

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**DE 25-030**

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

**2025 Default Service Solicitations**

**SUPPLEMENTAL ORDER OF NOTICE**

On June 27, 2025, in this instant docket No. DE 25-030, the Commission issued Order No. 28,164, in which the Commission made the following findings and rulings pertaining to the Default Service reconciliation accounting of Liberty Utilities (Granite State Electric) Corp. d/b/a Liberty (Liberty or the Company):

“[C]onsideration of all issues relating to the purported \$8.1 million Default Service reconciliation balance, including the potential for further adjustments and reconciliations, is to be transferred to an adjudication in a future phase of this proceeding, to be noticed by a Supplemental Order of Notice to be issued in July 2025...” Order No. 28,164 at 9.

“[T]he Commission lacks confidence that the \$8.1 million purported Default Service reconciliation under-collection can be properly included in [Energy Service Adjustment Factors, ‘ESAF’] rates for the coming Default Service period.” Order No. 28,164 at 8.

“[T]here was a divergence between the forecast Default Service over-collection presented in Liberty’s June 2024 Default Service filing (of \$1.66 million) as of July 31, 2024, and the actual beginning reconciliation under-collection balance of \$3.44 million on August 1, 2024, an unexplained gap of more than \$5 million. The Company has admitted to a failure in its forecasting and has revealed an internal investigation of issues relating to its load-settlement processes.” *Id.*

“To address this matter, the Commission...ORDERS that...50 percent of the remaining Small and Large Customer Group Default Service reconciliation balances related to ESAF be placed by the Company into deferral accounts, with no interest (carrying charges) to be assessed...[and] that the Company is to amortize the remaining 50 percent of the Small and Large Customer Group Default Service reconciliation balances through its ESAF rates during the upcoming Default Service rate period...[t]he Commission believes that this approach is equitable.” *Id.* at 8-9 (emphasis supplied).

The procedural history and Commission rulings made in the earlier phases of this proceeding may be reviewed in Order No. 28,164 and Order No. 28,169 (July 17, 2025), issued on a *nisi* basis. These Orders, the Company's Default Service petition, and subsequent docket filings, other than any information for which confidential treatment is requested of or granted by the Commission, are posted on the Commission's website at

<https://www.puc.nh.gov/VirtualFileRoom/Docket.aspx?DocketNumber=DE%2025-030>.

As referenced in the Commission's findings presented in Order No. 28,164, much uncertainty developed regarding the causes of this purported Default Service reconciliation balance, through both the testimony of the Company, and that of other parties. As held by the Commission in Order No. 28,164, the Commission will now adjudicate the issues surrounding this balance, and the appropriate remedies therefor.

This proceeding presents, *inter alia*, the following additional issues: whether the purported Default Service reconciliation balance in question has been properly calculated, and/or properly attributed to individual Liberty customers and/or classes of Liberty customers, whether taking Default Service from Liberty or otherwise; whether derivation of an accurate, final calculation of this balance has been accomplished by the Company; whether any refunds are properly due to individual Liberty customers, and/or classes of customers, whether taking Default Service or otherwise; whether any assessments of costs upon individual Liberty customers, and/or classes of customers, whether taking Default Service or otherwise, would be necessary or proper; whether any Liberty shareholder responsibility for the purported reconciliation balance, and any Company errors contributing thereto, should be

incurred by the Company; and whether the resulting rates would be just and reasonable as required by RSA 374:2, and RSA 378:5 and RSA 378:7. 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, pursuant to the previously-approved Hearing Guidelines for this proceeding. 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 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 374:2, RSA 374:4, 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 September 4, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. One day shall be allotted for this hearing; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that Liberty shall file, with the concurrence of the other parties to this proceeding, a proposal for the procedural schedule for this phase of the proceeding by August 1, 2025; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that the New Hampshire Department of Energy is requested to file its updated position regarding these matters, including the reasons for this position, on or before August 28, 2025; 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 August 1, 2025. The petition shall state the facts demonstrating how the petitioner's rights, duties, privileges, immunities, or other 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 August 8, 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 [www.puc.nh.gov/about-us/contact-us](http://www.puc.nh.gov/about-us/contact-us). All requests to the Commission should be

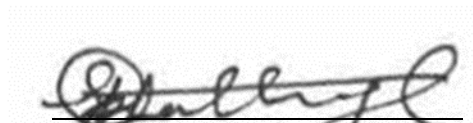
made in a written pleading filed with the Commission. Unless otherwise authorized by law, *ex parte* communications are prohibited; and it is

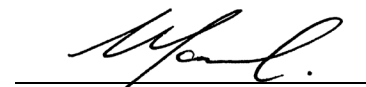
**FURTHER ORDERED**, that pursuant to Puc 204.04, Liberty shall notify all entities and individuals desiring to be heard at this hearing by publishing a copy of this supplemental order of notice on its website no later than two business days after the date of issue, such publication to be documented by affidavit filed with the Commission on or before July 25, 2025. In addition, the Clerk shall publish this supplemental 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 previously issued hearing guidelines.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this eighteenth day of July, 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#: 25-030

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