

**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

DE 18-035

UNITIL ENERGY SYSTEMS, INC.

2018 Energy Service Procurement Proceeding

ORDER OF NOTICE

On March 14, 2018, Unitil Energy Systems, Inc. (Unitil) filed a letter notifying the Commission of its proposed 2018 default service schedule. The schedule indicates, by customer class, the date scheduled for (1) the issuance of the request for proposal (RFP), (2) the deadline for indicative and final bids, (3) filing the proposal with the Commission, and (4) issuance of the expected Commission order. Unitil provided the information for the six-month period beginning June 1, 2018.

The petition 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 <http://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2018/18-035.html>.

Unitil's default service solicitations are conducted pursuant to the process approved by the Commission in Orders No. 24,511 (Sept. 9, 2005) and 24,921 (Dec. 12, 2008), as modified by Order No. 25,397 (July 31, 2012). In Order No. 25,397, the Commission approved Unitil's proposal to modify its procurement process as follows: (1) the default service period for customers taking energy service supply from Unitil begins on June 1 and December 1 of each year; (2) for G1 (large commercial and industrial) customers, pricing is based on variable monthly prices and solicitations occur every 6 months; and (3) for Non-G1 (residential, small commercial and outdoor lighting) customers, solicitations occur every 6 months, and pricing

results in fixed monthly rates for the six-month period. In addition, for Non-G1 customers, the load is separately acquired for the residential customer group, and the small commercial and outdoor lighting customer group.

For G1 customers, Unitil solicits variable pricing that passes through energy costs in the form of real-time locational market prices (LMP) for the New Hampshire Load Zone. Respondents are asked to bid fixed adders to the LMP that would cover all other costs of supplying power, including a margin of return.

On March 5, 2018, Unitil issued the RFP for energy service power supply for the six-month period beginning June 1, 2018. The RFP requests bids for 100% of power supply requirements for this period, in three separate blocks for G1 customers, small commercial and outdoor lighting customers, and residential customers. Unitil will issue the second RFP on August 28, 2018 for the six-month period beginning December 1, 2018, with the associated regulatory filing to take place on September 28, 2018.

The filing raises, inter alia, issues related to whether the power supply procurement is consistent with RSA 374-F:3, (V)(c)-(e) and Order No. 24,511, Order No. 24,921 and Order No. 25,397; and whether the resulting rates are just and reasonable as required by RSA 378:5 and 7. 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 Hearing, pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.12, be held before the Commission located at 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire on April 11, 2018 at 1:00 p.m.; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.12, Unitil shall notify all persons desiring to be heard at this hearing by publishing a copy of this Order of

Notice no later than March 27, 2018, in a newspaper with general circulation in those portions of the state in which operations are conducted, publication to be documented by affidavit filed with the Commission on or before April 9, 2018; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that consistent with N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.17 and Puc 203.02, any party seeking to intervene in the proceeding shall submit to the Commission seven copies of a Petition to Intervene with copies sent to Unitil and the Office of the Consumer Advocate on or before April 9, 2018, such Petition stating the facts demonstrating how its rights, duties, privileges, immunities or other substantial interest may be affected by the proceeding, consistent with N.H. Code Admin. Rule Puc 203.17; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that any party objecting to a Petition to Intervene make said Objection on or before April 11, 2018.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this twentieth day of March, 2018.



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.