

**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

DE 17-058

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

2017 Schedule for Default Service Solicitations

ORDER OF NOTICE

On April 5, 2017, Liberty Utilities (Granite State Electric) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities (Liberty) filed a letter providing a partial schedule for solicitation of default service power supply for 2017. Through the default service solicitations, Liberty purchases power for customers who have not chosen to receive electric service from the competitive market. Liberty will issue its first request for proposal (RFP) on May 1, 2017, to procure energy for the default service period beginning August 1, 2017. Liberty makes its default service filings pursuant to the terms of a Settlement Agreement approved by the Commission in Order No. 24,577 (Jan. 13, 2006), as modified by Order No. 24,922 (Dec. 19, 2008), Order No. 25,601 (Nov. 27, 2013), and by Order No. 25,806 (Sept. 2, 2015).

Pursuant to the approved process, Liberty solicits 100% of power requirements for its Large Customer (commercial and industrial) Group for a period of six months, in two, consecutive three-month blocks of power supply. Based on the result of the solicitation, Liberty develops fixed monthly rates for each month in the six-month period. For its Small Customer (residential and small commercial) Group customers, Liberty solicits a six-month block of power supply, and sets a fixed rate for the six-month period, using a weighted average of power costs for the period. In Order No. 25,806, the Commission approved Liberty's request to modify its

default service procurement process by changing the two, six-month default service periods to February through July, and August through January. By this change, the higher-priced winter months of January and February are divided between the two energy service periods, thus mitigating the price spikes commonly experienced by ratepayers in winter months.

Liberty expects to make the default service rate filing associated with its solicitation on June 19, 2017, and will require an order by June 26, 2017. 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 www.puc.nh.gov.

The Commission has designated Docket No. DE 17-058 as the docket number for Liberty's 2017 solicitations.

The filing raises, inter alia, issues related to whether the rates resulting from Liberty's RFP for default service power supply are just and reasonable as required by RSA 378:5 and 7, and whether Liberty has procured default service in a manner consistent with the principles of the electric utility restructuring statute (RSA 374-F:3, V(c) – (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

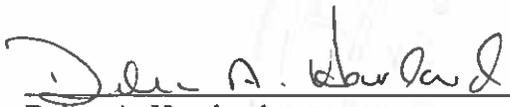
ORDERED, that a Hearing be held before the Commission located at 21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10, Concord New Hampshire on June 21, 2017 at 1:30 p.m.; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.12, Liberty shall notify all persons desiring to be heard at this hearing by publishing a copy of this Order of Notice no later than April 24, 2017, 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 June 19, 2017; 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 Liberty and the Office of the Consumer Advocate on or before June 19, 2017, such Petition stating the facts demonstrating how its rights, duties, privileges, immunities or other substantial interest may be affected by the proceeding, as required by N.H. Code Admin. Rule Puc 203.17 and RSA 541-A:32,I(b); and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that any party objecting to a Petition to Intervene make said Objection on or before June 21, 2017.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this seventh day of April, 2017.



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.