

**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
BEFORE THE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

DE 23-002

UNITIL ENERGY SYSTEMS, INC.

ASSENTED-TO MOTION TO AMEND PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

Unitil Energy Systems, Inc. (“Unitil” or the “Company”) hereby respectfully moves the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission (the “Commission”), pursuant to Puc 203.07, to amend the existing procedural schedule in DE 23-002, to extend the date for filing a Settlement Agreement to September 6, 2023 and move the date for a hearing on the Settlement Agreement to September 20, 2023 (following the hearing scheduled to review Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy’s proposed Purchase of Receivables Program).

The parties to the above-captioned docket have engaged in multiple, productive days of settlement discussions and continue to do so. The requested extension will enable the parties to continue these discussions and continue to move towards a final Settlement Agreement. Unitil has contacted all parties to this matter and can represent that the New Hampshire Department of Energy (the “Department”), the Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire (“CPCNH”), and Direct Energy Services, LLC, Direct Energy Business, LLC, Direct Energy Business Marketing, LLC, Reliant Energy Northeast LLC, and XOOM Energy New Hampshire, LLC (together, the “NRG Retail Companies” and collectively with Unitil, the Department, and CPCNH, the “Parties”) all assent to the relief requested in this motion.

In support of this motion, Unitil states:

1. On July 12, 2023, the Parties filed a joint motion to stay the proceedings in this docket pending further settlement discussions. The Commission granted the motion to stay in a July 13, 2023, procedural order, and requested that the Parties file a revised procedural schedule by August 16, 2023. In the July 13, 2023, procedural order, the Commission also granted the Parties' request to cancel the July 25, 2023, hearing date and retain the September 12, 2023, hearing date. The Commission requested that the Parties' revised procedural schedule set a new settlement filing deadline no later than ten business days before the final hearing.

2. On August 16, 2023, the Parties filed a revised procedural schedule with the following dates: Last Day to File Settlement of Monday, August 28, 2023; and Hearing on Tuesday, September 12, 2023.

3. On August 18, 2023, the Commission issued a procedural order approving the Parties' revised procedural schedule.

4. The Parties have exchanged several drafts of a Settlement Agreement and productive settlement discussions took place on June 15, 2023, July 12, 2023, July 18, 2023, July 26, 2023, August 2, 2023, and August 25, 2023.¹ The Parties have made considerable progress on the Settlement Agreement and intend to continue work to finalize the draft this week.

5. Due to the significant amount of time devoted to settlement discussions thus far, and the need for additional time to finalize the Settlement Agreement, Unitil requests amendments to the procedural schedule to extend the time to file the Settlement Agreement and to hold the hearing on the Settlement Agreement. This extension will allow the Parties to

¹ The settlement discussions held on July 18, July 26, and August 2 included representatives of Liberty Utilities (Granite State Electric) Corp. d/b/a Liberty and Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy. The purpose of those joint settlement discussions was to achieve consistency, where possible, among the POR programs to be implemented by the three electric distribution companies.

continue to devote time and resources to discussing a settled resolution of this case, and will allow the Commission ten business days to review the Settlement Agreement, consistent with the July 13, 2023, procedural order.

6. In light of these ongoing settlement discussions, the Company requests that the Commission amend the following dates within the remaining procedural schedule:

	Existing Schedule	Amended Schedule
Last Day to File Settlement	August 28, 2023	September 6, 2023
Hearing	September 12, 2023	September 20, 2023

7. Amending the schedule in the manner requested is in the public interest because it will ensure that the Parties have adequate time to continue and complete settlement discussions.

8. As noted above, Unitil discussed this motion with all Parties to this matter, and can represent that all Parties provided assent to the motion.

9. The Company requests that the Commission grant this request on an expedited basis.

WHEREFORE, Unitil respectfully requests that the Commission:

A. Amend the existing procedural schedule in the instant proceeding, on an expedited basis, to alter the date for filing a Settlement Agreement from August 28, 2023 to September 6, 2023, and alter the date for the hearing from September 12, 2023 to September 20, 2023; and

B. Grant such further relief as may be just and appropriate.

Respectfully submitted

UNITIL ENERGY SYSTEMS, INC.

By its Attorney:



Matthew C. Campbell
Senior Counsel
Unitil Service Corp.
6 Liberty Lane West
Hampton, NH 03842-1720
Telephone: 603-773-6543
E-mail: campbellm@unitil.com

Dated: August 28, 2023

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that on August 28, 2023, a copy of the foregoing Motion was electronically served upon the Service List.



Matthew C. Campbell