

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DE 16-383

LIBERTY UTILITIES (GRANITE STATE ELECTRIC) CORP. d/b/a  
LIBERTY UTILITIES

Distribution Rate Case Step Adjustment

**SUPPLEMENTAL ORDER OF NOTICE FOR STEP ADJUSTMENT**

On March 12, 2019, Liberty Utilities (Granite State Electric) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities (Liberty) filed a distribution rate case step adjustment for effect May 1, 2019. The filing was made pursuant to a settlement agreement approved in Liberty's most recent distribution rate case. *See* Order No. 26,005 (April 12, 2017).

The settlement agreement limited this 2019 step increase to total budgeted investments of \$1,250,000 in a substation in Pelham, New Hampshire and \$385,000 in substation cables in Charlestown, New Hampshire. Liberty has chosen not to seek cost recovery of the Charlestown investments this time. The revenue requirement associated with the Pelham investment is \$185,044. Liberty requested that this adjustment to rates be effective May 1, 2019. The proposed step adjustment would increase the monthly bill of a residential customer taking energy service and using 650 kWh per month about \$.11 per month, or about 0.11%.

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 [www.puc.state.nh.us/Regulatory/Docketbk/2016/16-383.html](http://www.puc.state.nh.us/Regulatory/Docketbk/2016/16-383.html).

The filing raises, *inter alia*, issues related to whether the step adjustment is in conformance with the settlement agreement, is appropriately calculated and results in just and reasonable rates pursuant to RSA 378:5 and 378:7, and whether the proposed rates will yield a

just and reasonable rate of return on the prudent cost of plant, equipment, and capital improvements used and useful in Liberty's provision of service to the public as required by RSA 378:28. 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**

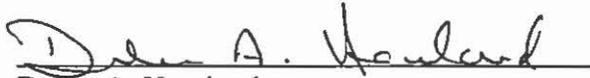
**ORDERED**, that a Hearing, pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.15, be held before the Commission located at 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire on April 11, 2019 at 1:30 PM; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.12, Liberty shall notify all persons desiring to be heard at this hearing by publishing a copy of this Order of Notice no later than March 28, 2019, 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 8, 2019; 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 Liberty and the Office of the Consumer Advocate on or before April 8, 2019, 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. Rules Puc 203.17. Parties to earlier phases of Docket No. DE 16-383 continue to be parties and do not need to petition to intervene for this phase but must notify the Commission of their intent to participate in this phase of this docket by either attending the pre-hearing conference, or in filing a statement of such intent in writing on or before April 8, 2019; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that any party objecting to a Petition to Intervene make said Objection on or before April 11, 2019.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this twenty-fifth day of March, 2019.



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.

