In this Order, the Commission extends the specified date for completion of the Value of Distributed Energy Resources Study (VDER Study). This order is being issued on a nisi basis to ensure that all interested persons receive notice of the decision and have the opportunity to submit comments or request a hearing before the order becomes effective.

In Order No. 26,316 (December 18, 2019), the Commission specified that the VDER Study should be completed by the end of the second calendar quarter of 2021, stating that:

Consistent with Staff’s general timeframe, we direct Staff to issue a request for proposals in the first quarter of 2020 and engage a consultant to perform the VDER Study, with a study report and findings delivered by the end of the second quarter of 2021.

Order No. 26,316 at 23. On February 10, 2021, Commission Staff (Staff) filed a memorandum recommending that Order No. 26,316 be modified to extend the completion date for the VDER Study from the end of the second quarter of 2021 until the end of the first quarter of 2022. According to Staff, as a result of unavoidable delays experienced in the competitive solicitation process to engage a consultant to perform the VDER Study, through Request for Proposals #2020-001, that specified study completion date is no longer realistic and should be extended until the end of the first quarter of 2022 (i.e., March 31, 2022). Staff did not anticipate that there would be any opposition to that proposed modification.
Order No. 26,316, Staff’s memorandum, and other docket filings, except for any information for which confidential treatment is requested of or granted by the Commission, are posted at: http://puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2016/16-576.html.

We find that there is good reason to extend the specified completion date for the VDER Study until March 31, 2022, as recommended by Staff. Under RSA 365:28, the Commission has the authority to modify any order made by it. We modify Order No. 26,316 to extend the study completion date by issuing this Order on a nisi basis to ensure that all interested persons receive notice of the decision and have the opportunity to submit comments or request a hearing before this order becomes effective.

**Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby**

**ORDERED**, that Order No. 26,316 is modified to extend the specified completion date for the VDER Study from the end of the second calendar quarter of 2021 until the end of the first calendar quarter of 2022 on March 31, 2022; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that the Executive Director of the Commission shall cause a copy of this order nisi to be published on the Commission’s website within one business day; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that all persons desiring to respond to this order nisi are notified that they may submit their comments or file a written request for a hearing which states the reason and basis for a hearing no later than February 19, 2021, for the Commission’s consideration; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that any party interested in responding to such comments or request for hearing shall do so no later than February 24, 2021; and it is
FURTHER ORDERED, that this order nisi shall be effective on February 26, 2021, unless the Commission provides otherwise in a supplemental order issued prior to the effective date.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this eleventh day of February, 2021.

Dianne Martin  
Chairwoman

Debra A. Howland  
Executive Director

Kathryn M. Bailey  
Commissioner

Attested by:
Service List - Docket Related

Docket#: 16-576
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Email Addresses

ExecutiveDirector@puc.nh.gov
pjaesd@comcast.net
canderson@borregosolar.com
HerbArcher3@gmail.com
bargetsinger@keyesfox.com
Christopher.aslin@doj.nh.gov
robertbackus05@comcast.net
sabaker@trccompanies.com
pbean@solarcity.com
clifton.below@gmail.com
robert.bersak@eversource.com
aboyd@acadiacent.org
jeb.bradley@leg.state.nh.us
brianna@cleanenergynh.org
christian.brouillard@libertyutilities.com
marc@neratepayers.org
kelly@cleanenergynh.org
brian.buckley@puc.nh.gov
eburgess@strategen.com
rburke@nhla.org
callnanb@nhec.com
camerinos@nhec.com
glenn@scenicnursery.net
carroll@unitil.com
clyde.carson@gmail.com
richard.chagnon@puc.nh.gov
pradip.chattopadhyay@oca.nh.gov
pchernick@resourceinsight.com
jared.chicoine@osi.nh.gov
dclapp@revisionenergy.com
mconway@borregosolar.com
karen.cramton@puc.nh.gov
samuel.crawford@navigant.com
dcreer@BIAofNH.com
ariel.crowley@navigant.com
kristi.davie@eversource.com
edward.davis@eversource.com
davis@norwichsolar.com
alexmarquez146@gmail.com
catherine.marsellos@puc.nh.gov
pmartin2894@yahoo.com
smaslansky@nhcdfa.org
paula.maville@lebcity.com
erica.menard@eversource.com
tmichelman@seadvantage.com
madeleine@cleanenergynh.org
clayaz23@gmail.com
fortunat@revisionenergy.com
steven.mullen@libertyutilities.com
kat@solarendavors.com
info@mainstreetbookends.com
elizabeth.nixon@puc.nh.gov
amanda.noonan@puc.nh.gov
ran@essexhydro.com
jim_obrien@tnc.org
ocalitigation@oca.nh.gov
rebecca.ohler@des.nh.gov
joliver@vermontlaw.edu
lee.oxenham@leg.state.nh.us
ipahl@icloud.com
palma@unitil.com
deandra.perruccio@puc.nh.gov
perrym@nashuanh.gov
katherine.peters@eversource.com
nathan@votesolar.org
becca.polisuk@sunrunhome.com
melissa.price@eversource.com
kim.quirk@gmail.com
crauscher@sunrun.com
bob.reals@libertyutilities.com
treardon@rocnh.org
brian.rice@eversource.com
jrodier@mbtu-co2.com
F.Ross@puc.nh.gov
bross@consumerenergyalliance.org
michael.sheehan@libertyutilities.com
marge.shepardson@gmail.com
david.shulock@puc.nh.gov
cshute@vermontlaw.edu
Christa.Shute@oca.nh.gov
simpsonc@unitil.com
karen.sinville@libertyutilities.com
michael.sisto@puc.nh.gov
christopher.skoglund@des.nh.gov
jsohn@safarienergy.com
sprague@unitil.com
eric.stanley@libertyutilities.com
stettenheim@norwichtech.com
taylorp@unitil.com
teamnh@energyservicesgroup.net
heather.tebbetts@libertyutilities.com
stower@nhla.org
cynthia.trottier@libertyutilities.com
mulin@revisionenergy.com
jvanrossum@clf.org
jpvitello@gmail.com
jvoyles@consumerenergyalliance.org
dwalls@navigant.com
bwaugh@townandcitylaw.com
tanya.wayland@puc.nh.gov
rick.white@eversource.com
david.wiesner@puc.nh.gov