

**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 Following Status Conference

ORDER NO. 26,944

February 8, 2024

On January 26, 2024, the Governance Council (GC)¹ requested a status conference in this instant Docket, DE 19-197. The GC indicated a need to update the Commission on the progress of the Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnerships (GRIP) Grant application. On January 29, 2024, the Commission granted the GC's request and scheduled the status conference for February 8, 2024. At the request of Mission:data Coalition, UtilityAPI, Inc. and Clean Energy NH, the Commission approved the remote participation of employees from Utility API, Inc, Clean Energy and Mission:data at the February 8 status conference.

The status conference was held on February 8 as scheduled. Prior to the presentation, the GC submitted a slide presentation into the docket. See Docket Entry 167. At the February 8 conference, members of the GC presented the slides to the Commission and provided status updates to the Commission regarding the project and its timeline.

¹ In Order NO 26,589 the Commission authorized the establishment of the Governance Council (GC) in this docket. The GC oversees the development of the Data Platform. It consisted of 12 members and is responsible for supervising the administration and operation of the Data Platform. See Order NO 26,589 (May 2, 2022).

The Commission oversight of the development of the statewide Data Platform, is designed to assist the Commission in making determinations concerning: (1) whether the proposed Data Platform meets the elements of RSA 378:51, II (a), (b), and (c); (2) whether the costs of the Data Platform are reasonable and in the public interest, as required by RSA 378:51, III; and (3) how those costs should be recovered, pursuant to RSA 378:54, II.

In our October 13, 2023 order, we authorized an expenditure of \$190,000 for the GC to hire a consultant to facilitate application for a US DOE GRIP grant. The incentive for obtaining the GRIP grant was to provide funding to offset both the build out of the Data Platform and enhance the community outreach/education which is necessary to create a successful launch of the Data Platform.

Since the October status conference, the GC has determined that its success in receipt of the GRIP grant depends on a larger, regional application, being submitted to the US DOE, since the minimum grant award would be a \$20 million project (with a 50% maximum contribution from the US DOE). The GC is requesting approval to continue with the consultant in developing a grant application for the May 22 deadline that includes a regional approach to the Data Platform.

The Commission approves of the GC's ongoing investigation of funds and supports ongoing exploration of the regional approach as outlined at the February 8 status conference. The GC's ongoing commitment to ensure the development of the best possible system at the lowest possible cost to New Hampshire rate payers is both necessary and appreciated. Further, the Commission understands that when the GC presents its final proposals to the Commission for approval of the project, it will include the costs of both a regional approach and a state level approach. As discussed at the status conference, the Commission looks forward to receiving the monthly

reports from the GC that will provide the Commission with updates on the GRIP grant application status and provide further detail about the implications for New Hampshire.

Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby

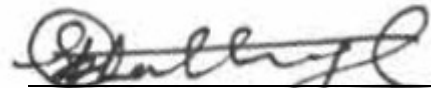
ORDERED, the Governance Council is authorized to continue work with its GRIP grant consultant to develop an application that includes a regional approach to the Data Platform; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that the Governance Council shall file monthly progress reports with the Commission to provide status updates on the GRIP grant application and provide further details concerning the implications for New Hampshire.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this eighth day of February, 2024.



Daniel C. Goldner
Chairman



Pradip K. Chattopadhyay
Commissioner

Service List - Docket Related

Docket#: 19-197

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