



CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU
GOVERNOR

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF ENERGY AND PLANNING
107 Pleasant Street, Johnson Hall
Concord, NH 03301-3834
Telephone: (603) 271-2155
Fax: (603) 271-2615



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
BEFORE THE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
DE 16-576

**Development of New Alternative Net Metering Tariffs and/or Other Regulatory
Mechanisms and Tariffs for Customer-Generators**

**Office of Energy and Planning's Statement of Support
for the Utility/Consumer Settlement Agreement**

The Office of Energy and Planning ("OEP") hereby provides notice to the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission (the "Commission") and to all parties in DE 16-576 of OEP's support for the partial settlement agreement filed on March 10, 2017, by Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy, Unitil Energy Systems, Inc., Liberty Utilities (Granite State Electric) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities, the Office of the Consumer Advocate, the New England Ratepayers Association, Standard Power of America, Inc., and the Consumer Energy Alliance (hereafter the "Utility/Consumer Settlement Agreement"). OEP believes that the Utility/Consumer Settlement Agreement represents a reasonable compromise of the initial positions of the parties, satisfies the legislative intent of HB 1116 (2016) that resulted in the initiation of this proceeding, and would constitute a just and reasonable outcome of this Docket that is in the public interest.

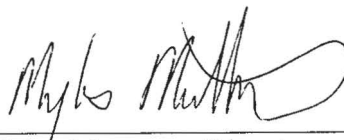
In pursuing a sustainable, long-term outcome, OEP seeks an evidence-based and economically-sound solution that avoids unjust and unreasonable cost shifting while providing predictability to market participants. In the absence of comprehensive data upon which to craft such a solution, OEP supports reasonable and pragmatic transitional mechanisms and pricing

structures. In particular, to more expeditiously develop the data necessary to underpin a longer-term rate system design, OEP wishes to express its support of the Utility/Consumer Settlement Agreement's commitment, set forth in Sections 12 and 13, to further data collection, pilots, and ultimately an independent value of distributed energy resources ("V-DER") study. These efforts will provide the Commission with data and analysis necessary to review options for a more precise and quantitative tariff that can fairly and accurately allocate the costs and benefits of DER among all customers.

OEP recognizes that the tariff proposed by the Utility/Consumer Settlement Agreement continues to represent a "best guess" at the appropriate valuation of energy produced by DERs. However, this pragmatic "best guess" is reasonable for an interim period while the agreed upon data collection and analysis is conducted. OEP believes that the tariff set out in the Utility/Consumer Settlement Agreement is a reasonable adjustment to the current net metering tariff that will mitigate any unjust and unreasonable cost-shifting while continuing to provide reasonable compensation to customer-generators for electricity exported to the electric grid.

For these reasons, OEP joins the Utility/Consumer Settlement Agreement and expresses its support for the Commission's approval thereof.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Myles Matteson", written over a horizontal line.

Myles Matteson, Director
Office of Energy and Planning