## STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION** 

21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10 Concord, N.H. 03301-2429

February 24, 2021

Direct Energy Business, LLC 12 Greenway Plaza, Suite 250 Houston, TX 77046

Ms. Joyce W. Jones

Re: DM 20-193, Direct Energy Services, LLC d/b/a First Choice Power

Application to Renew Registration as a Competitive Electric Power Supplier

Dear Ms. Jones:

On December 4, 2020, Direct Energy Services, LLC d/b/a First Choice Power (Direct) filed an application to renew its registration as a competitive electric power supplier (CEPS). Direct filed revisions to its terms and conditions for service to residential and small commercial customers on February 17, 2021.

Commission Staff filed a memorandum on February 24, 2021 that summarizes the filings made by Direct in connection with its renewal registration application and Staff's analysis of the completed application. Staff concluded that the application complies with the requirements of N.H. Admin. R., Puc 2003 and Puc 2006.01. Staff recommended approval of Direct's registration renewal application for a three-year term beginning on February 5, 2021 and ending at the close of business on February 5, 2024. In addition, Staff recommended that the registration authorize Direct to operate in the franchise area of Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (Eversource), and permit Direct to provide service to residential and small commercial customers.

Direct's application for renewal as a CEPS authorized to operate in the franchise area of Eversource and to provide service to residential and small commercial customers is approved for a term beginning on February 5, 2021 and ending at the close of business on February 5, 2024, under Puc 2003.02(c)(1). Pursuant to Puc 2003.02(b), Direct must submit its renewal application at least 60 days prior to the expiration of the approved registration period, on or before December 7, 2023.

Please be aware that registered CEPS are subject to specific requirements contained in Puc 2000 - Competitive Electric Power Supplier and Aggregator Rules. These rules are available at: http://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Rules/PUC2000.pdf. In particular, note that, under Puc 2003.03(e), if a CEPS's financial security instrument will not be renewed or extended beyond its expiration date, it must (1) provide written notice

TDD Access: Relay NH 1-800-735-2964

Tel. (603) 271-2431

Website: www.puc.nh.gov to the Commission of such non-renewal or non-extension no less than 60 days prior to the expiration date, and (2) file with the Executive Director a replacement financial security instrument meeting the requirements of the rules no less than 30 days prior to the expiration date, and that, under Puc 2003.03(f), a CEPS that fails to comply with the requirement to file a replacement financial security instrument is subject to fines, suspension, or revocation pursuant to Puc 2005.

Please also note that each CEPS must input into a shopping comparison website, maintained by the Commission, information regarding its standard pricing policies, charges, and key terms for residential and small commercial customers. This information must be updated whenever it changes, but no less frequently than once per month. These requirements are intended to comply with RSA 374-F:4-b, II and Puc 2004.03(a). Following its initial registration, each CEPS will be sent by electronic mail a link to the website through which it must input the required information.

In addition, all CEPS must comply with the renewable portfolio standard (RPS) requirements of RSA 362-F. The RPS obligation applies to every "provider of electricity," as defined in RSA 362-F:2, XIV, which includes registered CEPS. Please also refer to the Puc 2500 rules for further details regarding RPS compliance and reporting requirements. RPS compliance is on a calendar year basis and must be reported to the Commission by July 1 of the subsequent calendar year.

Pursuant to RSA 378:49 and Puc 2004.05, all CEPS also must comply with the requirement to disclose environmental characteristics of the electricity they sell to retail customers.

Sincerely,

Debra A. Howland Executive Director

Dien A. Howland

cc: Service List Docket File

## Service List - Docket Related

Docket#: 20-193

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Email Addresses

ExecutiveDirector@puc.nh.gov richard.chagnon@puc.nh.gov bryan.connelly@puc.nh.gov tom.frantz@puc.nh.gov marc.hanks@directenergy.com Corrine.Lemay@puc.nh.gov amanda.noonan@puc.nh.gov ocalitigation@oca.nh.gov david.wiesner@puc.nh.gov