

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

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
D/B/A EVERSOURCE ENERGY**

Docket No. DE 19-XXX

**PETITION FOR RECOVERY OF STORM EXPENSES**

Pursuant to Puc 202.01(a) and Puc 203.06, Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (“Eversource” or “the Company”) hereby petitions the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) for approval to recover certain storm-related expenses from the Company’s Major Storm Cost Reserve (“MSCR” or “Reserve”). More specifically, Eversource is requesting that the costs contained in this filing be audited and the resulting audited costs approved for recovery through the MSCR. In support of its Petition, Eversource says the following:

1. As part of the settlement regarding restructuring in Docket No. DE 99-099 Eversource established the MSCR for the purpose of covering the incremental costs associated with severe weather events. Under the MSCR, Eversource recovers from customers through its distribution rates a specified annual amount to be used in the event a Major Storm occurs.<sup>1</sup> Eversource simultaneously records a liability into its MSCR equal to the amount that it recovers from customers so that the recovery does not result in earnings accruing to Eversource. Costs incurred by Eversource for restoration of service during a weather event qualifying as a Major Storm are charged to the MSCR. The level of funding for the MSCR has varied over time, but has been at a level of \$12 million annually since 2013. Following Order No. 25,465 (February 26, 2013) in Docket No. DE

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<sup>1</sup> A Major Storm is defined as an event that results in either: a) 10% or more of Eversource’s retail customers being without power in conjunction with more than 200 reported troubles; or b) more than 300 reported troubles during the event. See Order No. 25,465 at 1.

12-320 if certain defined criteria are met, Eversource may also charge specified pre-staging costs to the MSCR for events that do not ultimately rise to the level of a Major Storm.<sup>2</sup>

2. By this petition, and consistent with the request in the February 2, 2019 recommendation of the Commission Staff in Docket No. DE 18-058, Eversource seeks approval to recover the costs of eleven storm and pre-staging events that occurred from July 2016 through December 2017: (1) July 23, 2016 Major Storm; (2) December 29, 2016 Pre-Staging event; (3) February 12, 2017 Pre-Staging event; (4) February 16, 2017 Pre-Staging event; (5) March 2, 2017 Major Storm; (6) March 14, 2017 Pre-Staging event; (7) March 15, 2017 Major Storm; (8) March 31, 2017 Pre-Staging event; (9) October 29, 2017 Major Storm; (10) December 23, 2017 Major Storm; and (11) December 25, 2017 Pre-Staging event. Eversource is requesting that the Commission approve the recovery of the audited costs from these events to be charged against the MSCR. Eversource has, and will provide, all information and documentation necessary to facilitate the Commission's audit of these eleven events.

3. With this petition, Eversource includes the testimony of Marc E. Leménager to explain the costs of the events described above, describe the function of the Reserve, and to demonstrate Eversource's reasonable and appropriate accounting for the costs to be charged to the Reserve.

4. Of note, Eversource does not seek any adjustment to its distribution rates to account for the above. Rather, Eversource requests only that the Commission approve the recovery of costs from the MSCR, which was specifically designed to allow for the recovery of these costs.


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<sup>2</sup> See the Testimony of David L. Bickford in Docket No. DE 12-320 for a description of the types of pre-staging costs permitted to be charged to the MSCR.

WHEREFORE, Eversource respectfully requests that the Commission grant this petition and request, and order such further relief as may be just and equitable.

Respectfully submitted this 19th day of March, 2019.

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE D/B/A  
EVERSOURCE ENERGY**

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