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April 29, 2020

Debra A. Howland
Executive Director
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, NH 03301-2429

RE: Docket No. DE 20-XXX

Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy—proposed tariff amendment to extend repayment term for energy efficiency loans

Dear Director Howland:

Consistent with RSA 378:3 and Puc 1605 relating to service or tariff changes other than a full rate case, Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (“Eversource” or “Company”) requests to amend the terms of its tariff relating to the maximum repayment term of energy efficiency loans through on-bill financing for residential customers enumerated in the Energy Efficiency Loan Program section on 1st Revised Page 96 of Eversource’s tariff NH PUC No. 9. Consistent with Puc 1605.02, included with this cover letter and summary are a technical statement and both redlined and clean tariff pages showing the proposed changes. As the requested amendment is an extension of time for repayment of loans, and not one that requires calculations in order to implement, such calculations and schedules do not accompany this petition for amendment. However, the total possible revenue impact of this 12-month repayment extension is de minimis, as there are currently just over 100 residential energy efficiency loans that would become eligible with a total outstanding balance of \$203,049.

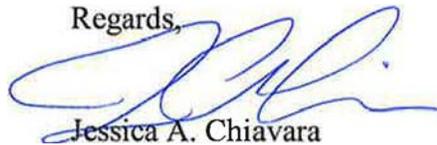
The economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic are widespread and continue to grow: the full effects have yet to manifest. All during this crisis, Eversource has been proactively strategizing to provide reliable, stable energy supply and service for all its customers in these uncertain times. This entails going beyond the measures of the March 17, 2020 Executive Order by Governor Sununu suspending disconnections and late charges for late or nonpayment of utility bills, and includes implementing further internal company-wide and state-specific policies that alleviate hardships customers encountering. One such measure is deferring or extending energy efficiency loan payments for Eversource customers.

Pursuant to the Company’s existing tariff, non-residential customers can have their loan repayment term extended, but residential customers are “subject to the maximum repayment term limit of 24 months”. Energy Efficiency Loan Program, 1st revised page 96, tariff NHPUC No. 9. Eversource respectfully requests that the Commission allow the tariff to be amended to extend that repayment period to a maximum of 36 months. Providing the Company with an additional 12 months so that it may work with its customers to restructure their payment plans

will ease what may amount to financial hardship for some customers. If payments are easier to make, it is likely fewer customers will accumulate arrearages for late or nonpayment that would otherwise perpetuate financial strain. As mentioned in the technical statement, Eversource has been working with the relevant departments to implement the internal processes necessary to extend these residential loans that range from \$500 to \$2,000. Amending the tariff as provided in this petition will allow for the Company to set these policies in motion and begin deferrals and extensions for the customers that need them. While the total dollar amount of the loans affected by the amendment will have a minimal revenue impact on the Company, if any, the difference a repayment deferral or extension will be profound for those customers facing an unaffordable loan payment due to a loss of income from COVID-19 pandemic circumstances.

Eversource proposes that the changes become effective on May 1, 2020 or at the earliest possible date the Commission is able to rule so that the Company may implement this change to accommodate the needs of its customers. Thank you for your consideration in this matter and please do not hesitate to contact me if there are any questions or further information is required. Please note that Eversource is on a remote work policy, and therefore my cell phone listed above, rather than my office line, is the number at which I may be contacted.

Regards,



Jessica A. Chiavara

Counsel, Eversource Energy

Attachments

CC: D. Maurice Kreis, Consumer Advocate, Office of the Consumer Advocate
Elizabeth Nixon, Utility Analyst, NHPUC
Paul Dexter, Staff Attorney, NHPUC
Katherine Peters, Manager Energy Efficiency Programs, Eversource Energy