

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

DE 19-064  
Distribution Service Rate Case  
2019 Step Adjustment

Staff Data Requests - Set 1

Date Request Received: 5/14/20  
Request No. Staff 1-11

Date of Response: 5/29/20  
Respondent: Richard Foley

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**REQUEST:**

Re: 2019 Step Adjustment Attachment 13; Project #8830-1992 Transformer Purchases. Based on the Project Close Report at 14, and project spreadsheet at 1, the project was over-budget by \$94,275. Please provide the following information for this project:

- a. Total number and cost of transformer purchases for each of the last five years prior to 2019.
- b. Breakout the number of transformers installed for the Tuscan Village project and elsewhere within Liberty's service territory for 2019 (Cause 1 at 14).
- c. Provide the average cost per unit for repairing transformers that can be re-installed in the field. How many existing transformers were repaired and ready for re-use and/or re-installed in 2019?
- d. Does the Company have a testing/evaluation/re-furbishing procedure for distribution transformers that are in stock (have not been in service) or returned to stock from the field? If yes, please provide the procedure.
- e. Please provide the total annual transformer inventory (in dollars) for each of the operating locations for the last four years.

**RESPONSE:**

- a. See Attachment Staff 1-11.a.xlsx.
- b. From information provided through GIS, the Company installed 116 transformers of which 10 were installed for the Tuscan Village project.
- c. Liberty does not repair transformers in house for re-installation in the field.
- d. For new transformers purchased, Liberty requires the transformer reconditioning supplier to provide a product which conforms to the minimum requirements for overhead and underground transformers. See Attachment Staff 1-11.d.1 and Attachment Staff 1-11.d.2, respectively. For materials returned to the yard from the field, the Company performs an

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assessment on removed transformers when they are removed from the field. Please reference Attachment Staff 1-11.d.3.

- e. Transformers are not purchased into the Company's inventory account. They are purchased as pre-capitalized materials according to our accounting practice.