

UNITIL ENERGY SYSTEMS, INC.

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF  
TODD M. BOHAN

New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission

Docket No.: DE 11-

June 17, 2011

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Schedule TMB-2: External Delivery Charge Costs

Schedule TMB-3: Contract Release Payments and Administrative Service Charges

Schedule TMB-4: Unitil Power Corp. Cost and Revenue Model

Schedule TMB-5: HQ Payments and Revenues

1 **I. INTRODUCTION**

2 Q. Please state your name and business address.

3 A. My name is Todd M. Bohan. My business address is 6 Liberty Lane West,  
4 Hampton, New Hampshire

5

6 Q. For whom do you work and in what capacity?

7 A. I am employed by Unitil Service Corp. ("USC") as an Energy Analyst. USC  
8 provides management and administrative services to Unitil Energy Systems, Inc.  
9 ("UES") and Unitil Power Corp. ("UPC").

10

11 Q. Please describe your relevant educational and work experience.

12 A. I graduated *magna cum laude* from Saint Anselm College, Manchester, New  
13 Hampshire in 1987 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Financial Economics. I  
14 earned a Masters in Economics from Clark University, Worcester, Massachusetts  
15 in May 1990. In September 1995, I earned a Ph.D. in Economics from Clark  
16 University. Before joining Unitil, I worked for Bay State Gas Company as a Rate  
17 Analyst. Prior to working for Bay State, I was employed as a Utility Analyst and  
18 an Economist in the Economics Department of the New Hampshire Public  
19 Utilities Commission. I joined Unitil Service Corp. in November 1998, and have  
20 been involved in various regulatory proceedings. In August of 2010, I joined the  
21 Energy Contracts group and have primary responsibilities in the areas of electric  
22 market operation and data reporting, default service administration and budgeting.

23

1 Q. Have you previously testified before the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission  
2 ("Commission")?

3 A. Yes. I have testified before the Commission on various regulatory matters, most  
4 recently in Northern Utilities, Inc., New Hampshire Division, Summer Period 2010  
5 Cost of Gas Adjustment proceeding, Docket No. DG 10-050.

6

7 **II. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY**

8 Q. Please summarize your testimony in this proceeding.

9 A. My testimony presents the cost data and explains the reasons for the proposed  
10 changes to UES's Stranded Cost Charge ("SCC"), and External Delivery Charge  
11 ("EDC"), effective August 1, 2011. Ms. Linda S. McNamara presents the  
12 reconciliation for the SCC and EDC through July 2011 and the rate development  
13 for the SCC and EDC for the period beginning August 1, 2011 and ending July  
14 31, 2012, based on the cost data included in my testimony.

15

16 **III. STRANDED COST CHARGE COSTS**

17 Q. What costs are included in the SCC?

18 A. The SCC includes the Contract Release Payments ("CRP") from Unitil Power  
19 Corp., charged in accordance with the Amended Unitil System Agreement,  
20 approved by both the Commission in Docket No. DE 01-247 and by the FERC.

21

1 Schedule TMB-1, page 1, provides a description of the CRP. Page 2 provides the  
2 CRP by month reflecting actual data from August 2009 through April 2011 and  
3 estimated data from May 2011 through July 2012.

4

5 Q. Please describe the Amended Unitil System Agreement.

6 A. The purpose of the Amended Unitil System Agreement was to restructure UES's  
7 power supply in order to implement retail choice. Prior to the implementation of  
8 the Amended Unitil System Agreement on May 1, 2003, UES purchased full-  
9 requirements power supply from UPC at fully reconciling, cost-of-service rates.

10

11 The Amended Unitil System Agreement provides for termination of power sales  
12 from UPC to UES and the payment of UPC's on-going costs by UES. These on-  
13 going costs are defined in the Amended Unitil System Agreement as either CRP  
14 or Administrative Service Charges ("ASC"). UES recovers the CRP through the  
15 SCC and the ASC through the EDC. The ASC will be discussed later under the  
16 EDC costs.

17

18 Q. Please describe the CRP.

19 A. The CRP is calculated in accordance with Appendix 1 of the Amended Unitil  
20 System Agreement. The CRP is equal to the sum of the Portfolio Sales Charge,  
21 the Residual Contract Obligations, the Hydro-Quebec Support Payments, and  
22 True-Ups from Prior Periods.

23

1 The Portfolio Sales Charge is equal to the specified monthly payment stream made by  
2 UPC to Mirant Energy Trading, LLC (“MET”), pursuant to the Mirant Agreement,  
3 which continued through October 2010. The Mirant Agreement provided for the  
4 transfer of most of UPC’s purchase power obligations to MET in exchange for fixed  
5 monthly payments from UPC.<sup>1</sup>

6

7 UPC’s Residual Contract Obligations included contract buyout payments, which  
8 existed prior to the restructuring of the portfolio through the Mirant Agreement. The  
9 final contract buyout payment obligation was the Indeck contract buyout, which UPC  
10 completed in September 2009. The CRP estimates in this filing include no Residual  
11 Contract Obligations.

12

13 The Hydro-Quebec Phase II Agreements require UPC to support the Hydro-Quebec  
14 Phase II facilities through October 2020. These facilities are part of one high-voltage,  
15 direct-current (“HVDC”) interconnection between New England and Quebec. UPC  
16 has no obligation to support Phase I of these facilities. Currently, the costs for  
17 maintenance and construction of these facilities are paid by Interconnection Rights  
18 Holders (“IRH”) through support agreements between the IRH members and the  
19 owners of the HVDC transmission facilities. The Hydro-Quebec Support Payments  
20 include all costs incurred by UPC pursuant to the Hydro-Quebec Phase II

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<sup>1</sup> The Mirant Agreement refers to the Portfolio Sale and Assignment and Transition Service and Default Service Supply Agreement by and among UPC, UES, and Mirant Americas Energy Marketing, LP. The Mirant Agreement was effective May 1, 2003 and also provided for the sale of Transition and Default Service power to UES through April 2006. Effective February 1, 2006, the Mirant Agreement was transferred to Mirant Energy Trading, LLC.

1 Agreements, offset by any revenues received by UPC for sales of UPC's Hydro-  
2 Quebec Phase II entitlement. The Hydro-Quebec Support Payments are not a known  
3 payment stream because they are based on the cost-of-service of the Hydro-Quebec  
4 Phase II transmission facilities. As discussed below, UPC receives revenue for short-  
5 term sales of transmission rights and capacity rights. These revenues operate to offset  
6 the expense of the Hydro-Quebec Support Payments.

7

8 The True-ups from Prior Periods reflect any differences in costs resulting from the  
9 reconciliation of estimated costs to actual costs under the CRP component of the  
10 Amended Unitil System Agreement. The True-ups from Prior Periods also  
11 provide for the reconciliation of costs billed to UPC for services purchased in  
12 UPC's performance of the Unitil System Agreement, prior to May 1, 2003. The  
13 CRP estimates in the current filing reflect no True-ups from Prior Periods.

14

15 Q. Please provide an estimate of each of the components of the CRP.

16 A. Details regarding the CRP are provided in Schedule TMB-3. This shows the  
17 actual itemized CRP and ASC charges as billed by UPC to UES for the period  
18 beginning August 2009 through April 2011 under the Amended Unitil System  
19 Agreement. Beginning on page 2 of Schedule TMB-3, estimated CRP and ASC  
20 for the 15-month period beginning May 2011 and ending July 2012 are presented.  
21 UPC bills UES on estimated data, prior to the beginning of the month of service.  
22 These estimates are trued-up to actuals on a two-month lag.

23

1 Q. Please provide a comparison of the estimated CRP for the upcoming SCC rate  
2 period (August 2011 through July 2012) to the projected CRP for the current SCC  
3 rate period (August 2010 through July 2011).

4 A. Table 1 provides a comparison of the estimated CRP for the upcoming SCC rate  
5 period (August 2011 through July 2012) to the projected actual CRP for the  
6 current SCC rate period (August 2010 through July 2011).

Table 1. Comparison of Estimated CRP for August 2011 through July 2012 to Projected CRP for August 2010 through July 2011 Unitil Power Corp.				
Line No.	Line Item Description	Aug 2010 - July 2011 9 Months Act. and 3 Months Est.	Aug 2011 - July 2012 Estimate	Variance (Aug 2011 - July 2012 Costs minus Aug 2010 - July 2011 Costs)
1.	Portfolio Sales Charge	\$1,200,000	\$0	(\$1,200,000)
2.	Residual Contract Obligations	\$0	\$0	\$0
3.	Hydro-Quebec Support Payments	(\$29,333)	\$207,967	\$237,300
4.	Subtotal (L. 2 through 4)	\$1,170,667	\$207,967	(\$962,700)
5.	True-up for estimate	\$58,756	\$0	(\$58,756)
6.	Obligations prior to May 1, 2003	\$0	\$0	\$0
7.	Total Contract Release Payments as billed by Unitil Power Corp.	\$1,229,423	\$207,967	(\$1,021,456)

7  
8 At the time of the preparation of this estimate of the CRP, actual CRP expense  
9 data was available through April 2011. As such, the projected actual CRP for the  
10 current SCC rate period (August 2010 through July 2011) presented in Table 1 is  
11 comprised of nine months of actual data and three months estimated data.

12  
13 Q. Please explain the expected significant decreases in costs for the Portfolio Sales  
14 Charge.

15 A. The Portfolio Sales Charge will decrease \$1.2 million because UPC's payment  
16 obligations under the Mirant Agreement ended in October 2010. The current rate

1 period (August 2010 through July 2011) includes a partial year (three months) of  
2 Portfolio Sales Charge payments under the Mirant Agreement.

3

4 Q. Please report on the efforts by UPC to mitigate the stranded cost associated with  
5 the HQ Phase II Agreements.

6 A. UPC mitigates these costs through short-term sales of the transmission rights and  
7 capacity, which UPC is entitled to through its support of the HQ Phase II  
8 facilities. Currently, UPC resells its transmission rights on a short-term basis  
9 through a brokering agreement with Central Vermont Public Service Corporation  
10 (“CVPS”). Under this brokering agreement, CVPS offers UPC’s transmission  
11 rights associated with the HQ Phase II facilities for sale on a short-term basis  
12 through the CVPS’ OASIS website. CVPS has authority under this agreement to  
13 enter into binding sales of UPC’s HQ transmission rights for transactions of one  
14 month or less in duration. UPC also has rights to Hydro-Quebec Interconnection  
15 Capability Credit (“HQICC”), pursuant to the ISO Tariff. UPC is reimbursed by  
16 CVPS for its HQICC at a price equal to the ISO Net Regional Clearing Price.<sup>2</sup>  
17 Please refer to Schedule TMB-5 for itemized cost and revenue offsets, related to  
18 the HQ Phase II Support Agreements.

19

20

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<sup>2</sup> The Net Regional Clearing Price is calculated by first adding Forward Capacity Auction payments to Net Reconfiguration Auction Credits or Charges and subtracting Peak Energy Rent Adjustments. This total is then divided by the Net Regional Supply Obligation.

1 Q. Please provide an update of the Mirant Agreement.

2 A. Mirant has previously fulfilled the contractual obligations of each contract in the  
3 UPC portfolio, which was transferred to Mirant from UPC under the Mirant  
4 Agreement. UPC's payments to Mirant under the Mirant Agreement ended in  
5 October 2010.

6

7 **V. EXTERNAL DELIVERY CHARGE COSTS**

8 Q. What costs are included in the EDC?

9 A. Schedule TMB-2, page 1 provides a description of the costs included in the EDC:

10 1) Third Party Transmission Providers (NU Network Integration Transmission  
11 Service); 2) Regional Transmission and Operating Entities; 3) Third Party  
12 Transmission Providers (NU Wholesale Distribution); 4) Transmission Based  
13 Assessments and Fees; 5) Load Estimation and Reporting System Costs; 6) Data  
14 and Information Services; 6) Legal Charges; 7) Consulting Outside Service  
15 Charges; 8) Administrative Costs associated with the Renewable Source Option  
16 program, 9) Administrative Service Charges, 10) Non-Distribution Portion of the  
17 Annual PUC Assessment, and 11) Working Capital Associated with Other Flow-  
18 Through Operating Expenses.

19

20 Items 1), 2), and 3) of the Schedule are discussed below:

21

22 The Third Party Transmission Providers (NU Network Integration Transmission  
23 Service) component of the EDC consists of Network Integration Transmission

1 Service taken by UES and provided by the Northeast Utilities Companies  
2 pursuant to Schedule 21-NU of the ISO New England Inc. Transmission, Markets  
3 and Services Tariff (FERC Electric Tariff No.3) (“ISO Tariff”).  
4

5 The Regional Transmission and Operating Entities component of the EDC  
6 consists of all charges from ISO New England Inc. (“ISO”). These charges consist  
7 primarily of Regional Network Service, taken pursuant to the ISO Tariff. Other  
8 major costs (which are also billed by the ISO to UES) are various ancillary  
9 services allocated to transmission customers, such as VAR support, dispatch  
10 service, and black-start capability.  
11

12 The Third Party Transmission Providers (NU Wholesale Distribution) component  
13 consists of Distribution Delivery Service (“DDS”) charges with NU. DDS  
14 compensates Public Service Company of New Hampshire for the wheeling of  
15 power from the NU transmission system to UES’s distribution system over certain  
16 facilities, which are classified as distribution facilities for accounting purposes  
17 and, therefore, not included in the NU transmission system rate base.  
18

19 Q. Please provide the External Delivery cost data, which was utilized in the  
20 calculation of the EDC.

21 A. Schedule TMB-2 provides the External Delivery cost data used in the calculation  
22 of the EDC. Page 2 provides actual historic External Delivery cost data for the  
23 year beginning August 2009 through July 2010. Actual External Delivery cost

1 data for the months of August 2009 through April 2010 was included in UES's  
2 last rate and reconciliation filing, Docket No. DE 10-172. In Docket No. DE 10-  
3 172, UES provided estimated External Delivery costs for May 2010 through July  
4 2010. Rather than present partial data beginning with May 2010, UES is  
5 presenting the full period. Page 3 of Schedule 2 provides External Delivery cost  
6 data for the current EDC rate period, August 2010 through July 2011. Actual cost  
7 data is available through April 2011, and estimated cost data is provided for May  
8 2011 through July 2011. Per the Settlement in Docket No. DE 10-055, UES is  
9 including in the EDC costs associated with the Non-Distribution Portion of the  
10 Annual PUC Assessment and Working Capital Associated with Other Flow-  
11 Through Operating Expenses. Finally, page 4 of Schedule TMB-2 provides  
12 estimated External Delivery costs for the upcoming EDC rate period, August  
13 2011 through July 2012.

14

15 Q. Please provide a comparison of the External Delivery costs for the upcoming  
16 EDC rate period (August 2011 through July 2012) to the projected External  
17 Delivery costs for the current EDC rate period (August 2010 through July 2011).

18 A. Please refer to the Table 2 for an itemized comparison of estimated External  
19 Delivery cost for the upcoming EDC rate period to the projected External  
20 Delivery costs for the current rate period.

1

Table 2. Comparison of Estimated External Delivery costs for August 2011 through July 2012 to projected External Delivery costs for August 2010 through July 2011 Unitil Energy Systems, Inc.				
Line No.	Line Item Description	Aug 2010 - July 2011 9 Months Act. and 3 Months Est.	Aug 2011 - July 2012 Estimate	Variance (Aug 2011 - July 2012 Costs minus Aug 2010 - July 2011 Costs)
1.	Third Party Transmission Providers (NU Network Integration Transmission Service)	(\$297,247)	\$1,085,484	\$1,382,731
2.	Regional Transmission and Operating Entities	\$15,153,220	\$14,907,328	(\$245,892)
3.	Third Party Transmission Providers (NU Wholesale Distribution)	\$2,975,289	\$2,879,817	(\$95,472)
4.	Transmission-based Assessments and Fees	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$0
5.	Load Estimation and Reporting System Costs	\$131,423	\$132,000	\$577
6.	Data and Information Services	\$43,721	\$43,215	(\$506)
7.	Legal Charges	\$18,033	\$42,249	\$24,216
8.	Consulting Outside Service Charges	\$458	\$366	(\$92)
9.	Administrative Costs - Renewable Source Option	\$12,173	\$0	(\$12,173)
10.	Administrative Service Charges	\$22,041	\$16,807	(\$5,234)
11.	Non-Distribution Portion of the Annual PUC Assessment	\$70,977	\$335,083	\$264,106
12.	Working Capital Associated with Other Flow-Through Operating Expenses	\$78,965	\$312,219	\$233,254
13.	Total External Delivery Costs	\$18,211,553	\$19,757,068	\$1,545,515

2

3 Q. Please explain the projected increase in External Delivery costs of approximately  
4 \$1.5 million for the upcoming EDC rate period (August 2011 through July 2012)  
5 over the current EDC rate period (August 2010 through July 2011).

6 A. The increase in External Delivery costs for the upcoming EDC rate period is  
7 primarily the result of higher Third Party Transmission Providers (NU Network

1 Integration Transmission Service) cost for the upcoming period of August 2011  
2 through July 2012. This variance is driven by a \$1.4 million refund from NU in  
3 June 2011. In the absence of this refund, Total External Delivery Cost would  
4 have been essentially unchanged from the prior period of August 2010 through  
5 July 2011.

6

7 Q. Are there additional costs included in this filing that have not previously been  
8 included in the EDC?

9 A. Yes. Per the Settlement Agreement in Docket No. DE 10-055, UES was directed  
10 to recover the Non-Distribution Portion of the Annual PUC Assessment and  
11 Working Capital Associated with Other Flow-Through Operating Expenses  
12 through the EDC commencing May 1, 2011. On a combined basis, this accounts  
13 for an increase in estimated EDC costs of approximately \$500,000.

14

15 Q. What legal costs does UES expect to incur under the EDC?

16 A. I estimate that UES will incur approximately \$42,000 in legal costs for the  
17 upcoming EDC rate period (August 2011 through July 2012). Legal costs include  
18 UES's estimates for monitoring FERC issuances and rulemakings and compliance  
19 with FERC's electronic tariff requirements. EDC legal costs estimate excludes  
20 any charges directly related to the design and implementation of Default Service  
21 supply. Any legal costs associated with procurement of Default Service are  
22 recovered through the Default Service Charge, in accordance with the settlement  
23 agreement approved in Docket No. DE 05-064.

1

2 Q. Please provide the detail behind the estimate for the Administrative Service  
3 Charge.

4 A. Details regarding the ASC are provided in Schedule TMB-3 on lines 10 through  
5 18. The ASC includes any costs incurred by UPC, relative to UPC's obligations  
6 under the Amended Unitil System Agreement, which are not otherwise assigned  
7 or assumed by UES. These costs include NEPOOL, ISO, and RTO costs, as well  
8 as legal, consulting, and other outside services. It does not include any internal  
9 costs of USC, UES or UPC.

10

11 **VI. UPC COSTS AND REVENUES**

12 Q. Has UPC prepared an accounting of the costs and revenues to UPC under the CRP  
13 and the ASC?

14 A. Yes. Schedule TMB-4 provides this accounting for the period beginning August  
15 2009 through April 2011. UPC bills UES estimates of the CRP and ASC on the  
16 25<sup>th</sup> of the month for the upcoming month. The estimated expenses are true-up  
17 to actual expenses on a two-month lag basis. In order to calculate the true-up,  
18 UPC tracks the actual expenses, which comprise both the CRP and the ASC.  
19 These actual expenses are compared to the estimated expenses to calculate the  
20 true-up for prior period. Schedule TMB-4 provides summary data of actual CRP  
21 and ASC expenses and revenues.

22

23

1 **VIII. CONCLUSION**

2 Q. Does that conclude your testimony?

3 A. Yes, it does.