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Development of New Alternative Net Metering Tariffs and/or Other Regulatory Mechanisms and Tariffs for Customer-Generators Docket No. DE 16-576 Eversource Set 1 Data Requests on Rebuttal Testimony to Commission Staff

Received: January 6, 2017 Request Number: Eversource 1-1 Date of Response: January 20, 2017 Witness: Stan Faryniarz

Request:

Reference Bates Page 38 lines 18-22. The testimony states: "Staff suggests that a well-designed and properly conducted long-term avoided cost study using marginal concepts and incorporating both TRC benefit-cost test and RIM test criteria should prove useful in informing DG net metering program designs to be considered and approved by the Commission."

a. Please identify who would be responsible for conducting the studies referred to here, and how long such studies would take to complete.

b. Does Staff have a suggested model (i.e. from another state) that is an example of the types of analyses being suggested? If so, please provide such model.

Response:

- (a) It is Staff's expectation that the utilities and/or other parties to this proceeding, or any separate docket or stakeholder process that may follow from it, would be responsible for conducting the recommended studies. The time frame for completion of the studies likely would be developed through stakeholder collaboration, potentially with direction from the Commission through an order issued in this or another docket.
- (b) Staff does not have a suggested model that is a definitive example of the type of study recommended in its rebuttal testimony. Given the fact that DG technologies are everevolving (e.g., smart inverters), differences of opinions on costs and benefits, or the proper measurement thereof, and other factors, there is unlikely to be found an "off-the-shelf" study model. Ideally, a well-designed and properly conducted long-term avoided cost study using marginal concepts and incorporating both TRC benefit-cost test and RIM test criteria would be developed by the utilities and other stakeholders together with their consultants, using generally accepted marginal cost methods to develop the avoided costs for the different components of the power system. The scope and design of the proposed study could be vetted with Staff prior to its completion, and the study methodology and results would be reviewed following its submission to the Commission.