

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

DE 19-197

**Electric and Natural Gas Utilities Development of a Statewide,
Multi-Use Online Energy Data Platform**

Order Following Status Conference

O R D E R N O. 26,701

October 11, 2022

I. PROCEDURAL HISTORY

On March 2, 2022, the Commission issued Order No. 26,589, in which it approved the design and framework proposed by the parties for the development and implementation of the statewide, multi-use online energy data platform (data platform). Order No. 26,589 provided an illustrative timeline of the steps that would be required for Commission oversight of the data platform, which included a status conference for the presentation of, among other things, customer interface demonstrations. *Id.* at 17. In Order No. 26,644 (June 24, 2022), which clarified Order No. 26,589, the Commission requested that the parties provide a working model of the data platform at the status conference to show how it would be navigated. *Id.* at 7.

The parties who participated during the prehearing conference held on June 3, 2022, with the exception of the New Hampshire Department of Energy (DOE), filed a motion on August 11, 2022, to schedule an additional prehearing conference for the purpose of presenting a live demonstration of the customer experience with the Application Programming Interface (API), which allows customers and third-party users to register to access and share data. The moving parties requested that the Commission schedule the prehearing conference, using a hybrid format, so that Michael Murray of Mission:data

Coalition, who is based on the West Coast, could present a live working model on a web browser.

In addition, on September 20, 2022, Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (Eversource), on behalf of the other New Hampshire electric and natural gas utilities participating in this docket (together, the NH Utilities), notified the Commission of other issues that the NH Utilities would like to discuss at the status conference scheduled on October 6, 2022. These issues included: (1) the need to contract for outside resources to develop the cost/benefit model updates required by Order No. 26,644 (June 24, 2022); (2) a sole-source contract with Dunskey Energy Consulting for the work required by Order No. 26,644; and (3) an alternative approach to the sequence of deliverables required by the Commission's relevant orders in this docket.

The Commission scheduled a status conference at 1:30 p.m. on October 6, 2022, as requested by the parties. The status conference was held on October 6 as scheduled. At the conference Mr. Murray provided a live demonstration of the customer interface for the API and the NH Utilities discussed the additional three issues regarding the timing of development milestones, and the use the Dunskey Group as well as other outside consultants.

II. COMMISSION ANALYSIS

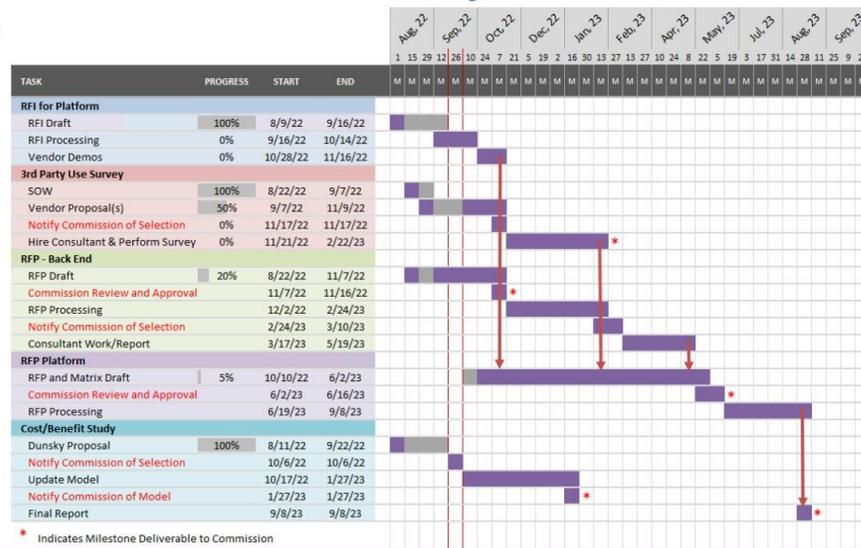
The Commission oversight of the development of the statewide Data Platform, is designed to assist the Commission in making determinations concerning: (1) whether the proposed data platform meets the elements of RSA 378:51, II (a), (b), and (c); (2) whether the costs of the data platform are reasonable and in the public interest, RSA 378:51, III; and (3) how those costs should be recovered, RSA 378:54, II.

Our objective is for the process to proceed efficiently and at the lowest possible cost while achieving the functionality needed to provide the services and information envisioned

for the data platform. We appreciate the NH Utilities and other parties' presentation of the live model for the customer interface and approve that approach for further development.

With regard to "Workstream Schedule Summary Slide" presented at the Status Conference and filed in the docket post-hearing, we approve the work schedule and deliverables as outlined and believe it provides a reasonable framework for moving forward. To the extent the proposed schedule is inconsistent with our prior orders Nos. 26,589 and 26,644, we amend those orders to conform to the proposed work schedule. The entries in red in the workflow represent "milestone deliverables" to the Commission and we will work to provide prompt feedback to the parties following each of those deliverables.

Work Stream Schedule Summary



We approve the Dunsky Group consulting work as described at the status conference, subject to the cap of \$100,000 on the cost of that work.

With regard to other third-party consultants needed for back-end development, software surveys and other development assistance, we will require our review and

approval of any contract in excess of \$50,000 before work begins. We will endeavor to provide review and feedback promptly so as not to delay the development process. To the extent this review of consultant agreements creates additional “milestone deliverables” to the Commission we modify the proposed Workstream Schedule Summary to accommodate that additional Commission review.

Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby

ORDERED, the proposed Workstream Schedule Summary is APPROVED as modified by this order; and it is

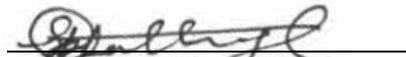
FURTHER ORDERED, that the consulting work of the Dunsky Group as described at the Status Conference is APPROVED subject to a \$100,000 cap on cost; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that any other proposed consulting arrangements costing more than \$50,000 shall be submitted to the Commission for review and approval prior to performance.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this eleventh day of October, 2022.



Daniel C. Goldner
Chairman



Pradip K. Chattopadhyay
Commissioner



F. Anne Ross
Special Commissioner

Service List - Docket Related

Docket#: 19-197

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