DE 05-164

PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Proposed Transition Energy Service and Default Energy Service Rate

Order Establishing Procedural Schedule

ORDERNO. 24,631

June 8, 2006

On May 26, 2006, Public Service Company of New Hampshire (PSNH) filed with the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission (Commission) a request for an interim adjustment of its Energy Service (formerly known as Default Service) rate effective on July 1, 2006. PSNH seeks a decrease in the rate from the current 9.13 cents per kilowatt-hour to 8.50 cents per kilowatt-hour. Reflected in the proposed rate is a \$40 million over-recovery, accumulated through Energy Service charges paid from February through June of 2006, that PSNH proposes to credit to Energy Service customers over an 18-month period.

In Order No. 24, 579 (January 20, 2006) establishing the current Energy Service rate, the Commission agreed that any interim Energy Service rate change should take place on August 1, 2006. However, PSNH is concurrently seeking in Docket No. DE 06-078 a downward adjustment to its Stranded Cost Recovery Charge, effective on July 1, 2006, to reflect the full recovery of its Part 3 stranded costs (i.e., those stranded costs for which the Company assumed some risk of non-recovery at the time it entered into the Agreement to Restructure PSNH, approved by the Commission in 2000). Further, in Docket No. DE 06-028, a rate proceeding covering PSNH's Delivery Service rates, the Company has sought a temporary rate increase for effect on July 1, 2006. PSNH proposes that the Energy Service, Stranded Cost, and Delivery Service charges all change on the same date.

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Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby

ORDERED, that a Hearing be held at the Commission located at 21 South Fruit Street, Suite #10, Concord, New Hampshire on June 21, 2006 at 2:30 p.m., and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that the following procedural schedule:

Technical Session June 15, 2006, 10:00 a.m.

Responsive Testimony June 19, 2006

is established unless otherwise ordered; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that PSNH notify all persons desiring to be heard at this hearing by publishing a copy of this Order no later than June 14, 2006, 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 30, 2006; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that any party seeking to intervene in the proceeding shall submit to the Commission an original and eight copies of a Petition to Intervene with copies sent to PSNH and the Office of the Consumer Advocate on or before June 19, 2006, such Petition stating the facts demonstrating how its rights, duties, privileges, immunities or other substantial interest may be affected by the proceeding, as required by N.H. Code Admin. Rules Jus 809.01 and RSA 541-A:32, I(b); and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that any party objecting to a Petition to Intervene make said Objection on or before June 21, 2006; and it is

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FURTHER ORDERED, that, pursuant to N.H. Code Admin Rules Jus 807.03(a)(5), each party has the right to have an attorney represent them at their own expense; and

FURTHER ORDERED, that, pending readoption of the Commission's procedural rules, N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 200, Jus 800 Model Rules of Practice and Procedure shall apply to this proceeding pursuant to RSA 541-A:30-a.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this eighth day of June, 2006.

Thomas B. Getz Chairman	Clifton Below Commissioner	Graham J. Morrison Commissioner
Attested by:		
Debra A. Howland		
Executive Director & Secretary		