

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

DE 23-001

NEW HAMPSHIRE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

Petition for Extension of Deadline to Propose Purchase of Receivables Program

Order Conditionally Granting Short-Term Waiver of Puc 2205.16(e)

On January 9, 2023, New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc. (NHEC) filed a petition for extension of N.H. Admin. R. Puc 2205.16(e)'s deadline to file a purchase of receivables (POR) program. NHEC sought a short-term waiver (three months) pursuant to Puc 2201.03(b) and Puc 201.05. NHEC distributed its petition to the Commission-maintained service lists for two dockets, DRM 21-124 (a docket related to the Commission's adoption of the Puc 2200 rules) and DE 22-080 (a docket related to pending NHEC requests for short- and long-term waivers of multiple rules contained in Puc ch. 2200). NHEC's petition and subsequent docket filings, other than any information for which confidential treatment is requested of or granted by the Commission, are available on the Commission's website at <https://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2023/23-001.html>.

Puc 2201.03(a) states that the Commission shall determine requests to waive any of the Puc 2200 rules pursuant to Puc 201.05. However, with regard to a rural electric cooperative with a certificate of deregulation on file with the Commission pursuant to RSA 301:57, Puc 2201.03(b) requires the Commission to waive the application of any Puc 2200 rule if it finds that "compliance is not reasonably practical at a reasonable cost to the cooperative or [community power aggregation] requesting information or services from the cooperative."

NHEC supported its request for waiver by stating that it made a good faith effort to comply with the deadline, but due to staffing changes, storms, and other complications it was unable to meet the deadline. In addition, NHEC stated that it would benefit from the opportunity to review POR programs filed by other utilities, as a Commission advisor recommended may be appropriate in Docket No. DRM 21-142. NHEC suggested that waiver could be contingent on NHEC being required to file an update 60 days after the waived deadline.

Having reviewed NHEC's petition, we agree that NHEC made a showing that compliance with this deadline is not reasonably practical, and that short-term waiver is appropriate. This waiver is granted for a term not to exceed 90-days from January 10, 2023. Whereas NHEC stated that it would benefit from the opportunity to review other utility POR programs, if NHEC has not filed its POR program proposal before March 21, 2023, this waiver is conditioned on NHEC appearing before the Commission on March 21, 2023, at 1:00 p.m., to update the Commission on the status of its POR program proposal and to participate in prehearing conferences related to other utilities' POR programs occurring that afternoon.

Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby

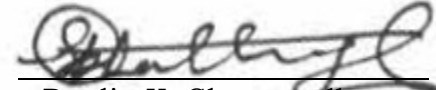
ORDERED, that New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc.'s Petition for Extension of Deadline to Propose Purchase of Receivables Program is **CONDITIONALLY GRANTED** as discussed herein; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that, if New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc. has not proposed a Purchase of Receivables Program by March 21, 2023, it shall appear before the Commission at 1:00 p.m. to update the Commission on the status of its program proposal and to participate in the prehearing conferences and technical sessions related to other POR program proposals occurring that afternoon.

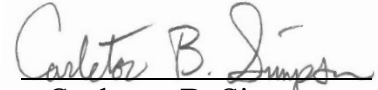
So ordered, this second day of February, 2023.



Daniel C. Goldner
Chairman



Pradip K. Chattopadhyay
Commissioner



Carleton B. Simpson
Commissioner

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Service List - Docket Related

Docket#: 23-001

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