

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

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

**Docket No. DE 23-091**

**Petition For Adjustment of Stranded Cost Recovery Charge  
for Effect on February 1, 2024**

Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (“Eversource” or “the Company”) hereby petitions the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) to adjust its Stranded Cost Recovery Charge (“SCRC”) for effect on February 1, 2024, pursuant to Puc 202.01(a) and Puc 203.06, and also pursuant to the requirements of RSA 374-F:3 and RSA 369-B:3, the Agreement to Settle PSNH Restructuring (Revised and Conformed) in Docket No. DE 99-099 (“Restructuring Settlement”), the 2015 Public Service Company of New Hampshire Restructuring and Rate Stabilization Agreement in Docket No. DE 14-238 (the “2015 Agreement”), and Order No. 26,099 (January 30, 2018) in Docket No. DE 17-096. Consistent with Order No. 26,658 (July 28, 2022) and Order No. 26,768 (January 30, 2023), the SCRC is now adjusted on an annual basis, effective as of February 1 each year. In support of this Petition, Eversource states the following:

1. The SCRC was established under the Restructuring Settlement and originally capped at an average of 3.40 cents per kilowatt hour (“kWh”). Once the Part 3 Stranded Costs were fully collected, the Restructuring Settlement provided that the SCRC would be set on a forecasted basis every six months and would include any over- or under-recovery of Part 1 and Part 2 stranded costs from the previous period.
2. In Order No. 24,641 (June 30, 2006), the Commission approved the reduction of the SCRC rate beginning July 1, 2006 to reflect the complete recovery of Part 3 Stranded Costs. The Part 1 costs were fully amortized in 2013 and the final disposition of the funds relating to the Part 1 costs

was the subject of Order No. 25,815 (September 18, 2015), which order, among other things, permitted the Company to recoup certain of those funds. When the recoupment was completed in 2016, these initial Part 1 costs were completely recovered.

3. Consistent with the 2015 Agreement, which was approved by the Commission along with a related litigation settlement in Order No. 25,920 (July 1, 2016), Eversource transitioned to procuring and providing Energy Service (“ES”) for customers on a competitive basis, rather than through its traditional method, and a settlement agreement relating to competitive procurement was approved by Order No. 26,092 (December 29, 2017) in Docket No. DE 17-113. In relevant part, that settlement provided that Eversource would adjust its SCRC on February 1 and August 1 of each year coincident with the changes to the ES, following an initial adjustment on April 1, 2018.

4. On February 16, 2018, in Docket No. DE 18-023, Eversource submitted a petition and supporting documentation to adjust its SCRC consistent with the settlement approved in Order No. 26,092. Consistent with the 2015 Agreement, the SCRC proposed in that filing contained elements that either had not been included in the SCRC to that point, or that were similar to elements that had previously been included, in particular: costs and market revenues associated with existing Independent Power Producers and the Burgess and Lempster Power Purchase Agreements; as well as estimated class-specific Rate Reduction Bond charges associated with the then-pending securitization of stranded costs. That petition was approved by the Commission in Order No. 26,116 (March 29, 2018). Thereafter, Eversource has submitted information to update the SCRC to include additional elements to reflect the completion of securitization and other changes.

5. Additionally, on January 31, 2020, the Commission issued Order No. 26,331 in Docket No. DE 19-142, approving an agreement to adjust the power purchase agreement (“PPA”) between Eversource and Burgess BioPower to implement the terms of 2018 N.H. Laws, Chapter 340, “AN ACT requiring the public utilities commission to revise its order affecting the Burgess BioPower plant in Berlin, ....” As part of that adjustment, and as described in the attached testimony of Company witness Yi-An Chen and Edward A. Davis, the forecasted over-cap costs as defined in the PPA should be recovered in current rates rather than waiting until the end of the operating year. Recovery of those costs is accomplished through the “Chapter 340 Adder” in the SCRC.

6. On December 15, 2020, the Commission issued Order No. 26,433 in Docket No. DE 19-057, approving a settlement agreement relating to Eversource’s base distribution rates. As part of that settlement, certain environmental remediation costs were removed from Eversource’s distribution rates and included within the SCRC. Those costs are included within this filing. Also on December 15, 2020, Eversource filed a settlement agreement in Docket No. DE 20-136 pertaining to the recovery mechanism and rate treatment of various net metering costs. Pursuant to that settlement, which the Commission approved by Order No. 26,450 (January 29, 2021), Eversource includes certain net metering and group host costs for recovery within the SCRC.

7. The SCRC is now adjusted on an annual basis effective on February 1 of each year, rather than semi-annually, as approved by the Commission in Order No. 26,658 (July 28, 2022) and Order No. 26,768 (January 30, 2023).

8. The pre-filed testimony and attachments provided with this Petition support a change in the SCRC rates applicable to the Company’s various rate classes. The increase to the SCRC rates as included in this preliminary filing, as compared to those in effect as of February 1, 2023, is attributable primarily to an increase in certain Rate Adders based on the recent impact of

volatility in energy market prices versus what was originally forecast with respect to the Chapter 340 and Net Metering Adders, resulting in projected higher under-recovery balances as of the current rate year end on January 31, 2024, which increase is partially offset by the projected net decrease in Part 1 and Part stranded costs.

The attachments and exhibits in support of this Petition contain Eversource’s current estimates of the SCRC rates for the Company’s customer classes for effect on February 1, 2024. The preliminary February 1, 2024 average SCRC rates for Part 1 and Part 2 only, and excluding the Ch. 340, RGGI refund, environmental remediation, and net metering adder amounts, provided in this filing are as follows:

<b>Rate Class</b>	<b>Current Rate (cents per kWh)</b>	<b>Preliminary Rate (cents per kWh)</b>	<b>Change (cents per kWh)</b>
Rate R	0.718	0.376	(0.342)
Rate G	0.734	0.368	(0.366)
Rate GV	0.606	0.314	(0.292)
Rate LG	0.228	0.110	(0.118)
Rate OL/EOL	1.024	0.519	(0.505)

The preliminary February 1, 2024 SCRC rate adders provided in this filing are provided below:

<b>Rate Adder</b>	<b>Current Rate (cents per kWh)</b>	<b>Preliminary Rate (cents per kWh)</b>	<b>Change (cents per kWh)</b>
RGGI Refund	(0.362)	(0.331)	0.031
Ch. 340	(0.129)	0.480	0.609
Environmental Remediation	0.046	0.065	0.019
Net Metering	0.414	0.701	0.287
Total Adders	(0.031)	0.915	0.946

The total preliminary February 1, 2024 SCRC rates (including adders) by rate class provided in this filing are provided below:

<b>Rate Class</b>	<b>Current Rate (cents per kWh)<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Preliminary Rate (cents per kWh)</b>	<b>Change (cents per kWh)</b>
Rate R	0.687	1.291	0.604
Rate G	0.703	1.283	0.580
Rate GV	0.575	1.229	0.654
Rate LG	0.197	1.025	0.828
Rate OL/EOL	0.993	1.434	0.441

As stated in the joint testimony of Ms. Chen and Mr. Davis, Eversource is not proposing specific SCRC rates and separate adders at this time, but will update its estimates with current data prior to a hearing on the merits for purposes of Commission approval.

9. As explained in Ms. Chen’s and Mr. Davis’s testimony, the Company is proposing annual adjustments to all components of the SCRC for effect February 1, 2024, while also retaining the ability for interim adjustments to the Rate Reduction Bond charges, as needed, consistent with Order No. 26,658 (July 28, 2022) and Order No. 26,768 (January 30, 2023), and as reflected in the language of the applicable tariff provisions which are set forth in Attachment YC/EAD-19.

WHEREFORE, Eversource respectfully requests that the Commission set a procedural schedule for this matter, with a hearing scheduled to allow sufficient time for expeditious approval no later than January 25, 2024, so rates may become effective February 1, 2024, and order such further relief as may be just and equitable.

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<sup>1</sup> Rates approved in Docket No. DE 22-039 by Order No. 26,768 (January 30, 2023).

Respectfully submitted,

PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
D/B/A EVERSOURCE ENERGY

By: /s/ **David K. Wiesner**

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Dated: December 15, 2023

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that, on December 15, 2023, I caused the attached to be served pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rule Puc 203.11.

*/s/ David K. Wiesner*

David K. Wiesner