

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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March 20, 2023

Mr. Harry Gallien
Electric Superintendent
Ashland Electric Department
6 Collins Street
Ashland, New Hampshire 03217

By U.S. Mail and E-mail (electricssuper@ashland.nh.gov)

RE: IR 22-053 New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission Investigation into Electric Power Procurement (Default Service)

Request for Ashland Electric Department Input

Dear Mr. Gallien:

I am writing you in connection with our Commission's current Investigation, docketed under Docket No. IR 22-053, examining potential improvements in procurement approaches by our regulated, investor-owned electric utilities for their Default Service customers. This Investigation is timely in light of the recent steep increases borne by Default Service customers in our State.

The Commission has noted the impressive results achieved by municipal utilities such as the Ashland Electric Department (AED) in securing lower costs than the regulated utilities for their electric service customers, and would greatly appreciate a better understanding of your process and insight into energy procurement. We have a Commission-Attended Technical Session at our premises in Concord, at 21 South Fruit Street, on Thursday, April 13, at 9:00 a.m., and so would appreciate your feedback by Thursday, April 6. A representative of the AED would also be welcome to attend this Technical Session to provide further input, at your own election. Your contribution to improving consumer outcomes for the electric ratepayers of this State is greatly appreciated.

1. Does the AED purchase power directly from the ISO-New England Day Ahead and/or Real-Time electricity market to serve its customers?
2. Does the AED apply a portfolio management approach, such as a blend of short-term, medium-term, and long-term contracts; hedging; asset management agreements; laddering; etc.? Please feel free to describe these arrangements.

3. Does the AED offer fixed-term prices for its electric service offered to its customers; and, if so, how are those rates designed?
4. What are the various rate design options offered by the AED to its electric customers? Are time-varying rate options offered? How is energy procured for time-varying rate customers (as applicable)?

You may read the current filings and Commission orders issued in this IR 22-053 Investigation on our website, available here: <https://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2022/22-053.html>

With gratitude,



Chairman