THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DE 18-002

PUBLIC SERVICE CO. OF NEW HAMPSHIRE d/b/a EVERSOURCE ENERGY

2018 Energy Service Solicitation

ORDER OF NOTICE

On January 12, 2018, Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (Eversource) filed a letter requesting the Commission open a docket and issue an order of notice providing for a process and hearing on Eversource's competitive solicitation of energy service for its customers. Eversource filed its request pursuant to Order No. 26,092 (December 29, 2017) that approved the settlement agreement in Docket No. DE 17-113 specifying the method for Eversource to transition from its historical method of providing energy service from its generation assets to one based on a competitive solicitation in the energy market. Pursuant to the approved process, Eversource will implement a new competitively procured energy service rate approximately 90 calendar days following the closing of the sale of Eversource's thermal generation units. According to Eversource, the closing occurred on January 10, 2018 and Eversource issued a request for proposals (RFP) for energy service on January 12, 2018. Eversource plans to select a bidder no later than February 7, 2018, and will make a filing with the Commission on February 9, 2018.

The RFP requests 100% of its power supply requirements for both its small customer class (Residential Rates R and R-Time of Day, General Service Rates G and G-Time of Day and private area outdoor lighting associated with these accounts Rate OL and municipal lighting Rates OL and EOL) and large customer class (Primary General Service Rate GV, Large General

Service Rate LG, Backup Service Rate B, and private area lighting associated with these accounts Rate OL). For the small customer group, Eversource will solicit power for the small customer group in approximately 100 megawatt tranches for 100% of small customer class power supply requirements for the six month period beginning April 1, 2018. Eversource will set a fixed rate for the four-month period for the small customer class. For the large customer class, Eversource will solicit 100% of power supply requirements for a period of four months beginning April 1, 20118, and will set fixed rates that will vary from month to month.

The petition and subsequent docket filings, other than any information for which confidential treatment is requested of or granted by the Commission, will be posted to the Commission's website at http://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2018/18-002.html.

The filing raises, <u>inter alia</u>, issues related to whether the rates resulting from Eversource's RFP for default energy service supply are just and reasonable as required by RSA 378:5 and RSA 378:7, and whether Eversource has procured the service in a manner consistent with Order No. 26,092 and the principles of the electric utility restructuring statute (RSA 374-F:3, V(c) through (e). Each party has the right to have an attorney represent the party at the party's own expense.

Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby

ORDERED, that a Hearing, pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.12, be held before the Commission located at 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire on February 14, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.12, Eversource shall notify all persons desiring to be heard at this hearing by publishing a copy of this Order of Notice no later than January 31, 2018, 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 9, 2018; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that consistent with N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.17 and Puc 203.02, any party seeking to intervene in the proceeding shall submit to the Commission seven copies of a Petition to Intervene with copies sent to Eversource and the Office of the Consumer Advocate on or before February 7, 2018, such Petition stating the facts demonstrating how its rights, duties, privileges, immunities or other substantial interest may be affected by the proceeding, consistent with N.H. Code Admin. Rule Puc 203.17; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that any party objecting to a Petition to Intervene make said Objection on or before February 12, 2018.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this twenty-second day of January, 2018.

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.