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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10
Concord, N.H. 03301-2429

July 23, 2023

Daniel C. Goldner, Chairman
Public Utilities Commission
21 S. Fruit Street
Concord, NH 03301-2429

Re: DE 23-051 Public Service Company d/b/a Eversource Energy, Petition for Recovery of [certain 2022] Storm Expenses, *Department's Request to Enlarge its Filing Deadline from July 17, 2023 to October 2, 2023.*

Dear Chair Goldner:

The New Hampshire Department of Energy ("the Department" or "DOE") respectfully requests that the Commission permit the Department to enlarge the Department's proposed deadline for filing a *Technical Statement* or *Report and Recommendation* from Monday July 17, 2023 to Monday October 2, 2023. See Commission Procedural Order (May 23, 2023). The Department further proposes that the utility's related deadline of Tuesday August 1, 2023 be moved to Tuesday October 17, 2023.

The Department seeks this enlargement of time due to the press of other business, which could not otherwise be assigned, and which impacts rates more immediately and directly than does the recovery of storm-related expenses at issue in this docket. As stated in Eversource's Petition "Eversource does not seek any adjustment to rates to account for the costs incurred related to the Major Storm and Prestaging events." See Petition at page 3.

The Department's request for this enlargement of time is consistent with the Commission's Procedural Order (May 23, 2023) and with Commission requirements. See N.H. Code of Admin. Rules Puc 202.04. Circumstances "would cause undue hardship or inconvenience unless the request is granted" because without the Department's *Technical Statement* or *Report and Recommendation*, the Commission would not be fully informed prior to ruling on the Company's request. In the opinion of the Department, the enlargement of time would not unduly delay the proceeding or adversely affect the rights of any party. See *id.*

The Department has sought consent of the other parties to this docket. By and through counsel, Eversource does not object to the relief requested, and agrees with what will be its "enlarged" October 17, 2023 filing deadline. See Commission Procedural Order (May 23, 2023). As of this filing, the Office of the Consumer Advocate (OCA) has not taken a position on the relief requested.

Consistent with the Commission's current practice, this letter is being filed in electronic format.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ *Mary E. Schwarzer*

Mary.E. Schwarzer
Staff Attorney/Hearings Examiner
Department of Energy

Cc: Service List