

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**DE 06-061**

**INVESTIGATION INTO STANDARDS OF ENERGY POLICY ACT 2005**

**Interconnection Tariffs for Inverter Connections**

**Order Suspending Tariffs**

**ORDER NO. 24,936**

**February 2, 2009**

The Commission opened this docket on April 4, 2006 to investigate whether to adopt any of the five new energy standards contained in the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (EPAAct). The EPAAct amended the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act (PURPA) by directing state utility commissions to decide whether to implement certain energy standards, including whether to adopt the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) standard 1547 for interconnections for sources producing 10 KVA or less.<sup>1</sup> On September 15, 2008, the Commission issued Order No. 24,893 which, among other things, ordered the Staff and the electric distribution utilities - Public Service Company of New Hampshire (PSNH), Unutil Energy Systems, Inc. (UES) and Granite State Electric Company d/b/a National Grid (National Grid) - to take additional action to conclude the investigation.

Regarding interconnection, the Commission ordered PSNH, UES and National Grid to file, by December 31, 2008, utility-specific tariffs for interconnection of generating sources of up to 10 KVA and, possibly, inverter-based sources up to 100 KVA, as described in the Report of the Technical Session (Report) of April 25, 2008. The Report indicated that Staff, PSNH, National Grid and UES agreed that the electric distribution utilities should adopt a tariff using

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<sup>1</sup> See Order No. 24,763, 92 NH PUC 199 (June 22, 2007) and Order No. 24,893 (September 15, 2008) for the procedural history of this docket.

the IEEE 1547 standard for interconnections of less than 10 KVA. The Report further noted the additional agreement that PSNH, National Grid and UES should adopt a tariff that would address inverter-based interconnection for sources over 10 KVA and up to 100 KVA, coincident with the net metering requirements of RSA 362-A, II-b.

National Grid filed its tariff on January 2, 2009, UES on January 14, 2009, and PSNH on January 30, 2009. Pursuant to RSA 378:6, the Commission hereby suspends the tariffs pending an investigation. To expedite the investigation, we direct Staff to schedule a technical session with PSNH, UES and National Grid for purposes of expeditiously reviewing the tariff filings.

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

**ORDERED**, that the tariffs and revised tariff pages filed by Public Service Company of New Hampshire, Unitil Energy Service, Inc. and Granite State Electric Company d/b/a National Grid filed on January 30, January 14 and January 2, 2009, respectively, are hereby **SUSPENDED**.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this second day of February, 2009.

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Thomas B. Getz  
Chairman

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Graham J. Morrison  
Commissioner

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Clifton C. Below  
Commissioner

Attested by:

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Debra A. Howland  
Executive Director & Secretary