STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DE 20-002

UNITIL ENERGY SYSTEMS, INC.

2020 Least Cost Integrated Resource Plan

ORDER OF NOTICE

On April 3, 2020, Unitil Energy Systems, Inc. (Unitil) filed its 2020 Least Cost Integrated Resource Plan (LCIRP) pursuant to RSA 378:38 and Order No. 26,098 (January 9, 2018). The Commission previously granted Unitil's request to extend the original filing deadline by secretarial letter dated January 14, 2020.

Unitil's LCIRP filing contains an overview of Unitil's planning processes, a forecast of future electrical demand for its Capital and Seacoast regions, an assessment of transmission and distribution requirements, and a list of projects representing Unitil's LCIRP, along with related appendices. The LCIRP includes distribution system planning studies for Unitil's Capital and Seacoast regions. Unitil also filed a motion for confidential treatment and protective order regarding the LCIRP filing.

Unitil's LCIRP filing and subsequent docket filings, other than any information for which confidential treatment is requested of or granted by the Commission, will be posted to the Commission's website at https://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2020/20-002.html.

The filing raises, <u>inter alia</u>, issues related to whether Unitil's planning process is adequate, in light of the requirements set forth in RSA 378:38 and RSA 378:39, as amended; and whether Unitil's filing adequately addresses the Commission's requirements set forth in Order No. 26,098. Each party has the right to have an attorney represent the party at the party's own expense.

Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby

ORDERED, that, consistent with Governor Christopher T. Sununu's Emergency Order #12, the Commission will hold a web-enabled remote prehearing conference, pursuant to N.H. Admin. R., Puc 203.15, on May 14, 2020 at 10:00 a.m., at which each party will provide a preliminary statement of its position with regard to Unitil's LCIRP filing and any of the issues set forth in N.H. Admin. R., Puc 203.15. Members of the public who wish to access the prehearing conference may do so by clicking here: If you have any difficulty obtaining access to this remote event, please notify the Commission by calling (603) 271-2431 as soon as possible. Parties will be provided with additional instructions prior to the prehearing conference; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that, immediately following the prehearing conference, Unitil, the Staff of the Commission, and any intervenors hold a web-enabled remote technical session to review Unitil's LCIRP filing; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that pursuant to N.H. Admin. R., Puc 203.12, Unitil shall notify all persons desiring to be heard at this hearing by publishing a copy of this order of notice on its website no later than one day after the date of issue. In addition, the Executive Director shall publish this order of notice on the Commission's website no later than one day after the date of issue; it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that consistent with N.H. Admin. R., Puc 203.17 and Puc 203.02, any party seeking to intervene in the proceeding shall file with the Commission a petition to intervene with copies sent to Unitil and the Office of the Consumer Advocate on or before May 11, 2020, such petition stating the facts demonstrating how its rights, duties, privileges, immunities, or other substantial interests may be affected by the proceeding, consistent with N.H. Admin. R., Puc 203.17. Pursuant to the secretarial letter issued on

March 17, 2020, which is posted on the Commission's website at

https://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Secretarial%20Letters/20200317-SecLtr-Temp-Changes-in-

<u>Filing-Requirements.pdf</u>, any party seeking to intervene may elect to submit this filing in electronic form; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that any party objecting to a petition to intervene make said objection on or before May 14, 2020.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this twenty-second day of April, 2020.

Debra A. Howland Executive Director

Individuals needing assistance or auxiliary communication aids due to sensory impairment or other disability should contact the Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator, NHPUC, 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire 03301-2429; 603-271-2431; TDD Access: Relay N.H. 1-800-735-2964. Notification of the need for assistance should be made one week prior to the scheduled event.

Service List - Docket Related

Docket#: 20-002

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