STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE before the PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy

2023 Regulatory Reconciliation Adjustment Mechanism Rate

Docket No. DE 23-____

PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE D/B/A EVERSOURCE ENERGY'S PETITION FOR APPROVAL OF CHANGE IN REGULATORY RECONCILIATION ADJUSTMENT MECHANISM RATE

Pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rule Puc 202.01 and Puc 203.06, Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy ("Eversource" or the "Company") petitions the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission (the "Commission") to establish a revised Regulatory Reconciliation Adjustment Mechanism ("RRA") rate for effect on August 1, 2023. In support of this Petition, Eversource states as follows:

- 1. On December 15, 2020, the Commission issued Order No. 25,433 approving a comprehensive settlement (the "Settlement") in Docket DE 19-057. The Settlement was entered into by all parties to the docket to establish permanent rates for the Company effective for service rendered on and after January 1, 2021.
- 2. The Settlement established the RRA as a means for the Company to request recovery or refund of a limited set of costs identified specifically in the Settlement. The RRA is a component of the Company's distribution rate and, pursuant to the Settlement, is adjusted annually to account for any over- or under-recoveries occurring in prior years(s). Under the terms of the Settlement, the identified classes of costs included in the RRA are:

 (1) regulatory Commission annual assessments and consultants hired or retained by the

Commission and Office of Consumer Advocate; (2) calendar year over- or undercollections from the Company's Vegetation Management Program ("VMP"); (3) property tax expenses, as compared to the amount in base rates; (4) lost-base distribution revenues associated with net metering; and (5) storm cost amortization final reconciliation and annual reconciliation.

- 3. As described in Section 9.3 of the Settlement, by March 1 of each year the Company is required to submit a filing containing reports on the Company's reliability statistics and vegetation management activities, and request that the Commission open a new docket to consider the filing and other RRA issues. Thereafter, on or by May 1 of each year, the Company is required to update its RRA filing with information pertaining to all other components of the RRA filing, along with supporting testimony and exhibits for rates effective August 1 of that year.
- 4. By this Petition, Eversource is providing the required reports on its reliability statistics and vegetation management activities consistent with the terms of the Settlement. Included with this Petition are the testimony and supporting information of Russel D. Johnson, Director-Distribution Engineering, Elli Ntakou, Manager of System Resilience and Reliability Planning, and Robert D. Allen, Manager of Vegetation Management, providing the relevant information and explanations of the Company's reliability performance and VMP activities in calendar year 2022.
- 5. The remaining components of the RRA shall be filed on or by May 1, 2023 consistent with the Section 9.3 of the Settlement. Eversource requests that the Commission undertake its review of the Company's filing on a schedule that will allow for adjusted rates to be

effective as of August 1 as provided in the Settlement, including a hearing on the merits no later than June 30, 2023. A hearing no later than June 30, 2023 would allow sufficient time for the Commission to issue an order and for the Company to implement the proposed rate change by August 1, 2023.

WHEREFORE, Eversource's respectfully requests that the Commission:

A. Open a docket to review and approve Eversource's proposed RRA rate change;

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- B. Commence any required review of the components of the RRA to ensure approval for rates effective August 1, 2023; and
- C. Grant such further relief as is just and equitable.

Respectfully submitted,

Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy By Its Attorneys,

Dated: March 1, 2023

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Certificate of Service

I certify that on March 1, 2023, a copy of this petition has been electronically forwarded to the Service List in DE 22-010.

Jessica Buno Ralston