STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DE 22-018

LIBERTY UTILITIES (GRANITE STATE ELECTRIC) CORP. d/b/a LIBERTY

Petition for Approval of Annual Retail Rate Adjustment and Property Tax Adjustment Mechanism

Procedural Order Re: Request for Waiver of Puc 1603.05(b)

On March 22, 2022, Liberty Utilities (Granite State Electric) Corp. d/b/a Liberty (Liberty) filed a Petition for Approval of Retail Rate Adjustments and Property Tax Adjustment and requested a waiver of New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules, Puc 1603.05(b). Puc 1603.05(b) requires utility filings that propose rate changes to include illustrative tariff pages. Liberty did not argue that application of Puc 1603.05(b) would be onerous or inapplicable, nor did it propose an alternative method of compliance. Rather, it requested that the requirement to file illustrative tariffs be waived outright. In support of its request for waiver, Liberty stated:

...because the rate changes resulting from this docket and from Docket DE 22-014 will all be effective as of May 1, 2022, and they will all be implemented through a single compliance tariff shortly after May 1, 2022. Including a proposed tariff page in this filing would also result in confusion. The filing in DE 22-014 included, for example, "Fifth Revised Page 90, Superseding Fourth Revised Page 90." This docket would have included "Sixth Revised Page 90, Superseding Fifth Revised page 90," which never went into effect.

Liberty's Letter dated March 22, 2022, at 1–2.

Unless precluded by statute, the Commission shall waive the provisions of one or more of its administrative rules if doing so would not disrupt the orderly and efficient resolution of the matters before it and the waiver would serve the public interest, in that: (1) compliance with the rule in question would be onerous or

inapplicable; or (2) the purpose of the rule would be satisfied by a proposed alternative method. N.H. Admin. R., Puc 201.05(a) and (b). After reviewing Liberty's request for a waiver, it has been determined that the standards for waiver contained in Puc 201.05 have not been satisfied as requested by Liberty, because the purpose of the rule could be satisfied by an alternative method. In order to avoid any potential confusion, Liberty is authorized to file illustrative tariff pages in this matter that contain both the changes proposed in this docket and in Docket No. DE 22-014, and which retain the header and footer markings as filed in Docket No. DE 22-014. Accordingly, Liberty's request is granted in part, as described herein.

So ordered, this first day of April, 2022.

Daniel C. Goldner
Presiding Officer
Chairman