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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

October 6, 2008 - 1:32 p.m.
Concord, New Hampshire

NHPUC OCT 27 '08 PM 1:46

RE: DE 08-113
PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE:
Proposed Default Energy Service Rate Charge
for 2009. (Prehearing conference)

PRESENT: Chairman Thomas B. Getz, Presiding
Commissioner Clifton C. Below

Connie Fillion, Clerk

APPEARANCES: Reptg. Public Service Co. of New Hampshire:
Gerald M. Eaton, Esq.

Reptg. Residential Ratepayers:
Meredith Hatfield, Esq., Consumer Advocate
Kenneth E. Traum, Asst. Consumer Advocate
Office of Consumer Advocate

Reptg. PUC Staff:
Suzanne G. Amidon, Esq.

Court Reporter: Steven E. Patnaude, LCR No. 52

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P R O C E E D I N G S

CHAIRMAN GETZ: Okay. Good afternoon. We'll open the prehearing conference in docket DE 08-113. On September 12, 2008, Public Service Company of New Hampshire filed a petition to establish its Default Energy Service rate for bills rendered on or after January 1, 2009. Based on preliminary data, it estimates a rate of 10.51 cents per kilowatt-hour for service after January 1. And, this rate is 0.94 cents higher than the current rate of 9.5 cents per kilowatt-hour.

I'll note for the record we have notice from the Consumer Advocate that they will be participating in this proceeding. We have the affidavit of publication from PSNH. And, there is also a Petition to Intervene that was filed today in this proceeding by Freedom Energy and Halifax.

So, let's turn to a statement -- well, appearances please.

MR. EATON: For Public Service Company of New Hampshire, my name is Gerald M. Eaton.

CHAIRMAN GETZ: Good afternoon.

CMSR. BELOW: Good afternoon.

MS. HATFIELD: Good morning -- excuse me, good afternoon, Commissioners. Meredith Hatfield,

1 from the Office of Consumer Advocate, on behalf of
2 residential ratepayers, and with me is Ken Traum.

3 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Good afternoon.

4 CMSR. BELOW: Good afternoon.

5 MS. AMIDON: Good afternoon. Suzanne
6 Amidon, for Commission Staff, and with me today is Steve
7 Mullen, who is the Assistant Director for the Electric
8 Division.

9 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Good afternoon. Mr.
10 Eaton, an opportunity to briefly state your position and
11 respond whether you have any objection to the Petition to
12 Intervene.

13 MR. EATON: We have no objection to the
14 Petition to Intervene. This is a standard filing that we
15 do every year to set a rate for the calendar year 2009 for
16 our Energy Service docket. The difference is that the new
17 items that come in this year have to do with the cost of
18 compliance with Renewable Portfolio Standard and the
19 Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative. And, we will respond
20 to discovery and talk with the parties concerning a
21 procedural schedule. We began to do that in the break in
22 between this schedule, but we'll submit that to the
23 Commission. Thank you.

24 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Thank you. Ms.

1 Hatfield.

2 MS. HATFIELD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
3 The OCA does not have a position at this time on PSNH's
4 Energy Service filing, but we will work with the Company
5 and Staff during the discovery process for preparation of
6 the final hearing.

7 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Thank you. Ms. Amidon.

8 MS. AMIDON: Thank you. Staff has
9 prepared some preliminary inquiries to make of the Company
10 with respect to the RPS and the Regional Greenhouse Gas
11 Initiative costs, which are new costs that we'll be
12 examining, along with the other areas that we normally
13 review in purchased power and power supply. So, at this
14 point, we have no position, but we'll be making a
15 recommendation to the Commission somewhat later in the
16 document.

17 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Thank you. Anything
18 else to address this afternoon?

19 CMSR. BELOW: I have a question about
20 the initial filing. If you look at Attachment RAB-1, Page
21 1, there's some references for various items that most of
22 them refer to Attachment RAB-2, Page 2. When you go to
23 RAB-2, Page 2, there are further references for various
24 items to RAB-2, P3 or P6 or whatever. And, I presume the

1 "P3, "6", refers to "Page 6", "3", etcetera, is that
2 correct?

3 MR. EATON: That's correct.

4 CMSR. BELOW: Okay. And, I think, for
5 the revised filing, if you look back at RAB-1, I think,
6 for the revised filing, it would be helpful if, on Line
7 16, where you've got "ISO New England Ancillary Capacity
8 and New Hampshire RPS and RGGI cost" all in one composite
9 item, I think it would be helpful to break those out
10 either on a similar schedule or supplemental schedule,
11 when I followed that item through, it's never broken out
12 by those components.

13 MR. EATON: Okay.

14 CMSR. BELOW: And, furthermore, I think
15 it would also be helpful, just as a shortcut in the
16 revised filing, if those components, sort of Lines 13
17 through 25, could be further broken out on a per
18 kilowatt-hour basis, like you've done at Line 33, where
19 you've taken the total, so you can see how each of these
20 components relate to the total of, in here, the estimated
21 10.51 forecasted Energy Service rate per kilowatt-hour.
22 I'd appreciate that. Thank you.

23 MR. EATON: We can definitely do that.

24 CMSR. BELOW: That's all.

1 CHAIRMAN GETZ: With respect to the
2 Petitions to Intervene, we find that Freedom Logistics and
3 Halifax American have demonstrated rights, duties,
4 privileges or other interests that would be affected by
5 this proceeding. And, noting there's no objection, we'll
6 grant the Petitions to Intervene. And, with that, we will
7 close the prehearing conference, await a recommendation on
8 scheduling, and take the matter under advisement. Thank
9 you.

10 (Whereupon the prehearing conference
11 ended at 1:38 p.m.)
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