

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
BEFORE THE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DE 19-197

Electric and Natural Gas Utilities
Development of a Statewide, Multi-use Online Energy Data Platform

Rebuttal Testimony of Dr. Amro M. Farid

On behalf of
City of Lebanon, NH &
Local Government Coalition

October 23, 2020

1 **Q. Please identify yourself and previous involvement in this docket.**

2 A. I am Dr. Amro M. Farid, an Associate Professor of Engineering at the Thayer School of
3 Engineering at Dartmouth and an Adjunct Associate Professor of Computer Science at the
4 Department Science at Dartmouth College, which is located at 14 Engineering Drive, Hanover,
5 NH. I am also the Chief Executive Officer of Engineering Systems Analytics (ESA) LLC, which
6 is located at 89 Washburn Hill Road, Lyme NH. I previously filed direct testimony in this
7 proceeding on behalf of the City of Lebanon as part of the Local Government Coalition. Prior to
8 that I participated in most of the technical sessions and provided commentary in my areas of
9 expertise. Most recently I responded to a set of discovery/data requests from Eversource and
10 Unitil.

11 **Q. What is your rebuttal testimony?**

12 A. Eversource and Unitil (EU) asked 19 discovery questions of me. Some elicited additional
13 background and clarification of my direct testimony, while others were, perhaps, more
14 adversarial in contrasting their positions with my own. Since all my responses elucidate my
15 testimony in contrast to their positions, especially where we differ, I am submitting my responses
16 to their discovery requests and questions as my rebuttal testimony. The standard discovery
17 response formatting has been removed, except for the request number line. A few responses
18 have had minor (non-substantive) typos fixed. My response to Request No. EU to LGC 1-070 on
19 pages 6-12 below, concerning TVR, was prepared in collaboration with witness Clifton Below
20 and should be considered the joint testimony of both of us.

21 **Request No. EU to LGC 1-067**

Witness & Respondent: Dr. Amro M. Farid

22 Page 132, line 3: Please provide the syllabus for the course referenced and provide details on
23 how long you've been teaching this course.

1 **RESPONSE:** Please see Attachment EU to LGC 1-067 for the ENGG 199: Model Based Systems
2 Engineering, Analysis and Simulation course. I've taught some variation of this course since 2011.

3 **Request No. EU to LGC 1-068** Witness & Respondent: Dr. Amro M. Farid

4 Page 132, line 8: Does EPECS perform active management of transmission system
5 configuration or voltage or frequency management? Give examples of services or reports
6 provided.

7 **RESPONSE:** Yes, it does. Please see the following peer-review publications for details.

- 8 1. A. M. Farid and A. Muzhikyan, "The Need for Holistic Assessment Methods for the Future Electricity
9 Grid (Best Applied Research Paper Award)," in GCC CIGRE Power 2013, (Abu Dhabi, UAE), pp.
10 1–12, 2013.
- 11 2. A. Muzhikyan, A. M. Farid, and K. Youcef-Toumi, "Variable Energy Resource Induced Power
12 System Imbalances: A Generalized Assessment Approach," in IEEE Conference on Technologies
13 for Sustainability, (Portland, Oregon), pp. 1–8, 2013.
- 14 3. A. Muzhikyan, A. M. Farid, and K. Youcef-Toumi, "Variable Energy Resource Induced Power
15 System Imbalances: Mitigation by Increased System Flexibility, Spinning Reserves and
16 Regulation," in IEEE Conference on Technologies for Sustainability, (Portland, Oregon), pp. 1–7,
17 2013.
- 18 4. A. Muzhikyan, A. M. Farid, and K. Youcef-Toumi, "A Power Grid Enterprise Control Method for
19 Energy Storage System Integration," in IEEE Innovative Smart Grid Technologies Conference
20 Europe, (Istanbul, Turkey), pp. 1–6, 2014.
- 21 5. A. Muzhikyan, A. M. Farid, and K. Youcef-Toumi, "An Enhanced Method for the Determination of
22 Load Following Reserves," in American Control Conference, 2014, (Portland, Oregon), pp. 1–8,
23 2014.
- 24 6. A. Muzhikyan, A. M. Farid, and K. Youcef-Toumi, "An Enhanced Method for Determination of the
25 Ramping Reserves," in IEEE American Control Conference, (Los Angeles, CA, USA), pp. 1–8,
26 2015.
- 27 7. A. Muzhikyan, A. M. Farid, and K. Youcef-Toumi, "An Enhanced Method for Determination of the
28 Regulation Reserves," in IEEE American Control Conference, (Los Angeles, CA, USA), pp. 1–8,
29 2015.
- 30 8. A. Muzhikyan, A. M. Farid, and K. Youcef-Toumi, "An Enterprise Control Assessment Method for
31 Variable Energy Resource Induced Power System Imbalances Part 1: Methodology," IEEE
32 Transactions on Industrial Electronics, vol. 62, no. 4, pp. 2448–2458, 2015.

- 1 9. A. Muzhikyan, A. M. Farid, and K. Youcef-Toumi, "An Enterprise Control Assessment Method for
2 Variable Energy Resource Induced Power System Imbalances Part 2: Results," IEEE Transactions
3 on Industrial Electronics, vol. 62, no. 4, pp. 2459 – 2467, 2015.
- 4 10. B. Jiang, A. Muzhikyan, A. M. Farid, and K. Youcef-Toumi, "Impacts of industrial baseline errors in
5 demand side management enabled enterprise control," in IECON 2015 – 41st Annual Conference
6 of the IEEE Industrial Electronics Society, (Yokohama, Japan), pp. 1–6, 2015.
- 7 11. A. M. Farid, B. Jiang, A. Muzhikyan, and K. Youcef-Toumi, "The Need for Holistic Enterprise Control
8 Assessment Methods for the Future Electricity Grid," Renewable & Sustainable Energy Reviews,
9 vol. 56, no. 1, pp. 669–685, 2015.
- 10 12. A. Muzhikyan, A. M. Farid, and K. Youcef-Toumi, "An A Priori Analytical Method for Determination
11 of Operating Reserves Requirements," International Journal of Energy and Power Systems, vol.
12 86, no. 3, pp. 1–11, 2016.
- 13 13. A. Muzhikyan, A. M. Farid, and K. Youcef-Toumi, "Relative Merits of Load Following Reserves and
14 En-ergy Storage Market Integration Towards Power System Imbalances," International Journal of
15 Electrical Power and Energy Systems, vol. 74, no. 1, pp. 222–229, 2016.
- 16 14. A. Muzhikyan, A. M. Farid, and T. Mezher, "The Impact of Wind Power Geographical Smoothing
17 on Operating Reserve Requirements," in IEEE American Control Conference, (Boston, MA, USA),
18 pp. 1–6, 2016.
- 19 15. B. Jiang, A. Muzhikyan, A. M. Farid, and K. Youcef-Toumi, "Demand Side Management in Power
20 Grid Enterprise Control – A Comparison of Industrial and Social Welfare Approaches," Applied
21 Energy, vol. 187, no. 1, pp. 833–846, 2017.
- 22 16. S. O. Muhanji, A. Muzhikyan, and A. M. Farid, "Long-term challenges for future electricity markets
23 with distributed energy resources," in Smart Grid Control: An Overview and Research Opportunities
24 (J. Stoustrup, A. M. Annaswamy, A. Chakraborty, and Z. Qu, eds.), pp. 59–81, Berlin, Heidelberg:
25 Springer, 2017.
- 26 17. S. O. Muhanji, A. Muzhikyan, and A. M. Farid, "Distributed Control for Distributed Energy
27 Resources: Long-Term Challenges & Lessons Learned," IEEE Access, vol. 6, no. 1, pp. 32737 –
28 32753, 2018.
- 29 18. A. Muzhikyan, T. Mezher, and A. M. Farid, "Power System Enterprise Control with Inertial
30 Response Procurement," IEEE Transactions on Power Systems, vol. 33, no. 4, pp. 3735 – 3744,
31 2018.
- 32 19. S. O. Muhanji, A. Muzhikyan, G. Moynihan, D. Thompson, Z. Berzolla, and A. M. Farid, "2017 ISO
33 New England System Operational Analysis and Renewable Energy Integration Study," in IEEE
34 Systems of Systems Conference, (Anchorage, AK,USA), pp. 1–6, 2019.

- 1 20. A. Muzhikyan, S. Muhanji, G. Moynihan, D. Thompson, Z. Berzolla, and A. M. Farid, “The 2017
2 ISO New England System Operational Analysis and Renewable Energy Integration Study,” Energy
3 Reports, vol. 5, pp. 747–792, July 2019.
- 4 21. S. O. Muhanji and A. M. Farid, “An Enterprise Control Methodology for the Techno-Economic
5 Assess- ment of the Energy Water Nexus,” Applied Energy, vol. 1, no. 1, p. 25, 2019.
- 6 22. S. O. Muhanji, W. C. Schoonenberg, and A. M. Farid, “Transforming the Grid’s Architecture –
7 Enterprise Control - the Energy Internet of Things and Heterofunctional Graph Theory,” IEEE Power
8 and Energy Magazine, vol. 17, no. 5, pp. 71–81, 2019.
- 9 23. S. O. Muhanji, C. Barrows, J. Macknick, and A. M. Farid, “An Enterprise Control Assessment Case
10 Study of the Energy-Water Nexus for the ISO New England System,” Renewable and Sustainable
11 Energy Reports, vol. 1, no. 1, p. 31, 2020.

12 **Request No. EU to LGC 1-069**

Witness & Respondent: Dr. Amro M. Farid

13 Page 136, lines 20-22:

- 14 A. Please elaborate on the definition of “wire’s asset”.
- 15 B. Please explain what communications architecture would be utilized to communicate with
16 customer devices when controlling or indirectly controlling customer devices for the
17 distribution benefit mentioned.
- 18 C. Who is responsible for owning and maintaining this communications architecture?
- 19 D. Please explain what recourse the utility has for loss of customer communications when
20 relying on immediate demand reduction from customer equipment.
- 21 E. Would you expect the customer devices to have local override controls to ensure
22 operation for grid conditions?
- 23 F. If the platform does not operate as needed for grid operations, what happens to the grid?
- 24 G. Please compare the overall reliability of a customer-controlled device versus a “wire’s
25 asset”?
- 26 H. How do you expect the customer to be compensated for operation of their devices or
27 penalized for mis-operation?

28 **RESPONSE:** The entirety of the second paragraph on Page 136 including lines 20-22 is a direct
29 quote from Electric Power Research Institute website and its peer reviewed EPRI journal. As the
30 leading research and development organization of the electric power sector in the United States, it
31 maintains a membership model for electric utilities. If EU are not already members, I would

1 encourage them to join where they will have greater access to EPRI research on the Shared
2 Integrated Grid and more specific answers to all of these questions.

3 **Request No. EU to LGC 1-070**

Witness: Dr. Amro M. Farid

4 Respondents: Dr. Farid & Clifton Below

5 Page 140, lines 4-5: Time varying rates are already available to customers in NH. Please
6 explain “meaningful choices of time-varying rates” in the context of existing rates.

7 **RESPONSE:** The quotation is not in specific reference to New Hampshire. The quoted language
8 is part of a one sentence paraphrase of his recent article submitted as “ATTACHMENT D to
9 Testimony of A Farid for LGC” from Bates page 253-259 The full sentence cited in the request
10 is as follows:

11 “The distinguished energy economist Dr. Ahmad Faruqui¹ in his recent article in the
12 journal Regulation entitled “Refocusing on the Consumer: Utilities regulation needs to prepare
13 for the “prosumer” revolution” recounts the more than 50-year saga of trying to advance a basic
14 building block of grid modernization: customer access to meaningful choices of time-varying
15 rates. [Faruqui 2020]². He summarizes this saga and the current state [of] grid modernization in
16 this way: . . .”

17 The reader is referred to that attachment to understand what Dr. Faruqui might consider
18 meaningful choice of TVR as well as the wealth of articles and presentations he has made on this
19 topic over many years, available through his website hyperlinked to in footnote 1. This EU data
20 request calls for additional research and analysis to consider in the context of NH rates, which is
21 beyond the purpose of a data request, but in this case we won’t object as it is a useful exercise to
22 undertake and report thus.

23 Among Dr. Faruqui’s recent writings on rate design we found his co-authored article on
24 “Expanding Customer Choices in a Renewable Energy Future” that includes a section on

¹ <https://www.brattle.com/experts/ahmad-faruqui>

² Attachment D, also found at <https://www.cato.org/sites/cato.org/files/2020-03/regv43n1-6.pdf>.

1 **“Principles for Meaningful Rate Options and Signals.”**³ This article is appended as
2 Attachment EU to LGC 1-070 for easy reference..

3 Here is what we understand to exist for choices of time-varying rates in existing rates for NH
4 investor-owned electric distribution utilities:

- 5 • Unitol apparently does not currently offer any choice of time-varying rates.⁴
- 6 • Eversource offers two choices of optional time-varying rates that they call “Time-Of-Use.”
7 These are both very simple 2-part rates with a very broad definition of “on-peak”- from 7 am to 8
8 pm all weekdays, except holidays, with limited differentiation of overall per kWh rates. There is
9 one rate option for residential customers, R-OTOD, and one for small commercial customers
10 under 100kW demand, G-OTOP. While some rate components for larger C&I customers have
11 time varying elements, others do not, and none are optional choices.
- 12 • Liberty offers two TVR options, however the choice is limited in both cases to residential
13 customers. Most residential customers can choose the Rate D-10 option. It has a broad on-peak
14 period of 8 am to 9 pm weekdays except holidays. It only applies TOU rates to distribution
15 charges, though it does so with a broad differential. The other TVR option is rate D-11, the 3-
16 part TOU rate developed for Liberty’s battery pilot, in part by LGC witness Clifton Below.⁵ The
17 Regulatory Assistance Project characterized it this way in their recent publication “Rate Designs
18 for Modern Grid”⁶: ***“[t]he Liberty storage pilot rate design accepted by the New Hampshire
19 PUC is the most advanced modern rate design in New England, and closest to the Maryland
20 rate designs” that they characterize as one of the most well designed TOU rates.*** The battery
21 storage pilot at this stage is limited to only 100 customers and we understand that it is fully
22 subscribed with a waiting list, so unless someone drops out and you are at the top of the waiting
23 list, this rate is not currently a choice for anyone. An identical 3-period TOU rate has recently
24 been made available to residential customers for charging plug-in electric vehicles as Rate EV.
25 However, there is an additional monthly customer charge for the separate meter and it isn’t

³ “Expanding Customer Choices in a Renewable Energy Future,” Ahmad Faruqui, Principal, and Mariko Geronimo Aydin, Senior Associate, The Brattle Group, in *Leadership in Rate Design, A Compendium of Rates Essays, Supplement to Public Power Magazine*, May-June, 2019. Available here:

<https://www.publicpower.org/system/files/documents/Leadership-in-Rate-Design.pdf>

⁴<https://unitil.com/energy-for-businesses/electric-information/tariffs>

⁵See https://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2017/17-189/LETTERS-MEMOS-TARIFFS/17-189_2018-11-19_GSEC_TECH_STATEMENT_TOU.PDF

⁶ See pages 10-11, “Rate Designs That Work for a Modern, Customer-Oriented Grid” by David Littell and Joni Slinger, Regulatory Assistance Project, 2/20, <https://www.raonline.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/rap-littell-slinger-rate-designs-modern-customer-oriented-grid-2020-february.pdf>

1 supposed to be used for purposes other than charging EVs. The customer also has to commit to
 2 the rate for a minimum of 2 years and they would need to invest in an additional meter socket,
 3 load panel, and circuit to power a dedicated vehicle charger if they don't already have such.

4 In terms of how meaningful these options are, with the exception of Liberty's 3-part TOU rate
 5 which is only available to a very limited portion of all customers for limited purposes, the 3 other
 6 options all are conventional 2-part rates with a 13 hour on-peak period on all work week days,
 7 that is too broad to get much price response from shifting load or storage. It is not clear whether
 8 Eversource's R-OTOD and G-OTOD rates are revenue (or customer cost) neutral compared with
 9 Rates R and G for a customer with class average load shape particularly because they have fixed
 10 customer charges that are about twice that of the standard non-TOU Rates R and G.

11 The meaningfulness of these limited offerings can be judged, in part, by the portion of customers
 12 that find them meaningful enough to choose these options. The Grid Modernization Working
 13 Group Final Report⁷ included this snapshot of how many customers choose these TVR rates:

Table B.7 Number of Customers for Each Rate Offering

	Eversource			Unitil			Liberty		
	Residential	Gen. Service	Outdoor lighting	Residential	Gen. Service	Outdoor lighting	Residential	Gen. Service	Outdoor lighting
<i>Flat energy rates</i>	426,576	-	953	-	724	-	-	-	7,239
<i>Inclining block rates</i>	-	-	-	65,237	-	-	35,435	-	-
<i>Declining block rates</i>	-	75,517	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Seasonal Rate</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Time-of-use rates</i>	38	159	-	-	-	-	1,420	-	-
<i>Critical peak pricing</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Peak-time rebates</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total no. of customers:	426,614	75,676	953	65,237	11,181	1,706	35,877	6,436	685

21 For Eversource TOU rates attracted a mere 4/100 of 1% of customers, while Liberty's 2-part
 22 TOU rate, with the same customer charge as Rate D, did about 100 times better, but still only a
 23 mere 3% of all customers found this TOU rate to be meaningful enough to choose. In contrast,
 24 Dr. Faruqui reports much higher levels of participation in more meaningful TVR rate programs⁸:

⁷ At p. 39, https://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2015/15-296/LETTERS-MEMOS-TARIFFS/15-296_2017-03-20_NH_GRID_MOD_GRP_APP_FINAL_RPT.PDF

⁸ "Moving Ahead with Time-Varying Rates (TVR): US and Global Perspectives, 4/620, Ahmad Faruqui Presented to NARUC Staff Subcommittee on Rate Design, Slide 2: https://brattlefiles.blob.core.windows.net/files/18500_moving_ahead_with_time-varying_rates_tvr_-_us_and_global_perspectives.pdf

TVRs are deployed to residential customers around the world

	Type of Rate	Applicability	Participating Customers
Oklahoma (OGE)	Variable Peak Pricing (VPP)	Opt-in	20% (130,000)
Maryland (BGE, Pepco, Delmarva)	Peak Time Rebate (PTR)	Default	80%
Ontario, Canada	Time-of-Use (TOU)	Default	90% (3.6 million)
Great Britain	Time-of-Use (TOU)	Opt-in	13% (3.5 million)
Hong Kong (CLP Power Limited)	Peak Time Rebate (PTR)	Opt-in	27,000
Arizona (APS, SRP)	Time-of-Use (TOU)	Opt-in	APS: 57%, SRP: 36%
California (PG&E, SCE, SDG&E)	Time-of-Use (TOU)	Default (2020)	TBD – 75-90%*
California (SMUD)	Time-of-Use (TOU)	Default	75-90%*
Colorado (Fort Collins)	Time-of-Use (TOU)	Mandatory	100%
Illinois (ComEd, Ameren IL)	Real Time Pricing (RTP)	Opt-in	50,000
Michigan (Consumers Energy)	Time-of-Use (TOU)	Default (2020)	TBD – 75-90%*
France	Time-of-Use (TOU)	Opt-in	50%
Spain	Real Time Pricing (RTP)	Default	40%
Italy	Time-of-Use (TOU)	Default	75-90%*

*Estimated participation based on historical trends

1

2 Next, we consider the legal and regulatory history in New Hampshire to consider what might be
 3 a meaningful choice of TVR rates and consider some historical touchstones:

- 4 • For 24 years NH’s electric utility restructuring statute has called for the development of a competitive
 5 retail market for electricity supply and other related services, and specifically stated:

6 *Competitive markets should provide electricity suppliers with incentives to operate*
 7 *efficiently and cleanly, open markets for new and improved technologies, **provide electricity***
 8 *buyers and sellers with appropriate price signals, and improve public confidence in the*
 9 *electric utility industry. [And that:] Customers should be able to choose among options such*
 10 *as . . . real time pricing.⁹*

- 11 • 22 years ago the original implementation of the EDI in New Hampshire was designed to
 12 accommodate 3 period time-of-use rates that could be differentiated by day of week and seasonally
 13 and that could be offered by competitive suppliers. The periods were characterized as on-peak,

⁹ RSA 374-F:1 and RSA 374-F:3, II.

1 shoulder, and off-peak, with data fields for kWh usage, kW, and kVA in each period.¹⁰ At that time
2 the anticipated business relationships, like Data Platform Use Cases, to be supported by the EDI
3 included the following:

4 “Competitive Service Providers:

5 “(i) Offer large customers or their authorized agents competitive metering
6 products or services.

7 (ii) Notify Distribution Company of agreements to provide metering products and
8 services to large customers.

9 (iii) Install telemetering equipment at customer locations for the purpose of
10 replacing estimated usage data with measured usage data.

11 (iv) Notify Distribution Company when telemetering installations have been
12 completed and whenever the equipment malfunctions.

13 (v) Allow Distribution Companies to access the meter for usage determination or
14 provide usage data to Distribution Companies in electronic format in a timely manner.

15 (vi) Fulfill applicable registration requirements prior to doing business in New
16 Hampshire.

17 (vii) Abide by applicable rules and/or orders issued by the Commission.

18 (viii) Nominate business and technical contact persons to facilitate inter-business
19 communications.”¹¹

- 20 • 13 years ago, the Commission took note of the fact:

21 . . . that ISO-New England has recommended that the conventional peak/off-peak time-
22 of-use rate structure be modified to provide customers a reasonable opportunity to shift
23 load from peak period. Specifically, ISO-New England recommended a structure that
24 includes a minimum of three periods: peak, shoulder and off-peak. The peak period
25 would be shorter than the peak period in conventional time-of-use rates, which for some
26 utilities extends from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.^[FN omitted]

27 Reducing the number of hours in the peak period and adding a shoulder period would,

¹⁰ See the totality of the documents at <https://www.puc.nh.gov/Electric/edi.htm> and the definitions in the Glossary of Terms on pages 49-50 of the “Consensus Plan for the Transmission of Electronic Data in New Hampshire’s Retail Electric Market,” April 2, 1998, DR 96-150, <https://www.puc.nh.gov/Electric/EDI/edirev53.pdf>.

¹¹ Id at 11.

1 according to ISO-New England, provide customers a much greater incentive for
2 customers to shift load out of the peak period because the shorter peak period produces a
3 higher cost-based peak rate, while the shoulder period provides a convenient home for the
4 load shifted out of the peak period.¹²

- 5 • Last month, in its “Order Determining the Appropriateness of Rate Design Standards for Electric
6 Vehicle Charging Stations Pursuant to SB 575” while discussing Staff’s recommendation for
7 consistent seasonal 3-period TOU rates to apply to all 3 major rate components for residential electric
8 vehicle charging, the Commission noted Eversource’s assertion that its existing two-period TOU rates
9 “are an appropriate starting point for serving customers with EVs”¹³ The Commission observed and
10 concluded:

11 Based on December 2019 registration data, New Hampshire is home to
12 approximately 4,200 electric vehicles. Tr. at 91. Only approximately 40 of Eversource’s
13 more than 400,000 residential customers take service under the residential time of use
14 rate. Staff Memo at 3. The lack of interest in Eversource’s existing two-part rate structure
15 suggests that it may be inadequate for purposes of electric vehicle charging. We also take
16 administrative notice of Eversource’s filing in DE 19-057 to note Eversource’s recent
17 petition for a rate increase declined to revise its residential time of use rate despite advice
18 from its own cost of service consultant to the contrary.

19 The guidelines proposed by the Commission Staff regarding a consistent
20 framework for separately metered residential electric vehicle charging rate designs are
21 appropriate, subject to three clarifications. First, we agree with the City of Lebanon that
22 the five-hour peak duration is more appropriate than the four-hour peak duration. Second,
23 the 3:1 peak to off-peak ratio should represent an average ratio during a given year, not
24 during any one season. Third, we note that these guidelines serve as a useful starting
25 point and are generally consistent with the rate designed and approved for the purposes of
26 Liberty’s Battery storage pilot, and later adopted for Liberty’s separately-metered EV

¹² NHPUC Order # 24,763, 6/22/07, p. 24, <https://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/CaseFile/2006/06-061/ORDERS/Order%20No.%2024,763%20Regarding%20the%20Adoption%20of%20Standards%20for%20Time-Based%20Metering%20and%20Interconnection%20-6-22-07.pdf>

¹³ NHPUC Order # 26,394, 8/18/20, p. 16, https://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2020/20-004/ORDERS/20-004_2020-08-18_ORDER_26394.PDF.

1 TOU Rate. Liberty Utilities (Granite State Electric) Corp., Order No. 26,376 at 9. (June
2 30, 2020).¹⁴

3 **Request No. EU to LGC 1-071** Witness & Respondent: Dr. Amro M. Farid

4 Page 144, line 5: Please explain how the PUC would determine the reasonableness of costs
5 before implementing the platform, if the regulatory process excludes these requirements.

6 **RESPONSE:** My testimony on Page 144, line 5 and indeed the entirety of Q5.2 does not make
7 any mention “reasonableness of costs”. The EU have posed a question that does not concern my
8 testimony.

9 **Request No. EU to LGC 1-072** Witness & Respondent: Dr. Amro M. Farid

10 Page 146, lines 4-7: If the utilities are stakeholders, users of the data, and solely knowledgeable
11 of back end systems, why should the utilities not be involved in the functional design of the
12 platform?

13 **RESPONSE:** The question seemingly misconstrues my testimony. My testimony does not state:
14 “the utilities should not be involved in the functional design of the platform” as written in the
15 question above. My testimony states: “*I do not interpret RSA 378:52, I to mean that the utilities*
16 *shall exclusively conduct all technical activity related to the data platform.*” It is clear that RSA
17 378:52, I states: “*the utilities shall design and operate the energy data platform*” which is a
18 statement of the necessity of the utilities’ design role. However, the law does not explicitly state
19 that this design and operation role belongs exclusively to the utilities. Therefore, there is no
20 explicitly stated reason for me to conclude that the utilities are sufficient to design and operate the
21 energy data platform. Furthermore, and as my testimony states, “*I do not believe it to be in the*
22 *best interest of the New Hampshire public to do so*”. Necessity is not equivalent to sufficiency.

23 **Request No. EU to LGC 1-073** Witness & Respondent: Dr. Amro M. Farid

24 Page 146, lines 14-16: Please provide representative examples of where niche engineering
25 consultancies are less expensive.

¹⁴ Id at pp. 16-17.

1 **RESPONSE:** mPrest, Kevala, and Engineering Systems Analytics provide engineering services
2 at rates that are “often less expensive” than more “well-known” engineering organizations with
3 expertise in requirements engineering.

4 **Request No. EU to LGC 1-074** Witness & Respondent: Dr. Amro M. Farid

5 Page 150, lines 9: Please explain extensibility of the platform with examples.

6 **RESPONSE:** Page 150, line 9 is the third of five requirements that are summarized from the LGC
7 scoping comments. The scoping comments at tab 27 of the Docket Book in this proceeding
8 explains what extensibility is and how to best achieve it.

9 **Request No. EU to LGC 1-075** Witness & Respondent: Dr. Amro M. Farid

10 Page 150, line 16: Please provide a list of commercially-neutral grid stakeholders.

11 **RESPONSE:** It’s impossible to provide an exhaustive list for the simple reason that the
12 implementation of the data platform may require a commercially-neutral non-for-profit entity to
13 be formed as a new entity. Beyond this possibility, some commercial-neutral grid stakeholders
14 are non-for-profit organizations. These include an Independent System Operator (e.g. ISO New
15 England), academia (e.g. Dartmouth College or UNH), a non-for-profit customer-owned utility
16 (e.g. New Hampshire Electric Co-Op), or a government entity such as the Public Utility
17 Commission, Office of the Consumer Advocate, or municipality. For-profit supply-side grid
18 stakeholders such as investor-owned utilities and demand-side consumers are not commercially-
19 neutral.

20 **Request No. EU to LGC 1-076** Witness & Respondent: Dr. Amro M. Farid

21 Page 153, line 5: Please explain how the platform can make the same data available to all
22 participants at the same time, if the customer may only approve access to data for a limited
23 number of market participants.

24 **RESPONSE:** The question seemingly misconstrues my testimony. My testimony does not state
25 that: “*the same data available to all participants at the same time*” as the question states. My
26 testimony states: “*First, the data housed and shared by the data platform must, by design, make*
27 *sure that competing electric grid market participants have access to the same data at the same*

1 *time*". The statement is clear in its reference to competing electric grid market participants. For
2 example, electric distribution utilities and community power aggregators are effectively competing
3 electric grid market participants because a given electricity consumer can opt for electricity service
4 from one or the other.

5 To elaborate and clarify my testimony, the electric distribution utility, by virtue of its present
6 monopoly over distribution system assets and metering infrastructure, has access to data that other
7 competing electric grid market participants and specifically community power aggregators do not
8 have. Consequently, if the electric distribution utility, in this monopoly role, were to withhold
9 data and information then it could undermine competing electric grid market participants including
10 specifically community power aggregators from developing highly competitive electric rates and
11 services. Furthermore, it is important to note that the relevant customer here need not even be a
12 customer of the distribution utility. Rather, the customer could receive electricity service from a
13 community power aggregator. Such a situation could lead to the highly undesirable market
14 situation where the electricity distribution utility either inadvertently, knowingly, or intentionally
15 sabotages the community power aggregator's competitive service to its own customers by
16 withholding data information about the community power aggregators own customer for the
17 simple reason that the electric distribution utility has a present monopoly over distribution assets
18 and metering infrastructure. My testimony emphasizes that the data platform enables a level-
19 playing field for a retail electricity market.

20 **Request No. EU to LGC 1-077**

Witness & Respondent: Dr. Amro M. Farid

21 Page 153, line 7: Please explain why the department of the utility that controls the operation of
22 the platform must be isolated and provide any applicable legal requirements.

23 **RESPONSE:** My testimony states: "Second, the department of the utility that operates the data
24 platform itself must be isolated in their communication from the departments responsible for the
25 purchase and sale of electricity to grid stakeholders". Let Team A be the department of the utility
26 that operates the data platform itself. Let Team B be the department of the utility responsible for
27 the purchase and sale of electricity to grid stakeholders. Let Team C be a competing market
28 participant outside the utility. In order to further the for-profit mission of the utility, Team A and
29 Team B are incentivized to collaborate and facilitate each other's respective jobs. It is possible

1 and likely, for Team A to make data and information available to Team B without necessarily
2 making that same data information available to Team C. Consequently, Team B would have
3 disproportionate market power over Team C.

4 **Request No. EU to LGC 1-078**

Witness & Respondent: Dr. Amro M. Farid

5 Page 154, line 18: Is the API based platform proposed by the utilities substantially different
6 from the ISO example noted? If so, please elaborate.

7 **RESPONSE:** Yes. Allow me to highlight several obvious differences. First, each Independent
8 System Operator in the country is a non-for-profit entity tasked with ensuring an equitable
9 marketplace for wholesale electricity transactions. Although, they have access to system data
10 through SCADA systems, they are not transmission owners.

11 In the meantime, each of the distribution utilities is a for-profit entity and have no obligation to
12 provide a level-playing field for all competing electric grid market participants. Although, they
13 are distribution owners, they have yet to describe a solution that shares system data through their
14 SCADA systems.

15 Simply having an “API” is not enough to equate the two.

16 Even if the technical design were identical, and they are far from it, it would be entirely careless
17 to expect that a data platform would have a similar socio-technical market function if the entity
18 that designs and operates works under fundamentally different laws, regulations, and governance
19 structures.

20 **Request No. EU to LGC 1-079**

Witness & Respondent: Dr. Amro M. Farid

21 Page 155, line 20: RSA 378 specifically states that the data platform be certified by the Green
22 Button Alliance. Given your testimony that “this flow of data is not sufficient to achieve the
23 legislative objectives of RSA 378”, how do you propose we meet the obligation of Green Button
24 Certification for the platform?

25 **RESPONSE:** The question seemingly misconstrues my testimony. The question seems to suggest
26 that because my testimony states “this flow of data is not sufficient to achieve the legislative
27 objectives of RSA 378” then the testimony is somehow advocating that we dispose with the Green

1 Button Standard. This is categorically false. Please see my testimony in response to Q6.10 on
2 pages 162-163. It makes it clear that the data platform should adhere to the IEC standards
3 commonly referred to as the “Common Information Model (CIM)”. It states clearly: “The Green
4 Button Standard is simply a subset of the CIM”.

5 In short, and again, necessity is not equivalent to sufficiency. The Green Button Standard is
6 necessary but not sufficient, whereas the Common Information Model is the most sufficient
7 group of standards available today. Implementing the CIM in no way jeopardizes the
8 implementation of the Green Button Standard.

9 **Request No. EU to LGC 1-080** Witness & Respondent: Dr. Amro M. Farid

10 Page 156, line 17: Please provide your definition of “smart interval meters”.

11 **RESPONSE:** In the context of this testimony, we are using the term “smart interval meters” as a
12 layman equivalent for Advanced Metering Infrastructure or more commonly AMI.

13 **Request No. EU to LGC 1-081** Witness & Respondent: Dr. Amro M. Farid

14 Page 156, line 17: Please provide your definition of “market” and “financial data” with a list of
15 expected data fields.

16 **RESPONSE:** My testimony specifically states that although the term “market/financial data” is
17 not technically precise, nor does it have a well-accepted definition in the literature, it has been used
18 extensively in the docket’s technical sessions. Its use in testimony comes out of a desire to find
19 commonality of language. A more technical precision definition would refer to the data fields in
20 IEC 62325 (part of the Common Information Model). The interested reader is encouraged to read
21 this widely accepted standard for “market/financial data” fields. It is the responsibility of the
22 distribution utilities to design the data platform and select the specific fields from these standards
23 in accordance with the stakeholder requirements identified by this docket.

24 **Request No. EU to LGC 1-082** Witness & Respondent: Dr. Amro M. Farid

25 Page 156, line 18: Please provide a list of expected data fields for “system” data.

1 **RESPONSE:** My testimony specifically states that although the term “system data” is not
2 technically precise, nor does it have a well-accepted definition in the literature, it has been used
3 extensively in the docket’s technical sessions. Its use in testimony comes out of a desire to find
4 commonality of language. A more technical precision definition would refer to the data fields in
5 IEC 61970 and 61968 (part of the Common Information Model). The interested reader is
6 encouraged to read these widely accepted standards for “system data” fields. It is the responsibility
7 of the distribution utilities to design the data platform and select the specific fields from these
8 standards in accordance with the stakeholder requirements identified by this docket.

9 **Request No. EU to LGC 1-083**

Witness & Respondent: Dr. Amro M. Farid

10 Page 161, line 1: Is a circuit map the extent of system data being requested? If not, please
11 provide detail.

12 **RESPONSE:** The testimony on Page 161 Line 1 shows that system data is readily available in
13 neighboring states. To my knowledge, the distribution utilities have yet to commit to the same
14 here in NH.

15 To answer the question more specifically: No, a circuit map is not sufficient system data for the
16 simple reason that a circuit map is not sufficient system data to enable the community power
17 aggregation use cases that we have previously submitted as part of this docket. With regard to the
18 specific data fields necessary to implement these use cases, the LGC objects to this question as
19 overly broad as it effectively asks the witness to undertake additional analysis, develop new
20 information as part of the data request which is not an appropriate use of discovery. It is the
21 responsibility of the distribution utilities to design the data platform and select the specific fields
22 from established international standards in accordance with the stakeholder requirements
23 identified by this docket.

24 **Request No. EU to LGC 1-084**

Witness & Respondent: Dr. Amro M. Farid

25 Page 165, line 14: Does the estimated capitalized cost of the proposed third-party platforms
26 include integration with and mapping of the utility’s legacy data sources? How do these solutions
27 handle vendor and customer authorization workflows as defined by the Green Button Connect
28 My Data standards?

1 **RESPONSE:** Neither Attachment E nor F in my testimony mentions “integration with and
2 mapping of the utility’s legacy data sources”. Nor do they speak to “Green Button Connect My
3 Data Standards”. Consequently, the question is outside the scope of my testimony and I do not
4 wish to speculate. Rather my testimony does explicitly state: “*While this solution would have to*
5 *be matched to the functional requirements discussed above and likely customized to New*
6 *Hampshire’s needs, its current implementation as described in the attached slides is an excellent*
7 *starting point from which to discuss practical avenues*”. This remains my testimony.

8 Consequently, the question asks the witness to undertake additional analysis and develop new
9 information as part of the data request which is not an appropriate use of discovery.

10 **Request No. EU to LGC 1-085**

Witness & Respondent: Dr. Amro M. Farid

11 Page 165, lines 4-12: Please explain who would operate the systems referenced and act as the
12 data platform operator. Please explain how these systems would share data with other
13 stakeholders with specific reference to the Green Button Connect standard.

14 **RESPONSE:** RSA 378:52 states: “the utilities shall design and operate the energy data platform”.
15 This language leaves open the possibility for the distribution utilities to design, build and operate
16 the energy data platform themselves or outsource this technical activity to a vendor. The mention
17 of mPrest and Kevala in my testimony serves to suggest investigation of the latter possibility.

18 In reference to the part of the question pertaining to the Green Button Connect standard, please see
19 my response to data request # EU to LGC 1-084.

20 **Q. Does this conclude your rebuttal testimony?**

21 A. Yes, it does.