STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DE 23-081

LIBERTY UTILITIES (GRANITE STATE ELECTRIC) CORP. d/b/a LIBERTY Request for Approval of Revenue Decoupling Adjustment

Procedural Order Re: Proposed Amended Procedural Schedule and Further Suspending Tariff

On November 21, 2023, the New Hampshire Department of Energy (DOE) filed an assented-to request to approve an amended procedural schedule. The Commission APPROVES the DOE's proposed schedule. Consistent with that schedule, there will be a hearing on <u>February 1, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.</u> Consistent with the parties' request, one day has been allotted for this hearing. If additional time will be required, the parties are requested to notify the Commission within ten days from the date of this order.

This revised schedule requires the Commission to further suspend the proposed Revenue Decoupling Adjustment tariff at issue in this docket. RSA 378:6, I(b) states that, with the exception of a rate schedule, the Commission may suspend a proposed tariff for three months pending investigation. However, if the investigation cannot be concluded within a period of three months, the Commission has the discretion to extend the time of suspension for an additional five months. RSA 378: 6, I(b). If the Commission does so, it must provide a "reasonable explanation" for the extension. *Id*.

Due to the circumstances of this docket, including the DOE's need to conclude its investigation and the limited availability of hearing dates on the Commission's calendar, the Commission extends the suspension of the proposed tariff for a total of four months. Liberty filed its proposed tariff on September 1, 2023 with an effective date of November 1, 2023. On September 25, 2023, the Commission suspended the proposed tariff by one month (i.e., until December 1, 2023). The Commission also scheduled a hearing for November 8, 2023. Since that time, the parties agreed to continue the hearing until February 1, 2024 to provide sufficient time to complete discovery. To accommodate this new hearing date, the Commission suspends the proposed tariff until March 1, 2024, or four months after the proposed effective date of November 1, 2023.

So ordered, this twenty-second day of November, 2023.

Daniel C. Goldner Chairman

Pradip K. Chattopadhyay Commissioner

Carleton B. Simpson Commissioner

Service List - Docket Related

Docket#: 23-081

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Email Addresses

ClerksOffice@puc.nh.gov Tyler.Culbertson@libertyutilities.com Energy-Litigation@energy.nh.gov paul.b.dexter@energy.nh.gov jay.e.dudley@energy.nh.gov thomas.c.frantz@energy.nh.gov maureen.karpf@libertyutilities.com donald.m.kreis@oca.nh.gov alexandra.k.ladwig@energy.nh.gov Alyssa.Maston@libertyutilities.com Erica.Menard@libertyutilities.com elizabeth.r.nixon@energy.nh.gov amanda.o.noonan@energy.nh.gov ocalitigation@oca.nh.gov michael.sheehan@libertyutilities.com karen.sinville@libertyutilities.com jacqueline.m.trottier@energy.nh.gov Marc.H.Vatter@oca.nh.gov Adam.Yusuf@Libertyutilities.com

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