## THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

## DE 09-170

## SUPPLEMENTAL ORDER OF NOTICE

In Order No. 25,062 (January 5, 2010) approving the Settlement Agreement for the 2010 Core Energy Efficiency Programs ("Core programs"), the Commission noted that the New Hampshire Legislature was considering legislation, Senate Bill 300, that would expand coverage of the low income Electric Assistance Program (EAP) by shifting a portion of the System Benefits Charge (SBC) funds from energy efficiency to the EAP. On January 14, 2010, Senate Bill 300 was signed into law effective January 14, 2010. Accordingly, the Commission directed National Grid, New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc., Public Service Company of New Hampshire and Unitil Energy Systems, Inc. (collectively the "Utilities") to change the allocation of SBC funds such that 1.8 mills per kWh of the SBC be used to support the EAP and 1.5 mills per kWh be used to support the Core energy efficiency programs.

In Order No. 25,062, the Commission also determined that, in the event SB 300 was enacted, a second phase of this proceeding would be conducted to address the impact on the Core programs from the shift in funds. The Commission directed interested parties and Staff to immediately reconvene to determine how to address the reduction in Core program funding. Options to be considered include implementing a pro-rata reduction across the board for all Core programs, reducing funding on a program-by-program basis, and allocating funds from the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Fund to support the planned 2010 Core programs pursuant to N.H. Code of Admin. Rules Puc 2604.01(b)(2). The Commission also said it would issue a

supplemental order of notice setting a date by which recommendations should be filed . *See*, Order No. 24,062 at 20.

The Commission directs the utilities to file recommendations and any proposed budget revisions for the 2010 Core energy efficiency programs based on the changed allocation no later than February 5, 2010 and that interested parties and Staff hold a technical session on February 12, 2010 to review the proposals. The Commission expects that the parties will recommend revised budgets to the Commission no later than February 19, 2010.

This supplemental order of notice raises, <u>inter alia</u>, issues related to whether the revised 2010 Core budgets are just and reasonable and in the public interest. Each party has the right to have an attorney represent them at their own expense.

## Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby

**ORDERED**, that the utilities file recommendations and any proposed budget revisions for the 2010 Core energy efficiency programs no later than February 5, 2010; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that a Technical Session be held at the Commission's offices at 21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire, 03301 on February 12, 2010 at 1:00 p.m. to review the revised budgets; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that pursuant to N.H. Admin. Rules Puc 203.12, the Executive Director shall notify all persons desiring to be heard at this hearing by publishing a copy of this Order of Notice no later than January 28, 2010, in a newspaper with general circulation in those portions of the state in which operations are conducted, publication to be documented by affidavit filed with the Commission on or before February 12, 2010; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that the utilities file final proposed budgets with the Commission no later than February 19, 2010; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that a hearing be held before the Commission located at 21 S.

Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire on February 23, 2010 at 9:00 a.m.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this twenty-second day of January, 2010.

Debra A. Howland Executive Director

Individuals needing assistance or auxiliary communication aids due to sensory impairment or other disability, should contact the Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator, 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.