THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IR 15-510

ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION UTILITIES

Investigation into Resale of Electricity by Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

ORDER OF NOTICE

The Commission announces an investigation, pursuant to RSA 365:5 and RSA 374:3 and 4, into the legal and regulatory issues implicated by the potential resale of electricity by electric vehicle charging (EVC) stations. On November 20, 2015, Liberty Utilities (Granite State Electric) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities (Liberty) filed a tariff amendment to permit the resale of electricity for EVC stations, docketed as Docket No. DE 15-489. The Commission issued Order No. 25,852 (12/18/15) in that docket on December 18, 2015, suspending the Liberty tariff amendment to permit Commission Staff (Staff) to complete the investigation to be conducted in this docket.

The potential resale of electricity by EVC station operators raises, *inter alia*, issues related to the legal and regulatory status of EVC station operators as public utilities under RSA 362:2 or as competitive electric power suppliers under RSA 374-F: 2 and 7 and N.H. Code Admin. Rules Chapter Puc 2000, the design and implementation of rates charged to and potentially by EVC station operators, the Commission's jurisdiction over such rates and terms and conditions of service, and whether changes to electric distribution utility tariffs are warranted. Because electric vehicles are a growing presence in New Hampshire and in New England, and their use is supported by both State and regional initiatives, the Commission expects that all electric distribution utilities will be affected by the resolution of these issues. Accordingly, participation by the State's electric distribution utilities is mandatory for this investigation.

To aid the investigation, all electric distribution utilities and other interested persons shall submit legal memoranda on or before January 22, 2016. Staff shall then conduct a stakeholder technical session to review these legal memoranda and related issues on February 9, 2016. Staff shall file a report with the Commission setting forth its conclusions and recommendations with respect to the sale of electricity to, and the resale of electricity by, EVC stations on or before February 26, 2016.

Each party has the right to have an attorney represent the party at the party's own expense. 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 http://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/docketbk-2015.html.

Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby

ORDERED, that Staff investigate the legal and regulatory issues referenced herein, with a report of its conclusions and recommendations to be made to the Commission no later than February 26, 2016; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that participation by Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy, Liberty Utilities (Granite State Electric) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities, and Unitil Energy Systems, Inc., is mandatory for this investigation; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that Eversource Energy, Liberty Utilities, and Unitil Energy Systems, Inc., and other interested persons shall file legal memoranda regarding the relevant legal and jurisdictional issues referenced herein on or before January 22, 2016; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that Staff shall conduct a public stakeholder technical session at the Commission's offices at 21 South Fruit Street, Concord, New Hampshire, to be held on February 9, 2016, at 10:00 a.m.; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.12, the Executive Director shall notify all persons of this investigation by publishing a copy of this Order of Notice no later than December 18, 2015, by causing it to be posted on the Commission's website and by sending it by electronic mail to Eversource Energy, Liberty Utilities, and Unitil Energy Systems, Inc.

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