

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Inter-Department Communication

NHPUC 14FEB'17AM11:22

DATE: February 14, 2017

AT (OFFICE): NHPUC


FROM: David Goyette, Utility Analyst III

SUBJECT: DM 17-016, Nordic Energy Services, LLC
Renewal of Registration as Competitive Electric Power Supplier

TO: Commissioners
Debra Howland, Executive Director

Executive Summary

Nordic Energy has applied to renew its registration as a competitive electric power supplier. Nordic Energy's current registration expires on March 31, 2017. Nordic Energy submitted a sample residential and small commercial customer contract, certificates demonstrating it completed EDI testing with Eversource, Liberty, NHEC, and Unitil, a continuation certificate extending by one year its surety bond in the amount of \$100,000, and a request for a waiver of the five-year and 90-day term requirement for financial security. If the Commission were to grant the requested rule waiver, Staff believes the filing is acceptable. Staff recommends that the Commission grant the waiver and approve the application, for service in the franchise areas of Eversource, Liberty, NHEC, and Unitil, for a renewal registration period ending on the termination date of the amended surety bond.

Background and Analysis

On January 31, 2017, Nordic Energy Services, LLC (Nordic Energy) filed an application to renew its registration as a competitive electric power supplier (CEPS). Nordic Energy's currently active registration, which the Commission approved in Docket DM 15-496, expires on March 31, 2017. Nordic Energy's application included certificates demonstrating that it has completed EDI testing with Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (Eversource), Liberty Utilities (Granite State Electric) Corp. (Liberty), New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc. (NHEC), and Unitil Energy Systems, Inc. (Unitil), and evidence that it is able to obtain supply in the New England energy market. On February 7, 2017, Nordic Energy filed a residential and small commercial contract and, on February 14, 2017, Nordic Energy filed a continuation certificate extending by one year its currently effective surety bond, which is in the amount of \$100,000 and names the Commission as obligee, and a request for a waiver of Puc 2003.03(a)(5), which requires the financial security filed with a CEPS renewal application have a term of five years and 90 days.

Staff has reviewed the information in the application and, if the Commission were to grant approval of the waiver request, 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 90-day term requirement and because it expires on March 31, 2018, that the Commission approve a registration period concurrent with the extended surety bond, beginning on the expiration date of the currently active registration, March 31, 2017, and ending at the close of business on March 31, 2018. Staff also recommends that the Commission notify Nordic Energy that the financial security rules are likely to change during 2017 and that Nordic Energy should monitor the rulemaking process in Docket DRM 16-853 and plan accordingly with respect to future operations in New Hampshire.

Nordic Energy filed documentation that demonstrates it has completed EDI testing with Eversource, Liberty, NHEC, and Unitil. Staff therefore recommends that the Commission approve Nordic Energy's application to renew its registration as a CEPS, and permit Nordic Energy to serve residential and small commercial customers and in the service areas of Eversource, Liberty, NHEC, and Unitil.

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
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
NHPUC
21 S. FRUIT ST, SUITE 10
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- 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.**