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May 29, 2020

Re: DE 20-061, Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy
Proposed Tariff Amendment to Extend Repayment Term for Energy Efficiency Loans
Conditional Approval of Amendment to Terms of Energy Efficiency Loan Program

To the Parties:

On April 29, 2020, Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a/ Eversource Energy (Eversource) filed a request to amend the provisions of its tariff relating to the maximum repayment term of energy efficiency (EE) loans offered to residential customers through on-bill financing. The proposed revisions to Eversource's "Energy Efficiency Loan Program" are shown on the 1st Revised Page 96 of Eversource's tariff NH PUC No. 9 filed by Eversource. Specifically, Eversource seeks to amend the current maximum repayment term limit of 24 months to permit it to offer its customers loan term extensions of up to 12 months, providing for a maximum repayment term of 36 months, at its discretion. In addition to the proposed revised tariff, Eversource filed the technical statement of Katherine Peters, Manager of Eversource's Energy Efficiency Programs.

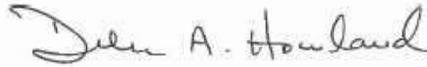
In her technical statement, Ms. Peters explained that the proposed tariff amendment is designed to provide leniency in the repayment of EE loans, given the widespread, and likely persistent, economic hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Eversource stated that there are presently just over 100 residential EE loans, which would become eligible for an extension of the repayment term. As the total outstanding balance of these loans is approximately \$203,049, the possible revenue impact of the proposed tariff amendment would be minimal.

On May 19, the Commission Staff (Staff) recommended approval of the proposed tariff amendment, with an effective date of June 1, 2020. Staff also recommended that Eversource notify the current residential EE loan recipients of the option to extend their loan terms. The Office of the Consumer Advocate supported Staff's recommendation.

The Commission has reviewed the proposed tariff changes and is generally supportive of Eversource's efforts to offer loan term extensions to residential customers to help them repay their EE loans during these difficult economic times. However, the Commission does not agree that these EE loan extensions should be at the discretion of Eversource. Instead, an EE loan extension should be granted to any residential customer who requests one.

Accordingly, the Commission approves the requested tariff amendment, subject to the condition that Eversource remove the clause giving it discretion to grant a requested extension, effective June 1, 2020. As recommended by Staff, the Commission requires Eversource to notify each of its current residential EE loan recipients of the option to extend their EE loan repayment terms, which notification should occur no later than June 12, 2020. Eversource shall file with the Commission a revised tariff that reflects the terms of the approved amendment on or before Monday, June 15, 2020.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Debra A. Howland". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'D'.

Debra A. Howland
Executive Director

cc: Service List (Electronically)
Docket File

Service List - Docket Related

Docket#: 20-061

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