

**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**

**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**DRM 13-090**

**RULEMAKING**

**New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules  
PART Puc 300, Rules for Electric Service**

**ORDER OF NOTICE**

On September 9, 2013, the Commission voted pursuant to RSA 541-A to initiate a rulemaking for N. H. Code Admin. Rules PART Puc 300, Rules for Electric Service. The Commission's Initial Proposal represents a readoption of the existing Puc 300 rules with amendments.

The Puc 300 rules contain requirements for the provision of electric service in New Hampshire. The rules regulate meter testing and reading, service quality including voltage variation and interruption of service, notice to the commission of accidents and outages, and the requirement that utilities submit periodic reports for commission review. There are amendments to the rules. Principally, the amendments concern an improved definition of the criteria regarding master-metering, additional accident and reliability reporting requirements, a new requirement that utilities prepare and file emergency response plans, tree trimming standards and reporting related to wide scale outages. In addition, the rules related to bulk power supply facilities have been deleted as the bulk power supply statute was repealed since the last adoption of the Puc 300 rules. Upon conclusion of the formal rulemaking process, the proposed amended rule will replace the current version of Puc 300.

A rulemaking notice form (Notice), as required by RSA 541-A:6, was filed with the Office of Legislative Services on September 20, 2013 and has been sent to all regulated electric utilities.

The Notice establishes a public hearing to be held at the Commission on November 6, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. and a deadline for submission of written comments on November 13, 2013. That Notice is appended hereto. Pursuant to RSA 541-A:6, III, this Order of Notice will also be provided by public notice advertisement in a publication of daily statewide circulation.

Following the public comment hearing on November 6, 2013, Staff will hold a technical session with interested parties for purposes of discussing the proposed amended rule.

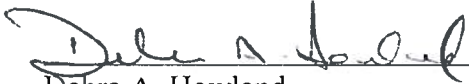
The readoption with amendment Initial Proposal may be viewed on the Commission website, <http://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2013/13-090.html>, or copies may be obtained from the Commission as set forth in the Notice.

**Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby**

**ORDERED**, that a Public Hearing, pursuant to 541-A:11, be held before the Commission located at 21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire on November 6, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. followed by a technical session, and that the deadline for submission of materials in writing or via e-mail shall be November 13, 2013, as set forth in the Notice; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that pursuant to RSA 541-A:6, III, the Commission shall undertake a public notice advertisement by publishing a copy of this Order together with the Notice no later than October 9, 2013, in a newspaper with a daily statewide circulation, publication to be documented by affidavit filed with the Commission on or before November 1, 2013.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this twenty-sixth day of  
September, 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 South Fruit Street, Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire 03301; 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.

# APPENDIX II-C

## RULEMAKING NOTICE FORM

Notice Number \_\_\_\_\_

Rule Number \_\_\_\_\_

**Puc 300**

1. Agency Name & Address:

**Public Utilities Commission  
21 South Fruit Street  
Suite 10  
Concord, NH 03301**

2. RSA Authority: **RSA 365:8, XII**

3. Federal Authority: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Type of Action:

Adoption \_\_\_\_\_

Amendment \_\_\_\_\_

Repeal \_\_\_\_\_

Readoption \_\_\_\_\_

Readoption w/amendment **X**

5. Short Title **RULES FOR ELECTRIC SERVICE**

6. (a) Summary of what the rule says and the effect of the rule on those regulated:

**The Puc 300 rules contain requirements for the provision of electric service to New Hampshire. The rules regulate meter testing and reading, service quality including voltage variation and interruption of service, notice to the commission of accidents and outages, and the requirement that utilities submit periodic reports for commission review. There are amendments to the rules. Principally, the amendments concern an improved definition of the criteria regarding master-metering, additional accident and reliability reporting requirements, a new requirement that utilities prepare and file emergency response plans, tree trimming standards and reporting related to wide scale outages. In addition, the rules related to bulk power supply facilities have been deleted as the bulk power supply statute was repealed since the last adoption of the Puc 300 rules.**

**The existing rules are scheduled to expire October 18, 2013 but are subject to extension pursuant to RSA 541-A:14-a.**

6. (b) Brief description of the groups affected:

**Those affected by the rules are the three electric distribution utilities in the state (Public Service Company of New Hampshire, Granite State Electric Company d/b/a Liberty Utilities and Unitil Energy Systems, Inc.). Puc 301.01(b) indicates the provisions of the rules that apply to the New Hampshire Electric Cooperative.**

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6. (c) Specific section or sections of state statute or federal statute or regulation which the rule is intended to implement:

Rule	Statute
Puc 301.01-301.02	RSA 365:8, XII; 362:2,II
Puc 302.01-302.23	RSA 365:8, XII
Puc 303.01	RSA 374:15
Puc 303.02	RSA 365:8, XII
Puc 303.03	RSA 365:8, XII; 370:1
Puc 303.04	RSA 365:8, XII, 374:1, 374-F:3,I
Puc 304.01-304.04	RSA 365:8, XII; 374:1, 374-F:3,I
Puc 305.01-305.07	RSA 365:8, XII; 370:1-9, 374:1, 374-F:3,I
Puc 306.01-306.05	RSA 365:8, XII
Puc 306.06	RSA 365:8, XII; 365:6; 374:39
Puc 306.07	RSA 365:8, XII; 374:49
Puc 306.08	RSA 365:8, XII, 374:1, 374-F:3,I
Puc 306.09	RSA 365:8,XII, 374:50
Puc 307.01-307.04	RSA 365:8, XII; 374:8
Puc 307.05-307.10	RSA 365:8, XII
Puc 308.01-308.13	RSA 365:8, XII; 374:15
Puc 308.03	RSA 365:8, XII,RSA 370:1-9
Puc 308.06	RSA 365:8, XII, RSA 374:39
Puc 308.07	RSA 365:8, XII,RSA 374:5
Puc 308.14	RSA 365:8,XII, 374:4
Puc 308.15-308.16	RSA 365:8,XII, 374:1, 374-F:3,I
Puc 309 (Deleted)	RSA 162-H:17 & 18
Puc 310.01-310.06	RSA 365:8, XII
Puc 311.01-311.02	RSA 365:8, XII, 374:28-a

7. Contact person for copies and questions including requests to accommodate persons with disabilities:

Name: **Suzanne Amidon, Esq.**

Title: **Staff Attorney**

Address: **NH Public Utilities Commission  
21 South Fruit Street  
Suite 10  
Concord, NH 03301**

Phone #: **603-271-2431**

Fax#: **603-271-4033**

E-mail: **Suzanne.amidon@puc.nh.gov**

TTY/TDD Access: Relay NH 1-800-735-2964 or dial 711 (in NH)

8. Deadline for submission of materials in writing or, if practicable for the agency, in the electronic format specified: **November 13, 2013**

☒ Fax

☒ E-mail

☐ Other format (specify):

9. Public Hearing scheduled for:

Date and Time: **November 6, 2013 at 10:00 a.m.**

Place: **Public Utilities Commission  
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10  
Concord, NH 03301**

10. Fiscal Impact Statement (Prepared by Legislative Budget Assistant)

FIS # **FIS 13:160** dated **9/16/2013**

11. Statement Relative to Part I, Article 28-a of the N.H. Constitution: **The proposed rules do not mandate or assign any new, expanded or modified programs or responsibilities to any political subdivision of the State of New Hampshire. They therefore do not violate Part I, Article 28-a of the N.H. Constitution by necessitating additional local expenditures by a political subdivision.**

## 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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### 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.