STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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March 9, 2021

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Re: DE 21-034, Net Metering Group Hosts

Change to Group Host 2020 Annual Report Requirements

Granting Limited Waiver of Puc 909.10(a)(3)

To All Interested Persons:

Effective September 14, 2020, the Commission adopted amendments to New Hampshire Administrative Rules, Chapter Puc 900, relating to net metering and group net metering, including Puc 909.10, "Host's Annual Report." Previously, Puc 909.10(a) required group hosts to file an annual host report containing annual total figures only by April 1. The Commission amended Puc 909.10(a) to require group hosts to include within their annual host reports monthly data regarding, among other things, the total amount of electricity generated by the host facility, and the total billed load of all group members. *See* N.H. Admin. R., Puc 909.10(a)(3). On February 23, 2021, Commission Staff (Staff) filed a memorandum recommending that the Commission grant a one-time, limited waiver of Puc 909.10(a)(3), applicable to all group hosts that have not registered as a low-moderate income (LMI) community solar project, for the 2020 compliance year.

Staff stated in its memorandum that the utilities and Staff have been working to provide reminders and assistance to group hosts regarding the additional monthly information now required as part of their annual reports. According to Staff, however, the utilities and Staff have noted that group hosts would benefit from more time and information in complying with the new monthly data requirement under Puc 909.10(a)(3).

Staff recommended that the Commission grant a limited waiver of Puc 909.10(a)(3), pursuant to Puc 201.05, for compliance year 2020 to provide a transition to the monthly data requirement. Staff recommended that a waiver of Puc 909.10(a)(3) apply to non-LMI group hosts only, as no LMI project groups were registered during compliance year 2020. Staff asserted that the waiver would serve the public interest by allowing group hosts additional notice and time to prepare to implement the monthly data reporting requirement. According to Staff, compliance with the new monthly data requirement would otherwise be onerous. Staff maintained that a waiver would not affect the established annual data reporting requirement or disrupt any other matters before the Commission.

Based on Staff's recommendation, the Commission has determined that the standards for waiver contained in Puc 201.05 have been satisfied in this instance. Accordingly, the Commission has granted a limited waiver of the requirements of Puc 909.10(a)(3), as applicable to non-LMI group hosts, for compliance year 2020 only.

Sincerely,

Debra A. Howland Executive Director

cc: Service List (Electronically)

Docket File

Service List - Docket Related

Docket#: 21-034

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