

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

DE 23-077

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE d/b/a
EVERSOURCE ENERGY**

Petition for Approval of Application of Rate B Special Provision for Velcro USA

Order Approving Petition

ORDER NO. 26,974

March 18, 2024

In this order, the Commission approves the activation of a special provision of Eversource's Tariff for Velcro USA, Inc. (Velcro USA). This special provision accommodates modified billing parameters, as reflected in the Tariff narrative, to incorporate Velcro USA's energy efficiency measures and engine controls at its premises.

I. BACKGROUND AND POSITIONS

On August 23, 2023, Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (Eversource or the Company) filed a petition (Petition) to apply the Special Provision Clauses in the current Rate B portion of the Eversource delivery Tariff to Eversource customer Velcro USA, consistent with the requirements of the Special Provision clauses. Included in the Company's Petition were an affidavit supporting the application of the Special Provision clauses, filed by Mr. Edward A. Davis (Director of Rates at Eversource Energy Service Company, Eversource's service-company affiliate), and a narrative of the Special Provision as applied to Velcro USA. The Petition was filed by Eversource pursuant to the terms of Eversource's Delivery Tariff NHPUC No. 10, Original Page 73, and N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.06.

On September 12, 2023, the Commission issued a procedural order requesting that the New Hampshire Department of Energy (DOE) file its analysis and recommendation regarding Eversource's Petition on or before October 20, 2023. The DOE responded to this request by filing, on October 20, 2023, the Technical Statement of Mr. Mark P. Toscano, Utility Analyst at the DOE (Toscano Statement). The Toscano Statement explained that "DOE was engaged with Velcro [USA], their consultant, and Eversource over the course of several months in early 2022. The engagement consisted of several meetings and substantial e-mail correspondence regarding Velcro's electric loads, metering readings, billing determinants, billing calculations, Eversource tariffs, Velcro's electric bills, and other related information. The DOE staff reviewed and evaluated the information provided and concluded that there were issues that needed to be addressed related to Eversource's application of metering data and the billing determinants for Velcro. Eversource agreed and revisited its tariff and metering, while continuing to work with Velcro...In July 202[3], [sic] Eversource provided DOE with preliminary documents regarding methodology, calculations, and suggested changes for Velcro's electric service provisions. DOE reviewed and evaluated the documentation and determined it appropriately addressed the issues identified. Eversource continued to develop mutually acceptable terms and methodology for Velcro's electric service." Toscano Statement at Pages 2-3.

The Toscano Statement concluded, "On August 22, 2023, Eversource filed the Petition for approval of application of the Rate B Special Provision for Velcro USA and Attachments. The DOE staff reviewed these filings and determined them to be consistent with previous discussions and recommendations. Further, the DOE staff agree the Special Provisions in Rate B of Eversource's tariff allow Eversource to create tailored provisions 'as may be necessary to reflect the specific circumstances of such

Customer, the operating characteristics of Customer's generating equipment or any other particular facts, without limitation, which are necessary, in the Company's sole judgement and subject to Commission approval, to give effect to the purpose and intent of this rate.' ...The DOE recommends the Commission approve Eversource's Petition for approval of application of the Rate B Special Provision for Velcro USA." Toscano Statement at Pages 2-3.

On January 8, 2024, the Commission, *sua sponte*, issued three Record Requests in this docket, seeking data and analysis referenced in the Toscano Statement and the Petition. The Company provided responses to these Commission inquiries on January 18, 2024.

Mr. Davis's Affidavit filed on behalf of the Company provided the following explanations to describe the purpose of the modifications sought through the Petition. Velcro USA is an Eversource Rate B customer and brought to the Company's attention that it had completed various energy efficiency and engine control upgrades which modified the operating characteristics of its generator and manufacturing facilities at Velcro USA's Manchester location. Upon receiving this information from Velcro USA, Mr. Davis undertook extensive analysis of Velcro's supplemental and backup energy storage and demand compared with its operations and billings, and determined that Eversource utilizing the Special Provisions clause of Rate B was warranted to adjust Velcro USA's billing to reflect its operations more precisely by capturing greater granularity of Velcro USA's operating characteristics. Mr. Davis further stated that that he designed additional billing determinants, based on the Velcro USA's generator operating characteristics and service requirements, that when applied, would reflect charges more closely aligned to Velcro USA's operations and backup and supplemental energy demand needs. Mr. Davis noted that these additional determinants would not

necessarily result in lower or higher electric bills for Velcro USA (sometimes, bills will be higher; sometimes, bills will be lower), but rather, these changes would allow for more reflective billings in accordance with Rate B based on Velcro USA's actual energy and demand in a given period.

No further comments regarding the Petition were received by the Commission. Interested persons may review further technical details regarding Eversource's Petition in the Toscano Statement, the Company's Record Request Responses, and in the Petition itself within this docket. The Petition and subsequent filings, other than any information for which confidential treatment is requested of or granted by the Commission, are posted on the Commission's website at <https://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2023/23-077.html>


II. COMMISSION ANALYSIS

Having reviewed the Petition, the DOE/Toscano Statement, and the Record Request responses in this proceeding, and the language of Eversource's Delivery Tariff NHPUC No. 10, Original Page 73, that pertaining to Rate B special provisions, which has been outlined above, we find that the Company's proposed modifications are appropriate for the operational circumstances for Velcro USA, and will produce just and reasonable rates. We therefore APPROVE the Eversource Petition presenting these changes.

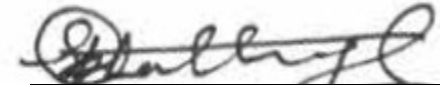
Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby

ORDERED, that Eversource's Petition relating to its implementation of Rate B Tariff provisions for Velcro USA, Inc. is APPROVED.


By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this eighteenth day of March, 2024.



Daniel C. Goldner
Chairman



Pradip K. Chattopadhyay
Commissioner



Carleton B. Simpson
Commissioner

Service List - Docket Related

Docket#: 23-077

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Email Addresses

ClerksOffice@puc.nh.gov
jessica.chiavara@eversource.com
edward.davis@eversource.com
Energy-Litigation@energy.nh.gov
paul.b.dexter@energy.nh.gov
sandra.gagnon@eversource.com
nhregulatory@eversource.com
elizabeth.r.nixon@energy.nh.gov
amanda.o.noonan@energy.nh.gov
ocalitigation@oca.nh.gov
mark.p.toscano@energy.nh.gov