

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

<b>2020 Least Cost Integrated Resource Plan</b>	)	<b>DOCKET NO. DE 20-002</b>
	)	
<b>UNITIL ENERGY SYSTEMS, INC.</b>	)	
<b>Petitioner</b>	)	
	)	

**MOTION FOR CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT**

**AND PROTECTIVE ORDER**

Unitil Energy Systems, Inc. (“UES” or the “Company”) respectfully requests that the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission (the “Commission”) grant a protective order for certain confidential information contained in the Company’s “2020 Least Cost Integrated Resource Plan” (“LCIRP”), consistent with RSA 91-A:5(IV) and N.H. Admin. Rules, Puc 203.08. Specifically, UES requests that the Commission issue an order requiring confidential treatment for the Load Flow Diagrams contained in Appendices F (pages 148-224) and G (pages 281-339) of the LCIRP.

In support of this Motion, UES states as follows:

1. Unitil submits that the attachments described above should be protected from public disclosure because this information provides specific details concerning Unitil’s energy infrastructure, including the precise location of key facilities and detailed information as to how the Unitil distribution system is designed and configured, revealing sensitive or key components. Unitil also submits that it does not disclose this information to the public in the normal course of conducting its business and, further, that it takes steps within the Company to protect this information from unauthorized or accidental disclosure.

2. The electric distribution and transmission infrastructure information present in the described attachments are critical to the safe and reliable operation of the electric system in the Company's service territory and the safety of the public in general. The information should be treated in a confidential manner because, to the extent that disclosure of this information to the public facilitated the ability of individuals to damage the Company's utility infrastructure, and the Company's equipment was compromised through the intentional or negligent actions of those individuals, the Company's ability to provide safe and reliable electric service would be jeopardized. Moreover, public disclosure of this information would be contrary to the public interest and represent an undue risk to public safety. In this age of increased vigilance against potential acts of terrorism and sabotage, extreme care must be exercised to protect sensitive information regarding the location of critical electric distribution infrastructure from unnecessary public disclosure.

3. RSA 91-A:5(IV) expressly exempts from the public disclosure requirements of the Right-to-Know law, RSA 91-A, any records pertaining to "confidential, commercial or financial information." The Commission's rule on confidential treatment of public records, Puc 203.08, also recognizes that confidential, commercial or financial information may be appropriately protected from public disclosure pursuant to an order of the Commission.

4. UES's request for a protective order is not inconsistent with the public disclosure requirements of the Right-to-Know law, RSA 91-A. This statute generally provides open access to public records, but the Commission has recognized that the

determination whether to disclose confidential information involves a balancing of the public's interest in full disclosure with the countervailing commercial or private interests for non-disclosure.

5. Please note that due to the nature of this information, redacted versions of the Load Flow diagrams have not been prepared. Accordingly, the Company requests a waiver of Puc 201.04(b), which requires a redacted version for public release. Please also note that the Confidential versions of the Load Flow have not been highlighted in the manner required by Puc 201.04(c), as entirety of each diagram is Confidential, and any shading would interfere with the ability to read the diagrams. Accordingly, the Company requests a waiver of Puc 201.04(c), which requires that the confidential portion be highlighted.

WHEREFORE, UES respectfully requests that the Commission issue an order protecting the confidential information specified herein from public disclosure.

Respectfully submitted,

UNITIL ENERGY SYSTEMS, INC.  
By its Attorney,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary Epler", is written over a vertical line.

Gary Epler  
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Dated: April 3, 2020

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that on this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of April, 2020, I caused a copy of the within Motion to be sent via electronic mail to the counsel for the Commission Staff and the Office of Consumer Advocate.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary Epler", is written over a vertical line that extends from the signature down to a horizontal line below the name.

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Gary Epler