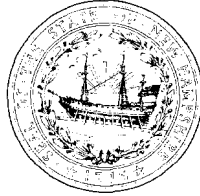


THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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September 7, 2006

Debra A. Howland
Executive Director and Secretary
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
21 South Fruit Street Suite 10
Concord New Hampshire 03301



Re: DE 06-061, Investigation into Federal Standards Pursuant to the Energy Policy Act of 2005
Proposed Procedural Schedule

Dear Ms. Howland:

The New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission approved the Scoping Document for DE 06-061 by a Secretarial Letter dated July 26, 2006. The Staff proposes the following procedural schedule with respect to the standards regarding Time Based Metering and Communications (Metering) and Interconnection of Distributed Resources (Interconnection). The Energy Policy Act of 2005 (EPAAct) requires the Commission to determine whether to implement the Metering and Interconnection standards within 2 years EPAAct's passage, or August 5, 2007.¹ Staff proposes that the remaining three standards—net metering, fuel diversity and generation efficiency—be investigated following the conclusion of the initial phase.

Staff has discussed the proposed procedural schedule with the Parties and the Parties are in agreement. However, it is anticipated that the Parties and Staff may recommend additional changes to the procedural schedule following the first technical session to assure that there is an opportunity for Parties and Staff to pre-file testimony before the hearing, and may, indeed, recommend a later hearing date if needed. The proposed schedule is as follows:

¹ Please note that the Energy Policy Act of 2005 contains contradictory language with respect to Time Based Metering. Sec. 112(b)(4)(B) states that each state commission has two years to make a determination regarding the implementation of the standard. However, Sec. 111(d)(14) states that "not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this paragraph, each electric utility shall offer . . . a time-based rate schedule" (The section includes further examples of time-based rate schedules). Staff takes the position that Sec. 111(d)(14) describes the standard to be reviewed, and that Sec. 112(b)(4)(B) dictates the time the Commission has to investigate the standard. Therefore, Staff concludes that the Commission has until August 5, 2007 to review Metering and Interconnection.

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All parties comments on each standard	September 29, 2005
Data requests on comments	October 6, 2006
Replies to data requests	October 20, 2006
Staff comments	November 3, 2006
Data requests on staff comments	November 10, 2006
Replies to data requests	November 27, 2006
Technical session/settlement conference	December 12, 2006 and January 12, 2007
Settlement Filed	January 30, 2007
Hearing	February 6, 2007

Staff requests that the Commission approve the procedural schedule as proposed. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Suzanne Amidon, Esq.
Staff Attorney/Hearings Examiner

Service List