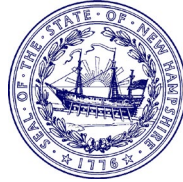


COMMISSIONER  
Jared S. Chicoine

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER  
Christopher J. Ellms, Jr.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



TDD Access: Relay NH  
1-800-735-2964

Tel. (603) 271-3670

Website:  
[www.energy.nh.gov](http://www.energy.nh.gov)

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10  
Concord, N.H. 03301-2429

September 6, 2023

Robert Ludlow  
Chief Financial Officer  
ISO New England  
1 Sullivan Road  
Holyoke, Massachusetts 01040

Mr. Ludlow,

We appreciate and welcome the opportunity to offer feedback on ISO-NE's proposed budget. The New England states have an important job in reviewing the budget, as our ratepayers are ultimately responsible for every cost that goes into their bills. Unfortunately, we write expressing our discomfort with the 2024 and 2025 preliminary budget.

ISO-NE's proposed budget raises significant concerns and calls for strict scrutiny, given the 21.5 percent increase in the ISO's revenue requirement. The ISO board has adopted a resolution to consider customer affordability, and this proposed increase works against that goal. More than half of the increase is driven by salary increases, including increases to bonuses. The ISO is a non-profit entity – there shouldn't be a drive for more and more revenue – and this budget lacks that vision.

Significant cost increases are attributed to the clean energy transition and environmental justice policies legislated by other states. These are clear examples of costs shifting to New Hampshire citizens that fall outside of the ISO's mandate. Furthermore, thirty-five full-time, highly compensated jobs are being devoted to the so-called grid of the future, when what we really need is a reliable, affordable system today.

We're disappointed that our grid operator has proposed a budget misaligned with the needs of New Hampshire's ratepayers during a time of already high energy costs and economic uncertainty for so many. ISO-NE should reconsider its priorities, devote resources to its core functions, and put forth a responsible budget that focuses on safe, reliable, and affordable energy.

Sincerely,

Jared Chicoine  
Commissioner  
Department of Energy

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Donald M. Kreis  
Consumer Advocate  
Office of the Consumer Advocate

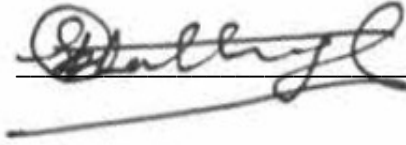
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Daniel C. Goldner  
Chairman  
Public Utilities Commission



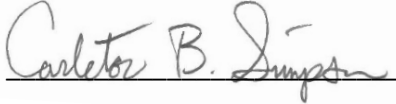
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel C. Goldner", written over a horizontal line.

Pradip K. Chattopadhyay  
Commissioner  
Public Utilities Commission



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pradip K. Chattopadhyay", written over a horizontal line.

Carleton B. Simpson  
Commissioner  
Public Utilities Commission



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carleton B. Simpson", written over a horizontal line.