

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**before the**  
**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy

**DOCKET NO. DE 19-057**

NOTICE OF INTENT TO FILE RATE SCHEDULES

**Petition for Step Adjustment**

Consistent with the terms of the Settlement Agreement presented to the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) in this docket contemporaneous with this filing, Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (“PSNH” or the “Company”) hereby petitions for the Commission to approve a step adjustment as called for in the Settlement Agreement effective for service rendered on and after January 1, 2020 and for such other relief as requested. In support of this Petition, PSNH states the following:

1. The full procedural history of this docket is set out in the Settlement Agreement filed contemporaneously with this petition. In brief, on March 22, 2019, PSNH filed with the Commission its Notice of Intent to File Rate Schedules pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rule Puc 1604.05 pertaining to its request for temporary rates. On May 8, 2019 the Commission issued Order No. 26,250, suspending PSNH’s proposed tariff for a temporary rate increase pending further investigation and on May 28, 2019, the Company submitted its permanent rate filing seeking an increase in rates of approximately \$70 million effective July 1, 2019, inclusive of the temporary rate increase. Over the ensuing year and a half (including the extension created by Governor Sununu’s extension of the Commission’s authority to suspend rate schedules by six months, from 12 to 18 months in his April 24, 2020, Emergency Order #29, issued pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04), PSNH and numerous parties engaged in discovery, technical sessions,

and other discussions culminating in the Settlement Agreement on permanent rates that is filed with the Commission contemporaneous with this submission.

2. Pursuant to Section 10 of that Settlement Agreement, PSNH is to be allowed three step increases to account for plant placed in service in calendar years 2019, 2020, and 2021. This filing represents the first of those step increases, and is intended and designed to take effect at coincident with the effective date of permanent rates as contained in the Settlement Agreement.

3. Under the terms of the Settlement Agreement relating to this first step:

the Company shall make a filing at or around the time of the filing of this Settlement Agreement with testimony and supporting information describing the capital projects placed in service in calendar year 2019, as well as testimony and supporting information describing the proposed rate impact, using the documentation available at the time of the filing. In addition, the Company's initial filing shall provide a summary list of capital projects, excluding new business projects, showing, at least: the project name and description; initial budget by project; variances from the initial budget; and final actual costs.

October 9, 2020 Settlement Agreement in Docket No. DE 19-057, Section 10.2. Included with this submission are:

- Testimony of Lee G. Lajoie, Manager of System Resiliency, and David L. Plante, Manager of the New Hampshire Project Management Department, discussing the capital projects and the processes in place at the Company pertaining to project management and budgeting; and
- Testimony of Erica L. Menard, Manager of New Hampshire Revenue Requirements, and Edward A. Davis, Director of Rates, describing the revenue requirement calculations, rate design and rate impacts from this first step increase related to the relevant plant additions.

4. As described through the above-identified testimony, and the accompanying attachments and other information, this filing demonstrates relevant support for the additions to

the Company's plant-in-service in calendar year 2019 consistent with the terms of the Settlement Agreement.

5. Pursuant to the terms of the Settlement Agreement, the step adjustment is capped at \$11 million in revenue requirement, and any revenue requirement above that amount would be deferred for some other means of recovery. If, however, the revenue requirement came in under \$11 million, then only the actual amount would be recovered. As described in the included testimony and attachments, the requested revenue requirement increase in this step is \$10,650,642 and is intended to be effective at the same time as the overall distribution rate increase called for in the Settlement Agreement.

6. The rate adjustments requested by the Company in this filing result in rates that are just and reasonable and in the public interest and should, therefore, be approved.

**WHEREFORE**, PSNH respectfully requests that the Commission:

- A. Grant the Company's request for a permanent rate increase of \$10,650,642 as described in the included testimony and supporting information; and
- B. Order such further relief as may be just and equitable.

Respectfully submitted,

Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy  
By Its Attorney



Dated: October 9, 2020

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
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By: \_\_\_\_\_

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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that, on the date written below, I caused the attached Motion to be served pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rule Puc 203.11.

October 9, 2020  
Date

  
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Matthew J. Fossum