Eversource shareholders' money and not money it collected from ratepayers. Therefore this is not a situation where the Commission must balance the interests of the utility customers and shareholders, as the shareholders themselves have provided the funding for the broad purposes described in the approved 2015 Settlement Agreement." (DOE recommendation at 3 (February 18, 2022)).

This fundamental difference of using shareholder dollars as opposed to dealing with a customer-funded program raises numerous issues of program administration—from which agency is best to administer the program to the logistics and requirements involved with the Company's administration of program funds. Eversource believes that a hearing will provide the parties with a forum to discuss these important elements so that the Clean Energy Fund can be most appropriately, inclusively and efficiently administered to maximize the efficacy and reach of the Fund and its programs.

Following the March 17th letter of the Commission this petition is being filed electronically only; paper copies will not follow. If you have any questions, please contact me. Thank you for your assistance with this matter.

Regards, Jessica A. Chiavara

Counsel, Eversource Energy

cc: DE 22-004 Service list