

**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

DE 15-010

**LIBERTY UTILITIES (GRANITE STATE ELECTRIC) CORP.
d/b/a LIBERTY UTILITIES**

2015 Default Service Solicitations

ORDER OF NOTICE

On January 5, 2015, Liberty Utilities (Granite State Electric) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities (Liberty) filed a letter providing a partial schedule for its default service solicitations for 2014. Through the default service solicitations, Liberty purchases power for customers who have not chosen to receive electric service from the competitive market. Liberty will issue its first request for proposal (RFP) on February 13, 2015, to procure default service for the period from May 1 through October 31, 2015, for both its Large Customer (commercial and industrial customers) Group and its Small Customer (residential and small commercial customer) Group. Liberty makes its default service filings pursuant to the terms of a Settlement Agreement approved by the Commission in Order No. 24,577 (January 13, 2006), as subsequently modified most recently by Order No. 25,601 (November 27, 2013).

Pursuant to the approved process, Liberty solicits 100% of power requirements for its Large Customer Group for a period of six months, in two, consecutive three-month blocks of power supply. Liberty then develops fixed monthly rates for each month in the six-month period, based on the contract prices in the winning bids. For its Small Customer Group customers, Liberty solicits a six-month block of power supply, and sets a fixed rate for the six-month period, using a six-month weighted average of power costs.

Liberty states that the RFPs for those power requirements issue on February 13, 2015. Liberty will make the filing connected with those RFPs on March 23, 2015, and will require Commission approval of the resulting rates by March 30, 2015. It is expected that Liberty will make a filing in September 2015 for a six-month supply of power requirements for the period commencing November 1, 2015 for both Customer Groups.

The Commission has designated Docket No. DE 15-010 as the docket number for Liberty's 2015 solicitations. The petition and subsequent docket filings, other than information for which confidential treatment is requested of or granted by the Commission, will be posted to the Commission's website at www.puc.nh.gov.

The filing raises, inter alia, issues related to whether the rates resulting from Liberty's RFP solicitations for default service power supply are just and reasonable as required by RSA 378:5 and 7, and whether Liberty has procured default service in a manner consistent with the principles of the electric utility restructuring statute, RSA374-F:3, V(c) – (e), and Commission Orders. 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 Hearing be held before the Commission located at 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire on March 26, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.12, Liberty shall notify all persons desiring to be heard at this hearing by publishing a copy of this Order of Notice no later than February 27, 2015, 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 March 24, 2015; 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 Liberty and the Office of the Consumer Advocate on or before March 23, 2015, 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 March 26, 2015.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this eighteenth day of February, 2015.



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.

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.

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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
EXEC 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.**