STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10

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September 21, 2020

Matthew J. Fossum, Esq. Senior Counsel Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy 780 North Commercial Street, P.O. Box 330

Re: DE 19-050, Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy

Petition for Recovery of Storm Expenses

Recovery of Storm Costs from July 2016 through December 2017

Dear Attorney Fossum:

Manchester, NH 03105-0330

On March 19, 2019, Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (Eversource or the Company) filed a petition to recover the costs of 11 storm and pre-staging events that occurred from July 2016 through December 2017 from the Company's Major Storm Cost Reserve (MSCR) fund. In support of its petition, Eversource submitted the testimony of its analyst, Marc E. Leménager. On May 20, 2020, Eversource filed additional testimony from Mr. Leménager to correct transposed entries in the initial filing, as recommended by Commission Audit Staff (Audit).

Eversource requested an audit of the costs contained in its filing and the Commission's approval of the audited costs for recovery from the MSCR fund. On June 4, 2020, Audit filed its final report and recommendations regarding the costs associated with these events (Audit Report). On September 8, 2020, Commission Staff (Staff) filed a recommendation based on its review of Eversource's submissions and the Audit Report.

Staff recommended that the Commission disallow \$19,552 for communications charges from West Interactive Services Corporation, which were deemed unrelated to the restoration of power and therefore not eligible for recovery from the MSCR fund. Staff stated that disallowing the recovery of these charges from the MSCR fund is consistent with the secretarial letter issued on March 26, 2019 in Docket DE 18-058 disallowing similar communications costs. Staff noted that Eversource has included a request for an annual revenue requirement in base rates for costs related to communications to customers during storm restoration and pre-staging events in its rate case filed in Docket DE 19-057. Accordingly, Staff recommended that this issue be addressed in Docket DE 19-057.

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Staff further recommended that the Commission approve recovery of storm restoration costs in the amount of \$49,179,461 from the MSCR fund, effective December 31, 2017, with appropriate adjusted carrying charges, as determined in the Audit Report.

The Commission has reviewed Eversource's filings and Staff's recommendation. Based on its review, the Commission denied Eversource's recovery from the MSCR fund of the amount of \$19,552 in communications costs associated with West Interactive Services Corporation. The Commission approved Staff's recommendation that the communications costs during storm restoration and pre-staging events be addressed in Docket DE 19-057.

The Commission has approved Eversource's recovery in the amount of \$49,179,461 from the MSCR fund, effective December 31, 2017, as well as appropriate carrying charges. This amount represents Eversource's storm costs related to storm restoration and pre-staging events from July 2016 through December 2017, which have been audited by Audit and reviewed by Staff. Eversource shall notify Staff when the Company has determined the amount of appropriate carrying charges, and it shall confirm the amount of the recovery and balance of the MSCR fund.

Sincerely,

Debra Howland Executive Director

Dilu A Howland

cc: Service List (electronically)
Docket File

Service List - Docket Related

Docket#: 19-050

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