

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

DE 20-092

ELECTRIC AND GAS UTILITIES

2021-2023 New Hampshire Statewide Energy Efficiency Plan

ORDER OF NOTICE

On September 1, 2020, Liberty Utilities (Granite State Electric) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities, New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc., Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy, and Unitil Energy Systems, Inc. (collectively, the Electric Utilities), together with Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities and Northern Utilities, Inc. (collectively, the Gas Utilities) jointly proposed a 2021-2023 Statewide Energy Efficiency Plan (the Plan), which includes energy efficiency programs and related rates, for approval by the Commission. The Plan and 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:

<https://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2020/20-092.html>.

Funding for the electric energy efficiency programs contained in the Plan is provided through a portion of the System Benefits Charge (SBC) paid by the Electric Utilities' customers and is supplemented by funds available through the Independent System Operator-New England's Forward Capacity Market and the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative. Funding for the natural gas energy efficiency programs proposed in the Plan is provided through a portion of the Local Distribution/Delivery Adjustment Clause (LDAC) paid by the Gas Utilities' customers. Any unspent funds from prior program years for both the Electric Utilities and Gas Utilities,

including interest, are carried forward to the following year's budget. The energy efficiency programs proposed in the Plan are designed to be consistently available to eligible customers across New Hampshire, subject to available budgets.

The Electric Utilities and Gas Utilities seek approval of the Plan in accordance with Order No. 25,932 (August 2, 2016) (approving establishment of an Energy Efficiency Resource Standard) and Order No. 26,323 (December 31, 2019) (approving 2020 Update Plan and establishing process for development and submission of 2021-2023 Plan). The Electric Utilities propose three annual changes to the SBC, for effect on January 1 of each year between 2021 and 2023. The Gas Utilities propose three annual changes to the LDAC, which is reviewed by the Commission in each utility's annual Cost of Gas filing, for effect on November 1 of each year between 2021 and 2023. The proposed SBC and LDAC changes are intended to recover projected energy efficiency program costs, performance incentive costs, and for certain utilities, lost base revenues.

The filing raises, inter alia, issues related to whether the proposed Plan programs offer benefits consistent with RSA 374-F:3, VI; whether the proposed Plan programs are reasonable, cost-effective, and in the public interest consistent with RSA 374-F:3, X; whether the proposed programs will properly utilize funds from the Energy Efficiency Fund as required by RSA 125-O:23; and whether, pursuant to RSA 374:2, the Electric Utilities' and Gas Utilities' proposed rates are just and reasonable and comply with Commission orders. Each party has the right to have an attorney represent the party at the party's own expense.

Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby

ORDERED, that, consistent with Governor Christopher T. Sununu's Emergency Order #12, the Commission will hold a web-enabled remote prehearing conference, pursuant to

N.H. Admin. R., Puc 203.15, on September 14, 2020 at 10:30 am, at which each party will provide a preliminary statement of its position with regard to the Plan, proposed rates, and any of the issues set forth in N.H. Admin. R., Puc 203.15. Members of the public who wish to access the prehearing conference may do so by clicking here: <https://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Calendar-Remote.html>. **If you have any difficulty obtaining access to this remote event, please notify the Commission by calling (603) 271-2431 as soon as possible.** Parties will be provided with additional instructions prior to the prehearing conference; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that, immediately following the prehearing conference, the Electric Utilities and Gas Utilities, the Staff of the Commission, and any intervenors shall hold a web-enabled remote technical session to review the Plan; and it is

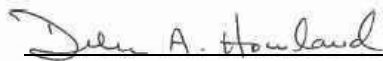
FURTHER ORDERED, that pursuant to N.H. Admin. R., Puc 203.12, the Electric Utilities and Gas Utilities shall notify all persons desiring to be heard at this hearing by publishing a copy of this order of notice on their websites no later than one business day after the date of issue. In addition, the Executive Director shall publish this order of notice on the Commission's website no later than one business day after the date of issue; 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 file with the Commission a petition to intervene with copies sent to the Electric Utilities and Gas Utilities and the Office of the Consumer Advocate on or before September 9, 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. Pursuant to the secretarial letter issued on March 17, 2020, which is posted on the Commission's website at <https://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Secretarial%20Letters/20200317-SecLtr-Temp-Changes-in->

[Filing-Requirements.pdf](#), any party seeking to intervene may elect to submit this filing in electronic form; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that any party objecting to a petition to intervene make said objection on or before September 14, 2020.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this eighth day of September, 2020.



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.

Service List - Docket Related

Docket#: 20-092

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