

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

DE 20-170

ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION UTILITIES

Electric Vehicle Time of Use Rates

Procedural Order Re: Requests for Hybrid Hearings, Motion to Amend Procedural Schedule, and Motion to Establish Witness Schedule

The Commission issued a procedural order on October 15, 2021 scheduling in person hearings in the above-captioned matter on January 10, 19-20, and 25-26, 2022. It also issued a supplemental order of notice and revised hearing guidelines permitting the parties to request these hearings to be conducted using a hybrid format for a good reason, “such as a health reason or to save the cost of witness travel.”

On December 20, 2021, Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (Eversource) filed a request for a hybrid hearing format to save out-of-state witness travel costs and due to concern about interstate travel given rising COVID-19 cases. Conservation Law Foundation (CLF) and Clean Energy New Hampshire (CENH) filed a joint motion on December 23, 2021 to request a hybrid hearing format and to establish a witness schedule to be filed at least two business days before a hearing date. CLF and CENH requested a hybrid hearing to avoid travel expenses for a witness from Minnesota and stated that a witness schedule would further reduce witness expenses and promote administrative efficiency by estimating the dates and times that the parties’ witnesses are expected to testify.

On December 27, 2021, the New Hampshire Department of Energy (Energy) filed a motion to amend procedural schedule with a request for hybrid hearings. In its motion, Energy requested the Commission to cancel the hearing scheduled on January 10, 2022 to

allow the parties additional time for settlement negotiations. It represented that all parties assented to this request. Energy requested that the remaining hearings be held in a hybrid format to reduce travel costs for out-of-state witnesses.

Energy's assented-to request to cancel the January 10, 2022 hearing has been GRANTED. In addition, the January 26, 2022 hearing has been moved to Friday, January 28, 2022, as a result of a scheduling conflict. The hearings in this matter will now be held on January 19-20, 25, and 28, 2022, starting at 9:00 a.m.

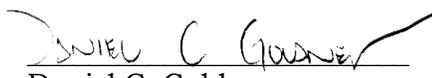
No objections to the requests for hybrid hearings were filed, and good reasons for a hybrid hearing format have been provided. To the extent that New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules, Puc 203.07(e) provides 10 days for objections, it is hereby waived. Therefore, a hybrid hearing format will be used for the January 19-20, 25, and 28, 2022 hearings. Those who wish to participate in or observe the hearings remotely via the web may obtain access through the Commission's hearing calendar at <https://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Calendar-Remote.html>. When hybrid hearings are held, remote participation is not limited to the requestors; all participants are welcome to participate remotely. However, consistent with the hearing guidelines previously issued in this docket,¹ it is requested that other participants advise the Commission in advance as to whether they intend to participate remotely or in person.

No objection has been filed to CLF and CENH's request that they be permitted to develop, in conjunction with other parties, a witness schedule for each hearing date. To the extent that New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules, Puc 203.07(e) provides 10 days for objections, it is hereby waived, and CLF and CENH's motion to establish a witness schedule is GRANTED. The parties shall work toward developing a

¹ See https://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2020/20-170/LETTERS-MEMOS-TARIFFS/20-170_2021-10-15_NHPUC_EVID-HRG-GUIDELINES.PDF.

witness schedule for each hearing date, which should be filed with the Commission at least two business days prior to the hearing date. Any witness schedules filed with the Commission will not be binding upon the parties but will provide a general estimate only.

So ordered, this thirtieth day of December, 2021.


Daniel C. Goldner
Presiding Officer
Chairman

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