

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**DE 24-061**

**LIBERTY UTILITIES (GRANITE STATE ELECTRIC) CORP. d/b/a LIBERTY**

**2024 Default Service Solicitations**

**SUPPLEMENTAL ORDER OF NOTICE**

On December 27, 2024, the Commission issued Order No. 27,091, in which it held, in the context of the Commission's approval of the Liberty Utilities (Granite State Electric) Corp. d/b/a Liberty (Liberty or the Company) default energy service rate proposal for the February 1, 2025 to July 31, 2025 period, that:

With Community Aggregation accelerating, and the wide ongoing pricing differential between requirements contract prices and ISO-New England prevailing market prices, as evidenced by Liberty's ongoing monthly reporting, the Commission believes that discussion of the potential expansion of the Company's market-based procurement program for the Small Customer Group going forward would be warranted for the planned future (March 2025) adjudication of the Company's other Default-Service related proposals within this proceeding. We further underscore, as represented by the Company in its petition and at the December 23 hearing, that the proposed Tariff changes related to the Company's reconciliation- and hedging-related proposals were provided [by Liberty] for illustrative purposes, and that the Commission would actually be ruling on them in the context of the March 2025 adjudication.

Order No. 27,091 at 7-8. As further described in the Hearing Examiner Report of Attorney Alexander Speidel, Senior Advisor at the Commission, filed on December 24, 2024, and in Order 27,091, *passim*, the Company has made proposals, within its October 2024 and December 19, 2024 Default Service filings, for adjustments to its Tariff to accommodate cost recovery for a potential Default Service hedging program by Liberty, and the application of over- and under-collections associated with Default Service to Liberty Default Service and/or distribution rates. The Company anticipated, and the Commission concurred with, an approach to have these matters adjudicated

in this later phase of this proceeding, with hearings to be held in March 2025. See Hearing Examiner Report of Alexander Speidel, Esq., December 24, 2024, at 5, available here: <https://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2024/24-061/ORDERS/24-061-2024-12-24-NHPUC-HEARINGS-EXAMINER-REPORT.PDF>; see also Order No. 27,091 at 6-8. The current level of market-based procurement for Liberty's Small Customer group (i.e., residential Default Service customers) is 50 percent; the Commission, in Order No. 27,091, following the recommendation of Hearing Examiner Speidel, sought to explore the potential for a further expansion of this program to a higher market-based procurement level, in conjunction with the Commission's review of Liberty's other Default Service proposals. *Id.*

All docket filings, other than any information subject to confidential treatment, are available on the Commission's website at

<https://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2024/24-061.html>.

The filing presents, *inter alia*, the following additional issues: whether Liberty's default service procurement process should be modified to expand the ISO-New England market-based procurement tranche of 50 percent of direct Day Ahead and Real-Time ISO-New England market acquisitions for its Small Customer Group, to a higher market-based procurement level; and whether the Company's Default Service technical proposals, related to hedging program expense and Default Service reconciliation treatments, are just and reasonable; and whether these proposals are consistent with the principles elucidated in prior Commission orders regarding Liberty's default service procurement process: Order No. 24,577 (January 13, 2006), as modified by Order No. 24,922 (December 19, 2008), Order No. 25,601 (November 27, 2013), Order No. 25,806 (September 2, 2015), Order No. 26,752 (December 22, 2022), Order No. 26,758 (January 13, 2023), Order No. 26,984 (March 29, 2024);

Order No. 27,027 (June 27, 2024); and Order No. 27,058 (October 1, 2024), as well as the Electric Utility Restructuring Policy Principles governing default service in RSA 374-F:3, V(c)-(e); and whether the resulting rates would be just and reasonable as required by RSA 374:2, RSA 378:5, and RSA 378:7. Alternative means of accomplishing the Company's stated goals for its Default Service proposals may also be considered. Accordingly, a further phase of this adjudicative proceeding will be convened to address these issues.

The Commission will be conducting any hearings scheduled in this matter in person. The Commission will consider requests to conduct hearings using a hybrid format to permit remote participation by a specific individual only if the Commission has determined that a sufficient reason has been provided for why that individual would be unable to attend in person. Any party requesting that a specific individual be permitted to participate remotely should file a written request with the Commission's Clerk's Office no later than fifteen (15) days prior to the hearing date. If the Commission determines that one or more individuals will be permitted to appear remotely, then individuals in the Commission's hearing room, including the Commissioners, will be broadcast on a web-enabled platform.

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

**ORDERED**, that a further phase of this adjudicative proceeding be commenced for the purpose of reviewing and resolving the foregoing issues pursuant to RSA chapter 541-A, RSA 374-F:3, V(c)-(e), RSA 374:2, RSA 378:5, and RSA 378:7, and the Commission's procedural rules; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that the Commission will hold a hearing in this matter at its offices located at 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire, on March 12, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. Three hours shall be allotted for this hearing; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that any entity or individual may petition to intervene and seek to be admitted as a party in this proceeding. Each party has the right to have an attorney represent the party at the party's own expense; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that consistent with RSA 541-A:32, Puc 204.08, and Puc 203.06, any entity or individual seeking to intervene in the proceeding shall file with the Commission a petition to intervene with copies sent to Liberty and any other parties on the service list, on or before March 7, 2025. The petition shall state the facts demonstrating how the petitioner's rights, duties, privileges, immunities, or substantial interests may be affected by the proceeding, consistent with Puc 204.08; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that any party objecting to a petition to intervene make said objection on or before March 11, 2025; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that parties shall file any proposed exhibits, written testimony, motions, or other documents intended to become part of the record in this proceeding with the Commission in accordance with the Commission's administrative rules. Parties may elect to submit any filing in electronic form unless otherwise ordered by the Commission. Filings will be considered filed as of the time the electronic copy is received by the Commission; and it is

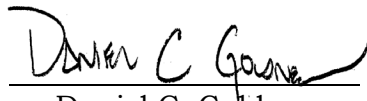
**FURTHER ORDERED**, that routine procedural inquiries may be made by contacting the Commission's Clerk's Office at (603) 271-2431 or [ClerksOffice@puc.nh.gov](mailto:ClerksOffice@puc.nh.gov). All requests to the Commission should be made in a written pleading filed with the Commission. Unless otherwise authorized by law, *ex parte* communications are prohibited; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that pursuant to Puc 204.04, Liberty shall notify all entities and individuals desiring to be heard at this hearing by publishing a copy of

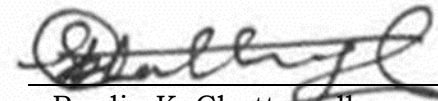
this order of notice on its website no later than two business days after the date of issue, such publication to be documented by affidavit filed with the Commission on or before March 10, 2025. In addition, the Clerk shall publish this order of notice on the Commission's website no later than two business days after the date of issue; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that any hearings in this matter shall be conducted in accordance with the attached hearing guidelines.

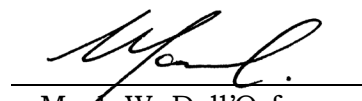
So ordered, this twenty-seventh day of February, 2025.



Daniel C. Goldner  
Chairman



Pradip K. Chattopadhyay  
Commissioner



Mark W. Dell'Orfano  
Commissioner

Individuals needing assistance or auxiliary communication aids due to sensory impairment or other disability should contact the NHPUC, 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire 03301-2429; 603-271-2431; TDD Access: Relay N.H. 1-800-735-2964. Notification of the need for assistance should be made one week prior to the scheduled event.

## Service List - Docket Related

Docket#: 24-061

Printed: 2/27/2025

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