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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



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May 14, 2020

Debra A. Howland  
Executive Director  
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10  
Concord, NH 03301

Re: **Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy  
Docket No. DE 19-104, Clean Innovation Community Solar Pilot Proposal  
Staff Status Report – recommending suspension until August 15, 2020**

Dear Executive Director Howland:

On February 21, 2020, Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (“Eversource” or Company) filed its revised solar pilot proposal, taking into account the Commission’s Order 26,297 (October 8, 2019) and SB 165 (Chapter 271, Laws of 2019). *See* Eversource 2/21/20 filing. The Company stated its revisions also considered the Commission’s proposed modifications to New Hampshire Administrative Rules Chapter Puc 900 *Net Metering for Customer-Owned Renewable Energy Generation Resources of 1,000 Kilowatts or Less*.

A few weeks after the filing, on March 13, 2020, Governor Sununu declared a state of emergency due to the novel corona virus and Covid-19. The state of emergency remains in place. The virus’ impact on public health and the economy is far from clear. In light of this situation, Staff recommends suspending this docket until August 15, 2020, at which time Staff will file a second status report with the Commission. Staff anticipates renewed informal discussions with the Company no later than August 1, 2020.

Eversource (Jessica Chiavara) was notified of Staff’s recommendation on May 7, 2020, and of other parties’ positions in a timely manner. Staff and the Company held several discussions. As of 4 p.m. this afternoon however, the Company has not formally taken a position with regard to Staff’s recommendation.

The Office of the Consumer Advocate (OCA) (Christa Shute) agreed with Staff’s recommendation on May 13, 2020.

Intervenors were notified of Staff’s recommendation on the morning of May 13, 2020. On May 14, 2020, the Conservation Law Foundation (CLF) (Director Irwin) indicated it did not object to the suspension. On May 14, 2020, Staff reached out to Clean Energy (Madelaine Mineau and Kelly Buchanan) again by email, and by voicemail at the main office. Staff has not received a response.

Staff, the OCA, and CLF (the parties that have formally responded) are committed to continuing discussion efforts when the impact of the existing state of emergency is better understood. This defined suspension will also avoid the need to repeat work that might have been done in the interim, given that circumstances are unknown and difficult to anticipate.

As permitted by the Commission's March 17, 2020 letter filed in this docket, Staff is filing this status report by email only.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

/s/

Mary Schwarzer  
Staff Attorney/Hearings Examiner

cc: Service List