

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

DE 17-189

**LIBERTY UTILITIES (GRANITE STATE ELECTRIC) CORP.
d/b/a LIBERTY**

Petition to Approve Battery Storage Pilot Program

Procedural Order Re: Motion for Remote Participation

The Commission scheduled an in-person hearing in this matter for January 10, 2023 and requested that Liberty Utilities (Granite State Electric) Corp. d/b/a Liberty (Liberty) coordinate with Tesla, Inc. (Tesla) to have a Tesla representative present at the hearing, either in person or remotely, to respond to questions regarding the physical and technological capabilities of Tesla products and software. See Procedural Orders dated August 22, 2022 and September 26, 2022.

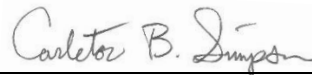
On December 30, 2022, Liberty filed a request for remote participation by Kevin Joyce from Tesla, Dmitry Balashov from Liberty, and Kajal Gaur from Guidehouse, Inc. Liberty represents that Mr. Joyce is based on the West Coast of the United States, and will be prepared to answer questions regarding the physical and technological capabilities of the Tesla products and software used in the program; and that Mr. Balashov is Liberty's Senior Director of Grid Modernization based in Oakville, Ontario, Canada, and although not expected to testify, will be available if the Commission should have questions that fall within the scope of his role. Liberty requests that these two witnesses be allowed to testify remotely to avoid the time and expense of travel to New Hampshire. Liberty represents that Mr. Gaur is based in Massachusetts, and will appear in a supporting capacity to the principal representative from Guidehouse, Inc., who will appear in person. Liberty asks that he be allowed to testify remotely to minimize costs and due to restrictions in his schedule. As of today's date, no responses to Liberty's motion have been filed.

Given the limited time remaining before the January 10, 2023 hearing, the Commission waives the 10-day objection period under New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules, Puc 203.07(e). *See* N.H. Admin. R., Puc 201.05. The Commission finds that Liberty has provided good reason for Mr. Joyce and Mr. Balashov to appear remotely on January 10, 2023 given the distance they would have to travel to testify in New Hampshire. With respect to Mr. Gaur, the Commission notes that although it generally prefers that witnesses from within the region testify in person, Liberty has provided good cause for him to testify remotely because he will support the principal representative of Guidehouse Inc., who will appear in person. Therefore, Liberty's motion for remote participation is GRANTED, and a hybrid hearing format will be used for the January 10, 2023 hearing to accommodate Mr. Joyce, Mr. Balashov, and Mr. Gaur only. The filing of a separate request will be required for any other parties or witnesses wishing to appear remotely.

So ordered, this fifth day of January, 2023.



Daniel C. Goldner
Chairman



Carleton B. Simpson
Commissioner

Service List - Docket Related

Docket#: 17-189

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