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 1-5

Date of Response: January 20, 2017
Witness: Stan Faryniarz

Request:

Reference Bates Page 52 lines 3-7, where Staff suggests that it is important to collect more data and perform further analysis regarding avoided line losses and the extent to which they should be appropriately recognized in net metering program design, while excluding any such losses that are effectively already included in the current compensation rate for excess generation from DG resources exported to the grid.

a. Please provide details on the type of data needed and the timeframe for data collection.

b. Is Staff aware of any studies that examine losses and the extent to which they should be recognized in a net metering tariff? Please provide references to these studies.

Response:

(a) The types of data needed were largely identified and requested of the utilities and other parties in both direct prefiled testimony and discovery promulgated in this proceeding, though studies prepared in other jurisdictions and by other organizations could prove useful in determining the type of data needed. Relevant data to be collected could include, but not necessarily be limited to, interval metered data on DG resource output, whether exported or not, the number of, growth in penetration levels, and technology types of DG systems by circuit and for the utility system as a whole, and metered interval data at the substation and feeder levels of the distribution system. Particular focus should be on circuits with the greatest penetrations of DG resources. The timeframe for data collection is expected to be a subject of the collaborative working group process recommended by Staff in the rebuttal testimony. These working groups would be convened to develop detailed plans and timelines for further data collection, any required metering and equipment procurement and installation, and the production and dissemination of the additional data collected.

(b) Staff is aware of a number of studies that have considered the avoided costs and other benefits of behind-the-meter solar systems and other distributed generation. Staff is not able to reference any particular study that extensively and definitively analyzes the benefits of avoided line losses attributable to DG in the net metering context.