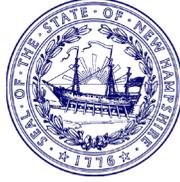


STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10
Concord, N.H. 03301-2429

April 20, 2023

Daniel C. Goldner, Chairman
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
21 South Fruit Street
Concord, NH 03301

Re: DE 19-057; Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy;
Request for Change in Rates; Final Business Process Audit Report of Eversource Energy
Inc, prepared by River Consulting Group, Inc. - CONFIDENTIAL VERSION

Dear Chairman Goldner:

Attached is the CONFIDENTIAL VERSION of Final Business Process Audit Report of Eversource Energy Inc, (Eversource) prepared by River Consulting Group, Inc. (RCG), submitted pursuant to Section 3.2 and Appendix 2 of the Settlement Agreement approved in this docket by Order No. 26,433.

In preparing this report, RCG relied on and incorporated certain information that Eversource asserted (at the time the information was provided) is confidential. Out of an abundance of caution, each page of the attached Report is stamped CONFIDENTIAL at this time. However, the Department believes that only a small number of the pages in the Report (pages 76, 77, 78, 89, 121, 122, and 123) actually contain confidential information and ultimately, the vast majority of the Report can be made public. On these pages, the Department has "grayed-out" information that the Department believes confidential, based on Eversource's prior assertions.

As noted in the Department's April 3, 2023 Response to Motion by Eversource Energy to Resolve Dispute Regarding Settlement Agreement Implementation, Eversource has had this Report since November 30, 2022, and has provided no comments on this Report concerning confidentiality (or otherwise). Thus, the Department is placed in the position of redacting (or graying-out) information without a specific request for confidentiality by Eversource – whose confidential information is at issue.

Thus, the Department recommends that the Commission require Eversource to review this CONFIDENTIAL VERSION (with the grayed-out information noted) and indicate if Eversource agrees that the grayed-out information is indeed confidential and require Eversource to produce a redacted (public) version for the docket. In addition, the Commission should require Eversource to file a Motion for Confidential Treatment

pursuant to Puc 203.08 justifying protection of the grayed-out information (and any other information in the Report Eversource asserts is confidential). The Department recommends that this process be brief, so that a public version of the Report is placed in the docket as soon as possible.

Consistent with the Commission's current practices this letter is being filed only in electronic form.

Sincerely,

/s/ *Paul B. Dexter*

Paul B. Dexter
Senior Hearings Examiner/Legal Director

cc: Service List (letter only)

Jessica Buno Ralston, Esq. (including Confidential Version of Report)

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