

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**Inter-Department Communication****DATE:** September 19, 2018**AT (OFFICE):** NHPUC
FROM: David Goyette, Utility Analyst III**SUBJECT:** DM 18-105, Direct Energy Business Marketing, LLC
Renewal of Registration as Competitive Electric Power Supplier**TO:** Debra Howland, Executive DirectorExecutive Summary

Direct Energy Business Marketing, LLC has applied to renew its registration as a competitive electric power supplier. DEBM's current registration expires on October 8, 2018. DEBM submitted certificates demonstrating it has completed EDI testing with Eversource, Liberty, NHEC, and Unitil and a surety bond with a three-year term. Staff recommends that DEBM's registration renewal application be approved, pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 2003.02(c)(1), for service in the franchise areas of Eversource, Liberty, NHEC, and Unitil for a renewal registration term of three years.

Background and Analysis

On July 20, 2018, Direct Energy Business Marketing, LLC (DEBM) filed an application to renew its registration as a competitive electric power supplier (CEPS). DEBM's currently active registration, which the Commission approved in Docket DM 13-260, expires on October 8, 2018. DEBM's application included certificates demonstrating that it has completed electronic data interchange (EDI) testing with Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (Eversource), Liberty Utilities (Granite State Electric) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities (Liberty), New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc. (NHEC), and Unitil Energy Systems, Inc. (Unitil) and a statement that it does not intend to serve residential customers. On August 13, 2018, DEBM filed a revised customer complaint report and a statement that it does not seek to serve small commercial customers at this time. On September 14, 2018, DEBM filed a surety bond in the amount of \$100,000 which names the Commission as obligee, becomes effective on October 8, 2018, and may not be terminated prior to October 8, 2021.

Staff has reviewed the information in the application and believes it meets the requirements of Puc 2003 and Puc 2006.01. Staff therefore recommends that DEBM's registration renewal application be approved, pursuant to Puc 2003.02(c)(1), for a registration period of three (3) years, beginning on the expiration date of the currently active registration, October 8, 2018, and ending at the close of business on October 8,

2021, with DEBM permitted to operate in the service areas of Eversource, Liberty, NHEC, and Unitil and to provide service only to large commercial customers.

Staff further recommends that DEBM be informed that, pursuant to Puc 2003.03(e), if a CEPS's financial security instrument will not be renewed or extended beyond its expiration date, it must (1) provide written notice to the Commission of such non-renewal or non-extension no less than 60 days prior to the expiration date, and (2) file with the Executive Director a replacement financial security instrument meeting the requirements of the rules no less than 30 days prior to the expiration date, and that, under Puc 2003.03(f), a CEPS that fails to comply with the requirement to file a replacement financial security instrument is subject to fines, suspension, or revocation pursuant to Puc 2005.

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.