CHAIRMAN Martin P. Honigberg

COMMISSIONERS Robert R. Scott Kathryn M. Bailey

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Debra A. Howland

## THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



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

Tel. (603) 271-2431

FAX (603) 271-3878

Website: www.puc.nh.gov

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION 21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10 Concord, N.H. 03301-2429

December 5, 2016

Michael Nordlicht, General Counsel Agera Energy 555 Pleasantville Rd, S-107 Briarcliff Manor, NY 10510

## Re: DM 16-848, Agera Energy LLC Application to Renew Registration as Competitive Electric Power Supplier

Dear Mr. Nordlicht:

On November 8, 2016, Agera Energy LLC (Agera) filed an application to renew its registration as a competitive electric power supplier (CEPS). In connection with its application, Agera requested a waiver of Puc 2003.03(a)(5), which requires the financial security filed with a renewal application have a term of five years and 90 days.

Commission Staff filed a memorandum on November 23, 2016 that summarizes the filings made by Agera in connection with its application and Staff's analysis of the completed application and rule waiver request. Staff noted that, if a waiver of the financial security term requirement is granted, the application complies with the requirements of Puc'2003 and 2006.01. Staff recommended that the Commission grant the request for the waiver of the financial security term requirement and approve the registration for a term concurrent with the surety bond, beginning on the expiration date of the currently active registration, January 8, 2017, and ending at the close of business on January 7, 2018. In addition, Staff recommended that the Commission authorize Agera to operate in the franchise areas of Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (Eversource), Liberty Utilities (Granite State Electric) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities (Liberty), New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc. (NHEC), and Unitil Energy Systems, Inc. (UES). Finally, Staff recommended that Agera be informed that the financial security rules are likely to change during 2017 and that it should monitor the rulemaking process in Docket No. DRM 16-853 and plan accordingly.

The Commission has reviewed Agera's application and Staff's recommendation, and has granted the requested rule waiver, having found the waiver is for good cause and in the public interest, and has approved the application as recommended. Accordingly, Agera's application to renew its registration as a CEPS, authorized to operate in the franchise areas of Eversource, Liberty, NHEC, and UES, is granted for a term beginning on January 8, 2017 and ending at the close of business on January 7, 2018. Pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 2003.02(a), Agera must submit its next renewal application at least 60 days prior to the expiration of the approved registration period, on or before November 10, 2017.

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: <u>http://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Rules/PUC2000.pdf</u>.

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

In addition, 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 Commission by July 1 of the subsequent calendar year. Pursuant to RSA 378:49, all CEPS also must comply with the requirement to disclose environmental characteristics of the electricity they sell to retail customers. Commission Order No. 25,264, in Docket No. DE 10-226, provides guidance as to the appropriate format for such disclosure. Order No. 25,264 can be viewed at: <a href="http://puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Orders/2011orders/25264e.pdf">http://puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Orders/2011orders/25264e.pdf</a>.

Finally, as noted above, the financial security rules set forth in Puc 2003.05(a)(5) are likely to change. Please monitor the Commission's website for notice of this rulemaking process in Docket No. DRM 13-151 and plan accordingly.

Sincerely,

Due A. Houlad

Debra A. Howland Executive Director

cc: Service List Docket File

## SERVICE LIST - EMAIL ADDRESSES - DOCKET RELATED

Pursuant to N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.11(a) (1): Serve an electronic copy on each person identified on the service list.

Executive.Director@puc.nh.gov amanda.noonan@puc.nh.gov david.goyette@puc.nh.gov david.wiesner@puc.nh.gov leszek.stachow@puc.nh.gov margaret.raymond@puc.nh.gov Michael.Nordlicht@ageraenergy.com ocalitigation@oca.nh.gov sandy.deno@puc.nh.gov tom.frantz@puc.nh.gov

Docket #: 16-848-1 Printed: December 05, 2016

## **FILING INSTRUCTIONS:**

a) Pursuant to N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.02 (a), with the exception of Discovery, file 7 copies, as well as an electronic copy, of all documents including cover letter with: DEBRAAHOWLAND

EXEC DIRECTOR NHPUC 21 S. FRUIT ST, SUITE 10 CONCORD NH 03301-2429

- b) Serve an electronic copy with each person identified on the Commission's service list and with the Office of Consumer Advocate.
- c) Serve a written copy on each person on the service list not able to receive electronic mail.