

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

DE 08-135 and DE 15-089

PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE d/b/a EVERSOURCE ENERGY

Line Extension Policy

Order Suspending Tariff

ORDER NO. 25,769

March 26, 2015

In this Order, the Commission suspends a proposed Eversource tariff modifying customer costs for line extension construction to allow Staff to complete the investigation into line extension policies initiated in Docket No. IR 14-190.

On February 25, 2015, Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (Eversource) filed a report on its line extension policy consisting of a technical statement and a proposed tariff pursuant to the terms of a Settlement Agreement in DE 08-135 approved by the Commission in Order No. 25,046 (Nov. 20, 2009). The Settlement Agreement allowed Eversource to phase in, over three years, new line extension charges based on a specified cost per foot. The phase-in period ended March 31, 2013, after which the Settlement Agreement provided a methodology for calculating the cost per foot that would apply to line extensions beginning April 1, 2013.

The Settlement Agreement required Eversource to file a report summarizing certain information related to line extensions by March 1 of each year, beginning in 2013. The Settlement Agreement also required that Eversource calculate the average cost per foot by construction type for the period April 1 through March 31 of each year, using an average of actual costs from the three prior years. Eversource proposes now to increase the per-foot cost of

single-phase overhead line extensions from \$21.54 to \$22.38, and to decrease the per-foot cost of single-phase underground line extensions from \$15.37 to \$14.81. Consistent with the Settlement Agreement, Eversource proposes the modified rates for effect April 1, 2015, through March 31, 2016.


On July 18, 2014, we opened IR 14-190 to investigate the line extension policies of Eversource, Liberty Utilities and Unitil Energy Systems, Inc. Because the investigation is ongoing, we find it is just and reasonable to suspend Eversource's tariff pursuant to RSA 378:6, I(b).

Eversource filed its proposed tariff in Docket No. DE 08-135, the docket originally designated for review of its line extension costs. We close that docket, and designate DE 15-089 to review Eversource's February 25, 2015 filing.

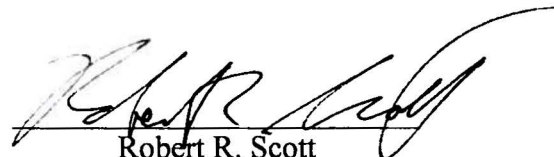
Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby

ORDERED, pursuant to RSA 378:6, I(b), the Commission hereby suspends Eversource's proposed tariff to allow the completion of the investigation in IR 14-190.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this twenty-sixth day of March, 2015.



Martin P. Honigberg
Chairman



Robert R. Scott
Commissioner

Attested by:



Debra A. Howland
Executive Director