

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

IR 20-004

ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION UTILITIES

**Investigation into Rate Design Standards for Electric Vehicle Charging Stations
and Electric Vehicle Time of Day Rates**

ORDER OF NOTICE

On August 11, 2018, SB 575-FN, a bill establishing requirements for, and restrictions on, electric vehicle charging stations, went into effect. SB 575-FN requires the Commission to determine, within two years of its effective date, whether certain rate design standards for electric companies and public service companies should be implemented for electric vehicle charging stations. It also requires the Commission to determine whether to implement electric vehicle time of day rates for residential and commercial customers.

SB 575-FN directs the Commission to consider the following standards in determining which are appropriate for electric companies and public service companies to implement: cost of service; prohibition of declining block rates; time of day rates; seasonal rates; interruptible rates; load management techniques; and demand charges. In determining whether it is appropriate to implement electric vehicle time of day rates for residential and commercial customers, SB 575-FN directs the Commission to consider whether implementation would encourage energy conservation, optimal and efficient use of facilities and resources by an electric company, and equitable rates for electric customers.

With reference to the directives in SB 575-FN, Commission Staff (Staff) filed a memorandum addressing relevant rate design standards and summarizing existing applications and potential issues in New Hampshire. The Staff memorandum recommends that the

Commission open an investigation and solicit comment on a list of issues related to the relevant rate design standards and the appropriateness of electric vehicle time of day rates for residential and commercial customers.

The Commission is commencing this investigation to provide an opportunity for public comment on issues relating to: (1) the relevant rate design standards regarding electric vehicle charging stations and electric vehicles; (2) whether it is appropriate to implement electric vehicle time of day rates for residential and commercial customers; and (3) any other related issues identified in Staff's memorandum.

The electric distribution utilities regulated by the Commission shall participate in this investigation. This order and subsequent comments, 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.nh.gov.

The electric distribution utilities, Staff, and other interested stakeholders shall have until February 20, 2020 to file written comments with the Commission. Commenters are encouraged to address the list of issues identified by Staff in its memorandum, and also to cite quantitative data and qualitative approaches from jurisdictions outside New Hampshire.

Staff will review the comments, conduct a public stakeholder technical session on February 28, 2020, and issue a recommendation to the Commission by April 3, 2020. After reviewing Staff's recommendation, the Commission will issue an order determining whether it is appropriate to implement any such rate design standards for electric distribution companies with respect to electric vehicle charging stations and electric vehicles.

The filing raises, *inter alia*, issues related to what rate design standards for electric companies and public service companies, if implemented for electric vehicle charging stations,

are consistent with the New Hampshire Energy Policy defined in 378:37, and likely to result in just and reasonable electric rates, as required by RSA 374:2 and RSA 378:5 and :7; whether the implementation of electric vehicle time of day rates for residential and commercial customers would be consistent with the restructuring policy principles defined in RSA 374-F:3, VI, would avoid undue or unreasonable preference as required by RSA 378:10, and would likely result in just and reasonable rates, as required by RSA 374:2 and 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 the Executive Director shall publish a copy of this Order of Notice on the Commission's website, and notify by electronic mail the electric distribution utilities, no later than February 14, 2020.

FURTHER ORDERED, that written comments consistent with this order and N.H. Admin. R. Puc 202.06 may be filed with the Commission's Executive Director on or before February 20, 2020; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that written comments may also be filed by electronic mail sent to executive.director@puc.nh.gov; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that Staff shall conduct a public stakeholder technical session at the Commission's offices at 21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire, to be held on February 28, 2020; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that Staff shall issue a recommendation to the Commission by April 3, 2020.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this sixteenth day of
January, 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.



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