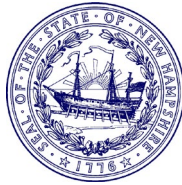


STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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September 20, 2023

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116 North Main Street
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Matthew C. Campbell
Senior Counsel
Unitil Energy Systems, Inc.
6 Liberty Lane West
Hampton, NH 03842

Re: INV 2023-001 – DOE Energy Procurement Investigation – DOE Set 2 Questions

Dear Attorney Wiesner, Attorney Sheehan, and Attorney Campbell:

On May 24, 2023, the New Hampshire Department of Energy (Department) issued an Order of Notice (Order) in DOE Docket INV 2023-001. Pursuant to the Department's investigative powers established in RSA 12-P:2, IV and RSA 12-P:10, the Department opened this proceeding and directed the participation of all three regulated electric distribution utilities; Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy, Unitil Energy Systems, Inc., and Liberty Utilities (Granite State Electric) Corp. d/b/a Liberty.

Attached hereto, the aforementioned utilities will find a set of questions regarding various aspects of default service procurement in New Hampshire that are directed specifically to the utilities only.

Utility responses to these Set 2 questions must follow the included instructions and be submitted to the Department by **October 4, 2023**. The Department shall post non-confidential responses received on its website, as it deems appropriate. These questions are being sent to non-utility members of the distribution list for informational purposes only.

Sincerely,

/s/ Matthew C. Young

Staff Attorney/Hearings Examiner
New Hampshire Department of Energy

INVESTIGATIVE QUESTIONS OF N.H. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Please furnish responses by **Tuesday, October 4, 2023**.
2. For each set of responses, please identify the name, title, and contact information for an individual who may be contacted for any follow-up, if necessary. Each request and response should start on a new page as illustrated by the following example:

ORGANIZATION NAME HERE

INV 2023-001

DOE SET 2 QUESTIONS

Date Request Received: 9/20/23

Date of Response: 10/4/23

Request No. DOE 2-xxx

Contact: Contact Information Here

REQUEST:

RESPONSE:

3. If requested data is duplicative of that furnished in a response to another question, simply identify in the response where in another question the Department may find the requested information.
4. If you find a request to be unclear or imprecise, please request clarification, by email, to Matthew Young, Hearings Examiner/Staff Attorney at Matthew.C.Young@energy.nh.gov.
5. By submitting a response, the participant acknowledges that the Department is subject to the Right-to-Know Law, RSA Chapter 91-A. If any part of a response contains information that a participant asserts is exempt from public disclosure, **the participant must specifically identify all relevant text in a letter to the Department and must mark or stamp each page of the materials claimed to be exempt from disclosure as “confidential,”** and provide support for such assertion(s) as part of participant’s response to this RFP. The participant shall explain, in writing, what measures it has taken to keep such information confidential, and the personal privacy or competitive business interests

that would be harmed if such information were to be publicly disclosed. The explanation shall also identify by page number and question number the specific information the participant claims to be exempt from public disclosure pursuant to RSA 91-A:5. It is helpful if the text claimed to be confidential is also highlighted, underlined, or otherwise identified in the actual response itself. Merely marking all responses as “confidential” will neither be accepted nor honored. The Department shall maintain the confidentiality of information contained in responses, insofar as doing so is consistent with RSA Chapter 91-A. Any information a participant identifies as exempt from disclosure shall be kept confidential until the Department has determined, as necessary, whether such information is exempt from public disclosure pursuant to RSA 91-A.

If the Department receives a request to view portions of a response that the participant has properly and clearly marked “confidential,” the Department shall notify the participant and specify the date the Department intends to release the requested information, redacting any information the Department independently concludes is exempt, consistent with applicable laws and regulations. Any effort to prohibit or enjoin the release of the information the Department identifies for release shall be the participant’s responsibility at the participant’s sole expense. If the participant fails to obtain a court order enjoining the disclosure, the Department may release the information on the date the Department specified in its notice to the participant, or in its notice to any other relevant parties, without any liability to the participant.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Department of Energy

INV 2023-001

Investigative Proceeding Relative to Energy Service Procurement

NH Department of Energy Data Requests- Set 2

September 19, 2023

The following questions are regarding interactions with wholesale suppliers related to a default service solicitation:

- 2-1. Do suppliers inform your utility whether they do or do not intend to bid on a solicitation?
 - a. If so, how far in advance of the solicitation do suppliers inform your utility of their intent?
 - b. What, if any, reasoning is provided by suppliers to your utility regarding their decision to bid or not?
 - c. As applicable, please provide specific reasoning by bid opportunity in the last five years.

- 2-2. Does your utility conduct any formal or informal interviews with suppliers for feedback regarding their participation or lack of participation in solicitations?
 - a. If so, what feedback has been received in the last five years?
 - b. As applicable, please provide specific feedback by solicitation in the last five years.

- 2-3. Is there an informal opportunity for suppliers to provide feedback outside of typical solicitation processes?
 - a. If so, how do suppliers identify exceptions, express concerns, or otherwise provide feedback on future or past solicitations?
 - b. As applicable, please provide specific feedback provided by suppliers, by date, in the last five years.

- 2-4. Please provide a list of requested exceptions in the last five years by solicitation and indicate whether the exception was granted, rejected, or addressed in another manner. For each requested exception, please identify the name of the bidder/supplier making the request and whether they ultimately submitted a bid.

The following questions are regarding the solicitation / RFP process:

- 2-5. Please provide the complete timeline for default service solicitation from the time in which first notification of the RFP is posted up to contract execution by the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission (Commission). (Please detail all intermediary steps, including notices requests for questions or comments, reply deadlines, timelines between bid receipt and review, etc.)
- 2-6. Has any element of the timeline for default service solicitation changed in the last five years? If so, please explain the nature and timing of the changes.
- 2-7. Has the Commission ever rejected a default service auction bid put forth by your utility (i.e., after the utility has selected the supplier and bid)?
- 2-8. In your view, does the existing procurement period timeline make any of the ISO-NE charges difficult for suppliers to estimate for purposes of submitting a bid? Does the existing procurement period timeline make any of the ISO-NE charges difficult for your utility to construct the threshold/proxy price.

The following questions are regarding bids received by your utility:

- 2-9. Please provide all actual bids received, by bidder, customer group, and solicitation, during the last five years. For each bid, please identify the name of the bidder/supplier, the number of tranches proposed, the applicable customer group, the applicable solicitation, and any exceptions/conditions.
- 2-10. Please share your utility's threshold/proxy price for the last five years of solicitations for each customer class, including all associated workpapers used to calculate the price.
- 2-11. Please explain how each component of the threshold/proxy price is calculated.

The following questions are regarding community power aggregation:

- 2-12. Please provide migration reports for the last five years that separate supply served under an aggregation from other third-party supply. Please maintain the existing migration breakdown by customer group, rate schedule, and period for both customer count and load.
- 2-13. Please provide the following information, by customer group and rate schedule, for each existing aggregation within your utility's service territory:
 - a) Number of customers
 - b) Load (kW, kWh, or both)
 - c) Term of aggregation (including start date and end date)

- 2-14. What municipalities/towns within your utility's service territory have pending aggregation applications? For each pending aggregation application, please provide, by customer group and rate schedule, the number of prospective customers and amount of load that could be served by the aggregation.
- 2-15. Does your utility account for aggregation-related load risk in the threshold/proxy price? If so, please describe how this element is estimated.

Other questions:

- 2-16. How does your utility handle net metering as it relates to default service? Is the treatment of net metering different for customers that receive third-party, community power aggregation, and default retail supply?
- 2-17. Does your utility coordinate with affiliates in other ISO-NE states as it relates to default electric service (e.g., timeline coordination)? If so, in what ways does your utility coordinate?
- 2-18. Does your utility share resources with affiliates in other ISO-NE states as it relates to default electric service (e.g., shared expert staff)? If so, in what ways does your utility share resources?
- 2-19. What factors does your utility use to calculate self-supply price? Please list each individual element with a brief description of how it is estimated. If applicable, please provide self-supply price calculations with all associated workpapers for all instances of self-supply within the last five years.
- 2-20. Under what conditions would the self-supply price be adjusted? Please identify any applicable thresholds.
- 2-21. Please provide publicly available distribution load forecasts, including separate forecasts by customer group and rate class as available, prepared in the last five years. Please explain factors expected to affect your utility's distribution load (level and profile) over the term each recent forecast. If these factors have changed in the last five years, please identify which factors are expected to affect which forecasts.