

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

DE 21-133

**EVERSOURCE ENERGY, UNITIL ENERGY SYSTEMS,
LIBERTY UTILITIES, AND NEW HAMPSHIRE COOPERATIVE**

Electric Assistance Program Budget For 2021-2022

Order Approving Interim Budget Pending Further Proceedings

ORDER NO. 26,530

September 30, 2021

I. BACKGROUND

On September 29, 2021, Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy; Unitil Energy Systems, Inc.; Liberty Utilities (Granite State Electric) Corp. d/b/a Liberty; and New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc. (together “NH Electric Utilities”), filed a Joint Petition for Approval of the 2021-2022 Electric Assistance Petition Budgets. The NH Electric Utilities’ petition, citing Order No. 26,405 (September 18, 2020), states that the Electric Assistance Program (EAP) budgets require the Commission’s approval following a review of the budgets for administering the EAP. The NH Electric Utilities requested that the Commission expeditiously review and approve the proposed budgets to assure continued delivery of the programs.

On September 29, 2021, the Department of Energy (Energy) filed a recommendation by the EAP Advisory Board for budgets for program year 2021-2022. Program budget years begin on October 1 each year and therefore some action is required by the Commission in order to allow the EAP program to continue operating.

II. COMMISSION ANALYSIS

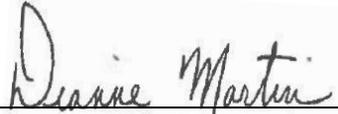
The Commission has determined that it must develop a more complete record before approving this EAP Advisory Board recommendation. Accordingly, the

Commission will approve the proposed EAP budgets on an interim basis for the months of October and November, 2021, and will establish a process for Energy, the utilities, and other interested parties to analyze the budgets. The Commission requests Energy conduct its usual review and analysis of the proposed budgets, and any necessary discovery, and file a recommendation within 40 days of the date of this order, with responses from other parties to be filed within ten days thereafter. The Commission will issue a subsequent order convening an adjudicative proceeding and setting a final hearing date. When the Commission issues a final order in this matter it will provide for any needed adjustments to the proposed budget and set budget levels for the remainder of the budget cycle.

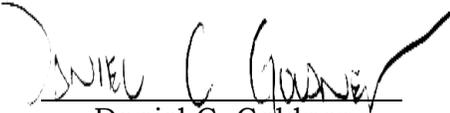
Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby

ORDERED, the 2021-2022 EAP budgets proposed by the EAP advisory board are approved on an interim basis as set forth herein above, subject to adjustment upon issuance of a final order in this matter.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this thirtieth day of September, 2021.



Dianne Martin
Chairwoman



Daniel C. Goldner
Commissioner

Service List - Docket Related

Docket# : 21-133

Printed: 9/30/2021

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