STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DE 23-039

LIBERTY UTILITIES (GRANITE STATE ELECTRIC) CORP. d/b/a LIBERTY Request for Change in Distribution Rates

Procedural Order Re: Updated Procedural Schedule and Responses to Exhibit 3

The Commission approves the updated proposed assented-to procedural schedule filed by the New Hampshire Department of Energy on July 12, 2023. The proposed procedural schedule includes deadlines for discovery and pre-filed testimony, as well as scheduled settlement conferences. The proposed procedural schedule leaves 60 days for hearings and 45 days for an order to issue following closure of the record.

Hearings on Liberty Utilities (Granite State Electric) Corp. d/b/a Liberty's (Liberty) request for a permanent rate increase and other matters identified in the Commission's notice of commencement of adjudicative proceeding, Order No. 26,829 (May 26, 2023), have been scheduled on Tuesdays and Thursdays, consistent with the parties' availability, starting at 9:00 a.m. on the following dates: <u>February 13, March 5, March 7, March 26, April 9, April 11, May 7, and May 9, 2024.</u> These hearings will be conducted in person, in accordance with the previously issued hearing guidelines.

The parties are directed to confer for the purposes of developing an outline of issues to be addressed during these hearings and the order in which they will be presented. A prehearing conference to address the conduct of the hearings, including witness availability and exhibits, is scheduled on <u>January 30, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.</u> Three hours are scheduled for this prehearing conference. The parties may request to cancel this prehearing conference if they develop and file a detailed and comprehensive plan for hearings.

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During the June 21, 2023 hearing on Liberty's request for temporary rates, the Commission directed Liberty to file updated schedules and customer rate impacts as Exhibit 3 by June 26, 2023. Transcript of June 21, 2023 Hearing at 37-38. The parties were given a deadline of June 28, 2023 to review this filing and provide feedback to the Commission. *Id.* at 38. Liberty subsequently filed, as Exhibit 3, revised temporary rate schedules and supporting attachments that corrected a typographical error, supporting schedules, and updated revenue per customer for revenue decoupling purposes. On July 5, 2023, and on July 14 and 20, 2023, Liberty filed compliance tariff pages. Accordingly, the parties shall have an opportunity to file responses to Liberty's July 5, 14, and 20 filings, with responses due <u>on or before August 3, 2023</u>.

So ordered, this twenty-fourth day of July, 2023.

SNIEL C GUINE

Daniel C. Goldner Presiding Officer Chairman

Service List - Docket Related

Docket#: 23-039

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