

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**DRM 23-082**

**RULEMAKING**

**New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules Puc ch. 600  
Rules for Water Service**

**ORDER OF NOTICE**

The Commission hereby provides notice of its intent to readopt with amendment N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc ch. 600, Rules for Water Service to reflect the division of water service regulatory responsibilities between the Commission and the Department of Energy (Department), which was created under RSA 12-P:2, I, after consultation between the two agencies. The Department is concurrently proposing to adopt its own rules related to water service Chapter En 600. Taken together, the Commission's proposed rules and the Department's proposed Chapter En 600 rules maintain the existing extent and scope of state regulation of water service as is currently reflected in Puc ch. 600.

The Commission is proposing to readopt with amendment, in substantially the same form as the existing rules, rules that define relevant terms used in the rule set, establish tariff requirements and contents, require Commission authorization to provide water service, prescribe recordkeeping and record retention requirements, prescribe reporting and accounting standards, prescribe processes and standards for utility requests for authority to issue securities, and rules for expedited small water utility rate proceedings.

Proposed amendments include the deletion of existing provisions in rules governing customer relations, meter accuracy and testing, equipment and facilities, accident and leak reporting, other reporting, and enforcement procedures which the

Department is proposing to adopt as part of Chapter En 600 in a rulemaking proceeding that is occurring contemporaneously with this proposed action. Proposed amendments also include edits, updates, clarifying changes, and cross references to the Department's proposed rule set.

A Notice of Rulemaking (Notice), as required by RSA 541-A:6, was published in New Hampshire's Rulemaking Register No. 36, dated September 7, 2023. In addition, a copy of the Notice has been sent to all persons who have made a timely request for advance notice of Commission rulemaking proceedings and regulated water utility companies and shall be posted on the Commission's bulletin board and website. Pursuant to Puc 205.05 and RSA 541-A:11, a public hearing, conducted jointly with the Department of Energy, will be held at the Commission on Wednesday, October 4, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. in Hearing Room B. Written comments will be accepted through Thursday, October 13, 2023. The Notice as published in New Hampshire's Rulemaking Register and the Commission's initial proposal for rulemaking are posted to the Commission's website at <https://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2023/23-082.html>, or copies may be obtained from the Commission as set forth in the Notice.

**Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby**

**ORDERED**, that a Public Hearing, pursuant to RSA 541-A:11, to hear comment on the Commission's proposal to readopt with amendment N.H. Code Admin. R. Puc ch. 600 will be held at 21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire in Hearing Room B, on October 4, 2023, at 10:00 a.m., and that the deadline for submission of materials in writing or by e-mail shall be October 13, 2023, as set forth in the Notice; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, a copy of this Order of Notice shall be posted on the Commission's website and bulletin board within two business days of this order.

So ordered, this eleventh day of September, 2023.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel C. Goldner", written over a horizontal line.

Daniel C. Goldner  
Chairman

Individuals needing assistance or auxiliary communication aids due to sensory impairment or other disability should contact the Department of Energy, 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire 03301-2429; 603-271-3670; TDD Access: Relay N.H. 1-800-735-2964. Notification of the need for assistance should be made no later than one week prior to the scheduled event.

# Service List - Docket Related

Docket#: 23-082

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