

**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**DE 18-041**

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

**Default Service Schedule for 2018**

**ORDER OF NOTICE**

On March 23, 2018, Liberty Utilities (Granite State Electric) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities (Liberty) filed a letter with the schedule for solicitation of default energy service supply requirements for 2018. Through the solicitations, Liberty purchases power for customers who have not chosen to receive electric service from the competitive market. Liberty will issue its first request for proposal (RFP) on May 1, 2018, to procure energy for the six-month default service period beginning August 1, 2018. Liberty makes its default energy service filings pursuant to the terms of a Settlement Agreement approved by the Commission in Order No. 24,577 (Jan. 13, 2006), as modified, most recently by order No. 25,806.

Pursuant to the approved process, Liberty solicits 100 percent of power supply requirements for its large customer group (commercial and industrial customers) for a period of six months, in two, consecutive three-month blocks of power supply. Based on the result of the solicitation, Liberty develops fixed monthly rates for each month in the six-month period. For its small customer group (residential and small commercial customers), Liberty solicits a six-month block of power supply, and sets a fixed rate for the six-month period, using a weighted average of power costs for the period. In Order No. 25,806, the Commission approved Liberty's request to modify its default service procurement process by changing the two, six-month default service periods to begin in the months of February and August. With this change, the higher priced

winter months of January and February are divided between the two energy service periods, thus mitigating the price spikes commonly experienced by ratepayers in winter months.

Liberty expects to make the default service rate filing associated with its solicitation on June 18, 2018, and will require an order by June 25, 2018. Liberty expects to make its filing for the energy service period beginning February 2019 in December 2018.

The petition and subsequent docket filings, other than any information for which confidential treatment is requested of or granted by the Commission, will be posted to the Commission's website at <http://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2018/18-041.html>.

The filing raises, *inter alia*, issues related to whether Liberty used the approved process for the solicitation, evaluation and selection of bidders for power supply requirements; whether the resulting rates are just and reasonable as required by RSA 378:5 and 7; and whether Liberty has procured energy service requirements in a manner consistent with the electric industry restructuring statute (RSA 374-F). Each party has the right to have an attorney represent the party at the party's own expense.

**Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby**


**ORDERED**, that a Hearing, pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.12, be held before the Commission located at 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire on June 21, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.12, Liberty shall notify all persons desiring to be heard at this hearing by publishing a copy of this Order of Notice no later than May 10, 2018, in a newspaper with general circulation in those portions of the state in which operations are conducted, publication to be documented by affidavit filed with the Commission on or before June 19, 2018; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that consistent with N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.17 and Puc 203.02, any party seeking to intervene in the proceeding shall submit to the Commission seven copies of a Petition to Intervene with copies sent to Liberty and the Office of the Consumer Advocate on or before June 19, 2018, such Petition stating the facts demonstrating how its rights, duties, privileges, immunities or other substantial interest may be affected by the proceeding, consistent with N.H. Code Admin. Rule Puc 203.17; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that any party objecting to a Petition to Intervene make said Objection on or before June 21, 2018.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this nineteenth day of April, 2018.

  
Debra A. Howland  
Executive Director

Individuals needing assistance or auxiliary communication aids due to sensory impairment or other disability should contact the Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator, NHPUC, 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire 03301-2429; 603-271-2431; TDD Access: Relay N.H. 1-800-735-2964. Notification of the need for assistance should be made one week prior to the scheduled event.