

KEEGAN WERLIN LLP

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

99 HIGH STREET, Suite 2900

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02110

(617) 951-1400

TELECOPIER:

(617) 951- 1354

March 2, 2023

Daniel Goldner, Chairman
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

**Re: Docket No. DE 20-161
Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy
2020 Least Cost Integrated Resource Plan
Settlement Agreement (NWA threshold and N-1 planning standard as it applies to
DER interconnection)**

Dear Chairman Goldner:

Enclosed for filing is a Settlement Agreement that has been reached between Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (the “Company”) and the New Hampshire Department of Energy (“DOE”) (“the Settling Parties”). The Settlement Agreement addresses non-wires alternative (“NWA”) threshold issues and the Company’s N-1 planning standard as it applies to distributed energy resource (“DER”) interconnection.

DOE, by and through counsel, has authorized the Company to submit the enclosed Settlement Agreement. The Settling Parties respectfully request that the Commission approve the Settlement Agreement as consistent with the requirements of RSA 378:38 and RSA 378:39. The Settling Parties also request that the Commission waive the requirements of Puc 203.20(e) and permit the filing of this Settlement Agreement fewer than five days prior to the hearing, and its identification as an exhibit. Delay was unavoidable because agreement was reached today. Accordingly, the parties could not have filed it sooner. *See* attached Settlement Agreement. Waiver is appropriate because it promotes the orderly and efficient conduct of the proceeding; will not unduly delay the proceeding; and will not adversely affect (or impair) the rights of any party. Clean Energy New Hampshire participated in settlement discussions that lead to this agreement, and the Office of Consumer Advocate was invited to participate but did not. Finally, excluding the exhibit would cause DOE and Eversource undue hardship, and require additional detailed testimony regarding the issues addressed in settlement and previously identified in the January 19, 2023 status updates. *See* Puc 203.20 (e) and Puc 201.05

For purposes of the March 7, 2023 hearing, the Settlement Agreement is marked as Exhibit No. 22 as a joint exhibit of DOE and the Company. *See id.* (marked as Exhibit 22 for identification).

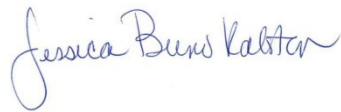
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Please contact me if you have any questions with respect to this filing. Consistent with the Commission's current policy, this letter is being filed solely in electronic form. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Jessica Buno Ralston

cc: Service List, DE 20-161