

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**DE 19-197**

**ELECTRIC AND NATURAL GAS UTILITIES**

**Development of a Statewide, Multi-Use Online Energy Data Platform**

**ORDER OF NOTICE**

SB 284-FN (2019) amended RSA chapter 378 by adding a new subdivision entitled “Multi-Use Energy Data Platform,” effective September 17, 2019. The new subdivision, consisting of RSA 378:50-:54, provides for the establishment of a statewide online energy data platform, which would allow utilities, their customers, and third parties, including the Office of the Consumer Advocate (OCA), to access and share data regarding customer energy usage. SB 284-FN requires the Commission to open an adjudicative proceeding within 90 days of its effective date to determine how the energy data platform will be developed, implemented, and maintained, and whether the costs of doing so are reasonable and in the public interest.

RSA 378:51, II directs the Commission to determine the following during the adjudicative proceeding: (1) the governance, development, implementation, change management, and versioning of the energy data platform; (2) standards for data accuracy, retention, availability, privacy, and security, including the integrity and uniformity of the logical data model; and (3) financial security standards or other mechanisms to assure third-party compliance with privacy standards. In doing so, the Commission will be guided by the standards for the energy data platform contained in RSA 378:51, I, which include, among other things: adhering to a common statewide logical data model defining the relationships among the various data categories; allowing the sharing of individual customer data consistent with the opt-in requirements for third-party access under RSA 363:38; protection from unauthorized disclosure

of utility customers' personally identifying information; and permitting voluntary participation of municipal utilities and deregulated rural electric cooperatives. The energy data platform shall also be certified by the Green Button Alliance and support the North American Energy Standards Board's Energy Service Provider Interface and the Green Button Alliance's Green Button "Connect My Data" initiative.

As required by RSA 378:51, II, the Commission opens a docket to develop a statewide, multi-use online energy data platform. All electric and natural gas utilities regulated by the Commission, which will be responsible for establishing and jointly operating the energy data platform, shall participate as mandatory parties to this proceeding. Other interested parties may seek permission to intervene, as described in the ordering paragraphs below. Each party has the right to have an attorney represent the party at the party's own expense.

The filing raises, inter alia, issues related to the development, implementation, and maintenance of a statewide, multi-use online energy data platform, in accordance with RSA 378:50-:54; issues relating to privacy policies for customer data in accordance with RSA 363:37-:38; and issues relating to the availability and transmittal of aggregated community-level energy usage data pursuant to RSA 53-E:4; and whether the cost of the platform to be recovered from customers is reasonable and in the public interest or the implementation of the platform should be deferred. This order and any subsequent docket filings, other than any information for which confidential treatment is requested of or granted by the Commission, will be posted to the Commission's website at [www.puc.nh.gov](http://www.puc.nh.gov).

The proceeding will commence with a prehearing conference and a technical session, during which the following relevant matters, among others, are expected to be addressed:

1. The procedural schedule for the proceeding, including, without limitation, filing dates, discovery deadlines, submission of initial and rebuttal testimony, future technical sessions, potential settlement conferences, and hearing dates and times;
2. The timing and sequence of filings by the regulated electric and natural gas utilities, the OCA, and other parties of their proposals regarding the energy data platform;
3. The extent to which any such proposals must be supported by pre-filed written testimony and related studies and documentation;
4. The necessity for, and timing of, submission of briefs or memoranda of law regarding any relevant legal issues; and
5. The anticipated need to submit any information claimed to be confidential and the procedures for handling such confidential information.

**Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby**

**ORDERED**, that a Prehearing Conference, pursuant to N.H. Admin. R., Puc 203.15, be held before the Commission located at 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire on February 3, 2020 at 10:00 am, at which each party will provide a preliminary statement of its position with regard to relevant matters and any of the issues set forth in N.H. Admin. R., Puc 203.15; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that, immediately following the Prehearing Conference, the electric and natural gas utilities, the Staff of the Commission, and any Intervenors hold a Technical Session to review relevant matters and to develop a procedural schedule for the proceeding; and it is


**FURTHER ORDERED**, that pursuant to N.H. Admin R.,s Puc 203.12, the Executive Director shall notify all persons desiring to be heard at this hearing by publishing a copy of this Order of Notice on the Commission's website no later than January 20, 2020; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that consistent with N.H. Admin. R., Puc 203.17 and Puc 203.02, any party seeking to intervene in the proceeding shall submit to the Commission seven

copies of a Petition to Intervene with copies sent to the OCA and all parties listed on the Commission's service list for this proceeding, on or before January 29, 2020, such Petition stating the facts demonstrating how its rights, duties, privileges, immunities, or other substantial interests may be affected by the proceeding, consistent with N.H. Admin. R., Puc 203.17; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that any party objecting to a Petition to Intervene make said Objection on or before February 3, 2020.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this thirteenth day of December, 2019.

  
Debra A. Howland  
Executive Director

Individuals needing assistance or auxiliary communication aids due to sensory impairment or other disability should contact the Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator, NHPUC, 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire 03301-2429; 603-271-2431; TDD Access: Relay N.H. 1-800-735-2964. Notification of the need for assistance should be made one week prior to the scheduled event.

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