

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

DE 19-059

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

Default Service Schedule for 2019

ORDER OF NOTICE

On March 26, 2019, Liberty Utilities (Granite State Electric) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities (Liberty) filed a letter with the schedule for its solicitations of default energy service supply requirements for 2019. Through the solicitations, Liberty purchases power for customers who have not chosen to receive electric service from the competitive market. On May 1, 2019, Liberty will issue its request for proposal (RFP) to procure energy for the six-month default service period beginning August 1, 2019. Liberty makes its default energy service filings pursuant to the terms of a settlement agreement approved by the Commission in Order No. 24,577 (January 13, 2006), as most recently modified by Order No. 25,806 (September 2, 2015).

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 results 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 so that one six-month default service period begins in the month of February, and a second six-month default service period begins in the

month of August of each year. 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 ratepayers commonly experienced in the winter months.

Liberty expects to make the default service rate filing associated with its solicitation on June 17, 2019, and will require an order from the Commission by June 24, 2019.

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/2019/19-059.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 374:2, and 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 19, 2019, at 1:30 p.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 April 8, 2019, 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 14, 2019; 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 April 16, 2019, if such party wishes to have a decision on their petition prior to Hearing, or otherwise on June 14, 2019, 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. Rules Puc 203.17; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that any party objecting to a Petition to Intervene make said Objection on or before April 19, 2019, for Petitions filed on or before April 16, 2019, or otherwise by June 19, 2019.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this second day of April, 2019.



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.