

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

DE 14-347

PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Petition to Amend Assessment Collection Method

ORDER OF NOTICE

On December 3, 2014, Public Service Company of New Hampshire (PSNH) filed a petition to amend the manner in which it collects the funds relating to the Commission's expense assessment under RSA 363-A. Under Senate Bill 324 passed during the 2014 legislative session, all amounts assessed to electric distribution utilities are to be collected through their distribution rates, with the exception of the sum of \$10,000 required to be collected from the utility's energy service or default service customers. RSA 363-A:6, I. This legislation also provides that the Commission shall by order establish rate recovery mechanisms for each electric distribution utility that adjust annually to recover any change in the utility's annual assessment. RSA 363-A:6, III.

In order to comply with the statutory requirements of RSA 363-A:6, PSNH proposes to amend its distribution rate to recover through that rate all assessed amounts, with the exception of \$10,000 to be included in its energy service rate. PSNH's filing identifies the amount of the assessment currently included in the energy service and transmission rates that must now be included in the base distribution rate and includes supporting schedules showing the calculation of the adjustment to the base distribution rate necessary to meet the new statutory requirements. In support of its petition, PSNH filed the testimony of Christopher J. Goulding, together with related attachments. PSNH requests that the Commission approve the modification of its

distribution rate as described in the petition and establish a reconciling process as required under RSA 363-A.

The petition and subsequent docket filings, other than 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/2014/14-347.html>.

The filing raises, *inter alia*, issues related to the requirements of RSA 363-A, as amended by Senate Bill 324, and whether PSNH's proposed adjustments to its distribution rate and the resulting rates are just and reasonable, as required by RSA 378:5 and 387:8. 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 hearing on the merits be held before the Commission located at 21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire, on December 18, 2014, at 10:30 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 December 12, 2014, 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 16, 2014; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that consistent with N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.17 and Puc 203.02, 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 December 16, 2014, 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. Rules 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 December 18, 2014.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this eighth day of December, 2014.



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.