## STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

**DE 22-067** 

# TOWN OF PETERBOROUGH Administration 1 Grove Street Peterborough, NH 03458

# Request for Approval of Peterborough Community Power Electric Aggregation Plan

#### Conditional Approval of Community Power Aggregation Plan

ORDER NO. 26,743

December 12, 2022

In this order, the Commission conditionally approves the Town of Peterborough's (Peterborough) Community Power Electric Aggregation Plan (Plan).

#### I. BACKGROUND

On October 12, 2022, Peterborough submitted a request for approval of a community power aggregation plan to provide electric power supply and services for residents, businesses, and other entities in Peterborough pursuant to RSA chapter 53-E. Accompanying its request, Peterborough submitted the text of its Plan with attachments.

On October 13, 2022, the Commission issued an order of notice establishing a deadline for comments on Peterborough's Plan. Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (Eversource) submitted timely comments.

Peterborough's request, along with all subsequent docket filings, other than any information for which confidential treatment is requested of or granted by the Commission, is posted at: <a href="https://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2022/22-067.html">https://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2022/22-067.html</a>.

#### II. COMMISSION ANALYSIS

The Commission has reviewed Peterborough's Plan pursuant to RSA 53-E:7, II, as amended, which states that

The commission shall approve any plan submitted to it unless it finds that it does not meet the requirements of this chapter and other applicable rules and shall detail in writing addressed to the governing bodies of the municipalities or counties concerned, the specific respects in which the proposed plan substantially fails to meet the requirements of this chapter and applicable rules.

RSA 53-E:7, II also provides specific direction on the process to be used for the submission of such plans, including the following requirements: 1) on the same day the plan is submitted to the Commission, copies shall be provided to the Office of the Consumer Advocate and any electric distribution utility providing service within the jurisdiction of the municipality; 2) the Commission shall accept public comments for 21 days thereafter; and 3) the Commission's review of the plan and comments shall not require a contested case. N.H. Code Admin R. Puc 2204.01 (a) also requires notification of aggregation plan filings be made with the New Hampshire Department of Energy.

Peterborough's submission complied with these procedural requirements.

Under the terms of the Plan, Peterborough may elect to either conduct a competitive solicitation to hire a Community Power Broker/Service Provider or participate fully in the Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire (CPCNH).

Based on our review of the Plan, we have determined that Peterborough's Plan contains an adequate level of detail of the RSA 53-E:6, III statutory criteria and other applicable statutory requirements. In reviewing compliance with the N.H. Code Admin R. ch. 2200, we note that Peterborough's Plan was one of the first two aggregation plans submitted after the effective date of this new rule set. Therefore, we detail

several regards in which Peterborough's Plan addressed requirements contained in the Puc ch. 2200 rules:

- 1. Pursuant to Puc 2204.01, the aggregation plan shall provide contact information for a government official serving as a liaison or responsible person, any applicable website URL, and certain statements regarding whether that applicable governing body has approved the aggregation plan. Peterborough complied with parts of these requirements in the cover letter accompanying the Plan, stating that stating that "This plan was adopted at Peterborough Town Meeting on May 10, 2022 and amended by the Select Board on October 4, 2022." However, the plan does not identify a government official serving as a liaison or responsible person. And, although not required if it does not exist, Peterborough does not identify a website address.
- 2. Puc 2204.04 through 2204.06 prescribe requirements relating to the commencement of services, including timeframes based on utility default service schedules, rate notification requirements, mailing requirements, public meeting requirements, and requirements related to the use of utility electronic data exchange services. Peterborough directly addressed some of these requirements, while in other instances referened future Puc 2200 rules. We interpret references to future rules to mean that Peterborough acknowledges Puc ch. 2200 rules and will implement its Plan in accordance with these applicable requirements.
- 3. Puc 2205.16 prescribes requirements relating to the use of utility billing services, including the identification, prior to enrollment, whether any customer will utilize consolidated or separate billing services. Although it

appears Peterborough will elect to utilize consolidated billing services in most instances (including for all customers enrolled in the electric assistance program) we note that Peterborough identified that it will explore offering separate billing for customer generators and other customers in the future. We note that Plan indicates that Peterborough will clearly communicate the differences between the net metering value and operation provided by Peterborough Community Power and Eversource default service.

**Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby determined** that the Town of Peterborough's Request for Plan Approval is APPROVED on the condition that Peterborough comply with all requirements of Puc 2204.01(f) prior to the commencement of services.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this twelfth day of December, 2022.

Daniel C. Goldner

Chairman

radip K. Chattopadhyay

Commissioner

Carleton B. Simpson

Commissioner

### Service List - Docket Related

Docket#: 22-067

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