



March 14, 2022

By Electronic Mail Only

Clerk's Office
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, NH 03301-2429

**Re: Docket No. DG 21-104, Northern Utilities, Inc., Request for Change in Rates
Request for Hybrid Hearing Format**

To the Commission Clerk:

In accordance with the Commission's hearing guidelines issued for this docket on October 22, 2021, Northern Utilities, Inc. (the "Company") respectfully requests accommodations for a hybrid format to be offered for the March 28, 2022 hearing in the above-referenced matter. The hearing is scheduled to begin at 9 a.m. on that day.

The Company requests a hybrid hearing due to concerns about the cost of travel by the Company's external consultants, all of whom live out of state. As the hearing is a "mid-period" event intended for the Commission to ask questions and receive an update on the status of the proceeding, the Company understands that its consultants should be available, but also believes that the nature of the hearing likely does not justify the travel and, potentially, lodging costs of bringing outside consultants to the hearing in person. A hybrid hearing will allow for the participation of the Company's expert witnesses while reducing the cost of travel for such witnesses.

Furthermore, Company witness Christopher LeBlanc will be in Ohio for a conference the week of March 28. He is available to participate in the hearing remotely. Certain Company witnesses may also wish to participate remotely due to continuing health concerns in connection with the Covid-19 pandemic.

Patrick H. Taylor
Chief Regulatory Counsel
taylorp@unitil.com

6 Liberty Lane West
Hampton, NH 03842

This request is consistent with similar requests recently granted by the Commission. *See, e.g., Unifil Energy Systems, Inc.*, DE 21-030, Procedural Order Re: Motion to Appoint Special Commissioners and Request for Hybrid Hearing (January 21, 2022); *Electric Distribution Utilities*, DE 20-170, Procedural Order Re: Requests for Hybrid Hearings, Motion to Amend Procedural Schedule, and Motion to Establish Witness Schedule (Dec. 30, 2021).

In accordance with the Secretarial Letter issued on March 17, 2020, the Company is filing this request only electronically and paper copies will not follow.

If you have any questions, please contact me. Thank you for your assistance with this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Patrick H. Taylor', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Patrick H. Taylor

CC: Service List