

**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

DE 13-079

UNITIL ENERGY SYSTEMS, INC.

2013 Default Service Solicitations

ORDER OF NOTICE

On March 13, 2013, Unitil Energy Systems, Inc. (UES or Company) filed its 2013 schedule for power supply procurement for its default service customers. The schedule indicates the customer class, the request for proposal (RFP) issue date, indicative bid schedule, final bid due date, regulatory filing date, the date when Commission approval is anticipated, and the date service is proposed to begin.

The solicitation is consistent with the process approved by the Commission in Order No. 25,397 (July 31, 2012) in Docket DE 12-003, UES's 2012 default service docket. In Order No. 25,397, the Commission approved UES's proposal to modify their procurement system as follows: (1) the effective date for default service supply contracts has moved forward by one month; (2) for G1 (large commercial and industrial) customers, pricing is based on variable prices and solicitations are made every 6 months; and (3) for Non-G1 (residential and small commercial) customers, solicitations will occur every 6 months, the load will be separately acquired for the residential customer group and the small commercial customer group, and the resulting rates for both the residential customer group and the small commercial customer group will be fixed for the six-month period. For large customers, UES solicits variable pricing that passes through energy costs in the form of real-time locational market prices (LMPs) for the

New Hampshire Load Zone. Respondents are also asked to bid fixed adders to the LMP which would cover all other costs.

With this solicitation, UES continues to phase in the new solicitation process and schedule. According to its letter, UES issued RFPs on March 5, 2013 for the following default service power supply: (1) for residential customers, 75% requirements for the period June 1 through October 31, 2013 (5 months) and 100% requirements for the period November 1, 2103 through November 30, 2013 (1 month); (2) for medium customers, 75% requirements for the period June 1 through October 31, 2013 (5 months) and 100% requirements for the period November 1, 2013 through November 30, 2013 (1 month); and for large customers, 100% requirements for the period from June 1, 2013 through November 30, 2013.

UES will issue the second RFP on September 3, 2013 with the associated regulatory filing to take place on October 4, 2013.

The Company's petition and subsequent docket filings, 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 <http://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2013/13-079.html>.

The filing raises, *inter alia*, issues related to whether the resulting rates are just and reasonable as required by RSA 378:5 and 7; and whether UES has procured default service consistent with the principles of the electric utility restructuring statute (RSA 374-F:3, (v)(c)-(e)) and Orders No. 24,511 and 24,921 as modified by Order No. 25,397. 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

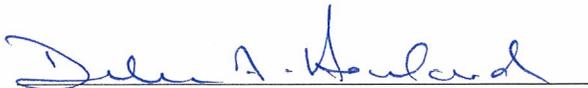
ORDERED, that a Hearing Conference, pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.15, be held before the Commission located at 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire on April 9, 2013 at 10:00 a.m.; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.12, UES shall notify all persons desiring to be heard at this hearing by publishing a copy of this Order of Notice no later than March 29, 2013, in a newspaper with general circulation in those portions of the state in which operations are conducted, publication to be documented by affidavit filed with the Commission on or before April 4, 2013; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.17, any party seeking to intervene in the proceeding shall submit to the Commission seven copies of a Petition to Intervene with copies sent to UES and the Office of the Consumer Advocate on or before April 4, 2013, such Petition stating the facts demonstrating how its rights, duties, privileges, immunities or other substantial interest may be affected by the proceeding, as required by N.H. Code Admin. Rule Puc 203.17 and RSA 541-A:32,I(b); and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that any party objecting to a Petition to Intervene make said Objection on or before April 9, 2013.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this twenty-fifth day of March, 2013.



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.

SERVICE LIST - EMAIL ADDRESSES - DOCKET RELATED

Pursuant to N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.11 (a) (1): Serve an electronic copy on each person identified on the service list.

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Docket #: 13-079-1 Printed: March 25, 2013

FILING INSTRUCTIONS:

- a) Pursuant to N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.02 (a), with the exception of Discovery, file 7 copies, as well as an electronic copy, of all documents including cover letter with:
DEBRA A HOWLAND
EXEC DIRECTOR
NHPUC
21 S. FRUIT ST, SUITE 10
CONCORD NH 03301-2429
- b) Serve an electronic copy with each person identified on the Commission's service list and with the Office of Consumer Advocate.
- c) Serve a written copy on each person on the service list not able to receive electronic mail.