

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

DE 24-073

OFFICE OF THE CONSUMER ADVOCATE

Show Cause Proceeding¹

Procedural Order Re: Post-Hearing Briefing

On August 27, 2024, the Commission held a prehearing conference in this matter pursuant to New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules, Puc 203.15, which was attended by Liberty Utilities (Granite State Electric) (Liberty or the Company), the Department of Energy (DOE) and the Office of the Consumer Advocate (OCA).

At the commencement of the prehearing conference the parties presented preliminary positions. The parties agreed with the Commission's proposal to convert the proceeding to a show case docket verses an investigatory docket. The parties also agreed that the preliminary legal issue to be resolved is as follows:

- Whether the Company is in contempt of the terms of the settlement agreement as contained in docket DE 19-064, Order No. 26, 376 (June 30, 2020), by allegedly failing to fulfil its requirements for vegetation management as contained in the settlement.

The parties requested eight weeks to provide initial legal briefs on the above question.

The Commission agrees to the 8-week deadline to file initial briefing on the above question. The Commission requests the parties also answer the following question in their initial brief:

- If the Company is found to be in contempt, what is the appropriate remedy?

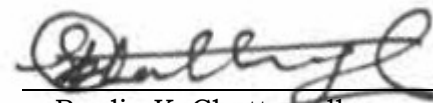
¹ By agreement of all parties, this matter, which was originally entitled a Petition to Initiate Investigation, was converted to a Show Cause Proceeding

The parties shall file their initial briefs on the above legal questions by October 22, 2024. Although not discussed at the August 27, 2024 hearing, the parties may file a reply brief by November 5, 2024.

So ordered, this twenty-eighth day of August 2024.



Daniel C. Goldner
Chairman



Pradip K. Chattopadhyay
Commissioner

Service List - Docket Related

Docket#: 24-073

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