STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

INTERIM COMMISSIONER Jared S. Chicoine

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER Christopher J. Ellms, Jr.



DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10 Concord, N.H. 03301-2429 TDD Access: Relay NH 1-800-735-2964

Tel. (603) 271-3670

FAX No. 271-1526

Website: www.energy.nh.gov

October 25, 2021

Bryan White Champion Energy Services, LLC 1500 Rankin Rd, Suite 200 Houston, TX 77073

Re: Champion Energy Services, LLC Application to

Renew Registration as a Competitive Electric Power Supplier

Dear Mr. White:

On February 26, 2021, Champion Energy Services, LLC (Champion) filed an application to renew its registration as a competitive electric power supplier (CEPS). Champion subsequently submitted additional information and materials to complete its application. Champion requested authority to operate in the franchise areas of Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (Eversource) and Unitil Energy Systems, Inc. (Unitil), and to provide service only to large commercial and industrial customers. The application and additional information and materials demonstrate compliance with the requirements of N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 2003 and Puc 2006.01.

Under RSA 374-F:7, as amended effective July 1, 2021, the Department of Energy (Department) is now responsible for registration and regulation of CEPS and electric aggregators and for the adoption of related rules. The Department therefore is authorized to administer and enforce the relevant provisions of the Puc 2000 rules, including those related to CEPS registration. *See* RSA 12-P:14.¹

Pursuant to that statutory authority, and the applicable provisions of Puc 2003 and Puc 2006.01, I find that Champion has met the requirements for renewal of its registration as a CEPS. I also find that the public interest would be served by granting a waiver of Puc 2003.02(a), which requires a registered CEPS to submit a renewal application at least 60 days prior to the expiration of its approved registration term, pursuant to the rule waiver authority provided in Puc 201.05.

¹ On July 1, 2021, the Department came into existence and many functions previously performed by the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) were transferred to the Department. Under RSA 12-P:14, "[e]xisting rules, orders, and approvals of the [PUC] which are associated with any functions, powers, and duties, transferred to the [Department] pursuant to RSA 12-P:11 or any other statutory provision, shall continue in effect and be enforced by the commissioner of the [Department] until they expire or are repealed or amended in accordance with applicable law." *See* 2021 N.H. Laws Chapter 91 (House Bill 2-FN-A-Local).

Accordingly, Champion's application for renewal of its registration as a CEPS authorized to operate in the franchise areas of Eversource and Unitil, and to provide service only to large commercial and industrial customers, is approved for a three-year term beginning on March 2, 2021 and ending at the close of business on March 2, 2024. Pursuant to Puc 2003.02(a), Champion must submit its renewal application at least 60 days prior to the expiration of the approved registration period, on or before January 2, 2024.

Please be aware that registered CEPS are subject to specific requirements contained in Puc 2000 - Competitive Electric Power Supplier and Aggregator Rules. These rules are available at: http://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Rules/PUC2000.pdf. In particular, note that, under Puc 2003.03(e), if a CEPS's financial security instrument will not be renewed or extended beyond its expiration date, it must (1) provide written notice to the Department of such non-renewal or non-extension no less than 60 days prior to the expiration date, and (2) submit to the Department a replacement financial security instrument meeting the requirements of the rules no less than 30 days prior to the expiration date, and that, under Puc 2003.03(f), a CEPS that fails to comply with the requirement to file a replacement financial security instrument is subject to fines, suspension, or revocation pursuant to Puc 2005.

Please also note that each CEPS must input information regarding its standard pricing policies, charges, and key terms for residential and small commercial customers into a shopping comparison website, maintained by the Department,. This information must be updated whenever it changes, but no less frequently than once per month. These requirements are intended to comply with RSA 374-F:4-b, II and Puc 2004.03(a). Following its initial registration, each CEPS will be sent by electronic mail a link to the website portal through which it must input the required information.

In addition, all CEPS must comply with the renewable portfolio standard (RPS) requirements of RSA 362-F. The RPS obligation applies to every "provider of electricity," as defined in RSA 362-F:2, XIV, which includes registered CEPS. Please also refer to the Puc 2500 rules for further details regarding RPS compliance and reporting requirements. RPS compliance is on a calendar year basis and must be reported to the Department by July 1 of the subsequent calendar year.

Pursuant to RSA 378:49 and Puc 2004.05, all CEPS also must comply with the requirement to disclose environmental characteristics of the electricity they sell to retail customers.

Sincerely,

Jared S. Chicoine Interim Commissioner