

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

DE 13-248

PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Petition to Amend Rate EOL to Include Light Emitting Diode Technology

ORDER OF NOTICE

On August 28, 2013, Public Service Company of New Hampshire (PSNH) filed a petition for authority to include light emitting diode (LED) technology under the Company's Rate Efficient Outdoor Lighting (EOL) and to implement a new rate structure for LED lighting options. PSNH included supporting testimony and related exhibits including an illustrative tariff with its filing. PSNH requested that the Commission issue an order approving the new offering and rate on and allow implementation within 30 days from the date of any order.

PSNH's Rate EOL is an unmetered rate for street lighting service that is available to federal, state, county, municipal and other governmental entities. To qualify for the rate, customers on Rate EOL must agree to convert all of their roadway and area lighting to either high pressure sodium (HPS) or metal halide (MH) and to pay PSNH the remaining unexpired life of all existing fixtures as well as the installed cost of new HPS and MH fixtures. The Rate EOL tariff also includes a fixed monthly distribution rate per fixtures and the monthly kilowatt-hour (kWh) per luminaire charge assumed for billing services.

In the settlement agreement on PSNH's distribution rates approved in Docket No. DE 09-035, PSNH agreed to monitor developments in LED technology. As a result of the Company's review, PSNH determined that offering an LED option under Rate EOL may provide customers with opportunities for energy savings while improving overall lighting quality. On that basis,

PSNH proposes to allow customers to avail themselves of the LED option and to select from an accepted list of available LED products for installation. PSNH said that customers will assume the responsibility for providing replacement fixtures when needed and to replace LED fixtures that fail or are damaged. PSNH will continue to be responsible for all installation and maintenance of the LED lights.

In addition to making LED lighting an option under Rate EOL, PSNH is also proposing a new rate design to accommodate the numerous types of LED light options presently available. Based on its analysis of LED lighting, PSNH developed a proposed fixed distribution rate of \$8.50 per fixture and a proposed distribution rate per watt of \$0.0139. According to PSNH, for the same light output, kilowatt-hour usage under the LED service option will be lower than usage for existing options, reflecting the lower wattage of LEDs. PSNH said that for comparable light output, municipalities will receive lower monthly charges for charges that area assessed by volume of electricity usage including charges for transmission, stranded costs recovery, systems benefits, electricity consumption tax, and energy service. PSNH stated that the new rate design conforms to PSNH's least cost integrated resource plan most recently filed and found adequate by the Commission.

The 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/2013/13-248.html>.

The filing raises, *inter alia*, issues related to whether it is in the public interest that PSNH offer and LED option pursuant to Rate EOL, whether PSNH appropriately designed the LED option, and whether the resulting rates are just and reasonable pursuant to RSA 378:5 and 378:8. 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 Technical Session, pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.09, be held at the Commission located at 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire on November 5, 2013 at 10:00 to allow Staff and interested parties to examine the petition; and it is

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

FURTHER ORDERED, that pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.12, PSNH shall notify all persons desiring to be heard at this hearing by publishing a copy of this Order of Notice no later than October 28, 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 December 5, 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 PSNH and the Office of the Consumer Advocate on or before November 5, 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 November 8, 2013.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this twenty-third day of
October, 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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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.