

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
BEFORE THE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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

2024 Regulatory Reconciliation Adjustment Mechanism Rate

Docket No. DE 24- _____

PETITION FOR APPROVAL OF CHANGE IN
REGULATORY RECONCILIATION ADJUSTMENT 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 (“RRA”) rate for effect on August 1, 2024. 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 agreement (the “Settlement”) in Docket No. DE 19-057. The Settlement was entered into by all parties in that 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 year(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 under-

collections 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; (5) storm cost amortization final reconciliation and annual reconciliation; and (6) DE 19-057 rate case expense amortization recovery over a five year period beginning August 1, 2022. *See* Order No. 26,634 at 7 (May 27, 2022).

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 on August 1st 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 joint testimony and supporting information of Robert D. Allen, Manager of Coordination, Strategy, and Innovation for Vegetation Management, Ian J. Farley, Supervisor of Vegetation Management, Elli Ntakou, Manager of System Resilience and Reliability Planning, and Adam V. Mierzwa, Director of Distribution Engineering, providing relevant information and explanations regarding the Company's VMP activities and reliability performance in calendar year 2023.
5. The remaining components of the RRA will be filed on or before May 1, 2024, consistent with 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 1st, as provided in the Settlement, including a hearing on the merits no later than June 30, 2024. A hearing no later than June 30, 2024 would allow sufficient time for the Commission to issue an order and for the Company to implement the proposed rate change by August 1, 2024.

WHEREFORE, Eversource respectfully requests that the Commission:

- A. Open a docket to review and approve Eversource's proposed RRA rate change;
- B. Commence any required review of the components of the RRA to ensure approval for rates effective on August 1, 2024; and
- C. Grant such further relief as is just and equitable.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Dated: March 1, 2024

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