

Public Service of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy
Docket No. DE 21-020

Date Request Received: 04/12/2021

Date of Response: 05/03/2021

Request No. NECTA 1-026

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Request from: New England Cable and Telecommunications

Witness: Douglas P. Horton, Erica L. Menard

Request:

Please confirm that once Eversource owns the poles that were jointly owned by Eversource and Consolidated, Eversource will continue to charge the same rates that Eversource and Consolidated charged NECTA's members for their attachments to the jointly owned poles prior to the transfer of ownership.

Response:

As it relates to the rates Consolidated charges its attachers, as described at Bates 47, the pole attachment agreements currently in effect between Consolidated and its attachers will transfer to Eversource upon closing of the transaction. The agreements include the rates Consolidated currently charges to its attachers and describe the process for changing them. As a result, assuming the transaction under review in this docket is approved and closed, Eversource will continue to charge Consolidated attachers the same rates they pay to Consolidated today, and will do so until such time as Eversource initiates a change in the rates in the future.

As it relates to the rates Eversource charges its attachers, the Eversource attachment rates adjust annually based on inputs from its annual FERC Form No. 1. Generally speaking, the accounting information recorded in one year is reflected in the attachment rates two years later. For example, accounting records for calendar year 2021, reported on the Company's FERC Form No. 1 report in 2022, will serve as the basis for the attachment rates that will go into effect January 1, 2023.

It is Eversource's plan and expectation that it will consolidate the rate and billing for attachments in the future. Until such time that the rates are consolidated, third party pole attachers will continue to receive two bills for their attachments on previously joint-owned poles – one for attachments on poles previously owned by Consolidated and another for attachments on poles owned by Eversource prior to the transaction.