STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Inter-Department Communication

DATE: May 11, 2016 **AT (OFFICE):** NHPUC

WHPLIC 11MAY 16PM4: 16

FROM: David Goyette, Utility Analyst III

SUBJECT: DM 15-514 Clearview Electric, Inc. d/b/a Clearview Energy

Application for Registration as Competitive Electric Power Supplier

TO: Commissioners

Debra Howland, Executive Director

Executive Summary

Clearview Energy has applied to register as a competitive electric power supplier. Clearview Energy submitted a certificate demonstrating it completed EDI testing with Eversource, Liberty, and UES, a sample residential and small commercial customer contract, a surety bond in the amount of \$100,000, and a request for a waiver of the five-year and 150-day term requirement for financial security. If the Commission were to grant the requested rule waiver, Staff believes the filing is acceptable. Staff recommends the Commission grant the waiver and approve the application for a renewal registration period ending on the termination date of the surety bond.

Background and Analysis

On December 21, 2015, Clearview Electric, Inc. d/b/a Clearview Energy (Clearview Energy) filed an application to register as a competitive electric power supplier (CEPS). Clearview Energy's application included documentation that demonstrates it has completed electronic data interchange (EDI) testing with Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (Eversource) and Unitil Energy Systems (UES), evidence that it is able to obtain supply in the New England energy market, and a request for a waiver of Puc 2003.03(a)(5), which requires the financial security filed with an initial CEPS application have a term of five years and 150 days.

On February 9, 2016, Clearview Energy filed a replacement surety bond in the amount of \$100,000, which became effective on October 1, 2015 and expires on March 21, 2017, and names the Commission as obligee. On January 25, 2016 and March 7, 2016, Staff requested additional information from Clearview Energy and Clearview responded to each of these requests.

On May 9, 2016, Clearview Energy filed a revised residential and small commercial customer contract and documentation that shows it has completed EDI

testing with Liberty Utilities (Granite State Electric) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities (Liberty).

Staff has reviewed the information in the application, and, if the Commission were to grant approval of the waiver request of the financial security term requirement, believes it meets the requirements of Puc 2003 and 2006.01. Staff recommends that the Commission grant the request for a waiver of Puc 2003.03(a)(5) and, because the surety bond does not meet the five-year and 150-day requirement and because it expires on March 21, 2017, that the Commission approve an initial registration period with a term concurrent with the surety bond, beginning on the date of the Commission's approval letter and ending at the close of business on March 21, 2017. Staff also recommends that, if the Commission grants the requested waiver, the Commission notify Clearview Energy that the financial security rules are likely to change during 2016 and that Clearview Energy should monitor the rulemaking process in Docket No. DRM 13-151 and plan accordingly with respect to future operations in New Hampshire.

Clearview Energy filed documentation that demonstrates it has completed EDI testing with Eversource, Liberty, and UES. Staff, therefore, recommends that the Commission approve Clearview Energy's application to register as a CEPS, and that it permit Clearview Energy to serve residential and small commercial customers and operate only in the service areas of Eversource, Liberty, and UES. If Clearview Energy seeks to operate in the service area of any other distribution company, it can do so by filing a request with the Commission to extend its service area, and by providing proof that it has completed EDI testing with each distribution company in whose franchise area it requests authority to operate. Staff will then review the request and make a recommendation to the Commission.

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

DEBRA A HOWLAND EXECUTIVE 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.