



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

PUBLIC UTILITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY

DOCKET NO. 17-12-03RE11

PURA INVESTIGATION INTO DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM PLANNING OF THE ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION COMPANIES – NEW RATE DESIGNS AND RATES REVIEW

****REVISED****
NOTICE OF PROCEEDING

In the Interim Decision dated October 2, 2019, in Docket No. 17-12-03, PURA Investigation into Distribution System Planning of the Electric Distribution Companies, the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (Authority or PURA) specified a series of reopened proceedings to further investigate near-term topics integral to realizing the objectives of PURA's Framework for an Equitable Modern Grid.¹ Interim Decision, pp. 24-25. In accordance with the Interim Decision, the Authority initiated the above-captioned contested proceeding on October 27, 2020, to explore new rate designs that address the disproportionate impact of increased electric rates on the lowest income customers and the need for Connecticut businesses to remain competitive with neighboring states. Interim Decision, p. 23.

The Authority's investigation in this proceeding will include in its scope the topics outlined in section 5 of Public Act 20-5, An Act Concerning Emergency Response by Electric Distribution Companies, the Regulation of Other Public Utilities and Nexus Provision for Certain Disaster-Related or Emergency-Related Work Performed in the State.² Specifically, the Authority will consider the implementation of an interim rate decrease, low-income rates, and economic development rates for customers of electric distribution companies (EDCs), pursuant to its authority in subsection (g) of section 16-19 of the General Statutes of Connecticut (Conn. Gen. Stat.) and Conn. Gen. Stat. §§ 16-19e and 16-19oo.

Subsequently, in a separate phase of the above-captioned proceeding, the Authority will review implementation details specific to each EDC, including any final rate design proposals included as part of relevant decisions issued within PURA's Framework for an Equitable Modern Grid proceedings in Docket Nos. 17-12-03RE01 through 17-12-03RE10 that require additional vetting through a contested proceeding.

The Authority is conducting this contested proceeding pursuant to §§ 16-19, 16-19e, 16-19f, 16-19gg, 16-19kk, 16-19oo, 16-19tt, 16-22 and other applicable sections of the General Statutes of Connecticut to address issues raised relating to rates. Information related to the above contested proceeding is accessible on the PURA's website (<http://www.ct.gov/pura/>) under the "Docket Info" link. **The PURA case coordinator assigned to this docket is Laura Lupoli, who can be reached at laura.lupoli@ct.gov.**

¹ PURA outlined its Framework for an Equitable Modern Grid in the Interim Decision referenced.

² Available at: <https://www.cga.ct.gov/2020/ACT/PA/PDF/2020PA-00005-R00HB-07006SS3-PA.PDF>.

The Authority has designated the Connecticut Power and Light Company d/b/a Eversource Energy, the United Illuminating Company, the Office of Consumer Counsel, the Office of the Attorney General, and the Commissioner of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP Commissioner) as Parties to this proceeding. Section 16-1-15 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies requires Parties and Intervenors to serve a copy of each filed document to every person or entity on the service list.

****Pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 16-19j(a), on December 4, 2020, the Authority issued correspondence designating the Authority's Office of Education, Outreach, and Enforcement (EOE) as a Party to the above-captioned matter for the purpose of participating in the proceeding to represent the interests of low- to-moderate-income EDC customers as it relates to low-income rates. The Authority hereby expands the scope of EOE's participation in the above-captioned matter to include the consideration of an interim rate decrease for EDC customers.****

Other persons seeking Party or Intervenor status in this proceeding are requested to file a motion no later than ****February 12, 2021.**** Such motion must be served on all persons/entities on the PURA service list for this proceeding. Except for routine motions, such as requests for extensions of time, or unless otherwise directed, the Authority will allow Parties or Intervenors seven (7) calendar days from the date it is received by the Authority to respond or four (4) calendar days to request an extension of time to respond to motions filed in this proceeding. The current service list for this docket is available on the Authority's website: <http://www.ct.gov/pura>. Each person seeking Party or Intervenor status may designate up to two persons for inclusion on the service list. Others who wish to receive e-mail notifications, but do not seek official status in the matter, may register on the PURA website for an e-mail notification account at <http://www.dpuc.state.ct.us/DPUCPublicList.NSF/>.

Except for confidential materials, PURA encourages electronic submission of all filings through the Web Filing Account Management System at <http://www.ct.gov/pura>. ***IMPORTANT NOTE: Persons that submit documents electronically to PURA are no longer required to submit paper copies of the filings unless specifically requested by PURA. If you are unable to file electronically, PURA will accept hard copy paper filings. Please refer to PURA's website for more information.*** Persons filing electronically or wishing to be listed as a contact must create an account through the Authority's website under Docket Services (Make a Web Filing). Once registered, you may proceed to the Docket Database Web Filing System to log on and submit your filing. The date and time of filing shall be the date and time the Authority first receives a complete electronic version. Unless otherwise specified, filings are due by **12:00 p.m.** on or before any required date.

Until otherwise directed by the Authority, all confidential material must be submitted electronically by email to Jeff.Gaudiosi@ct.gov. The email's subject line shall state in all capital letters "CONFIDENTIAL MATERIAL - NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE." Each page of any electronic confidential information shall also contain a header "CONFIDENTIAL - NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE." The associated motion for a protective order shall be filed publicly. The Authority

operates with the strong presumption that all documents filed with it are public records subject to the right of public inspection and copying in accordance with the Connecticut Freedom of Information Act, Conn. Gen. Stat. § 1-200 et seq. In those exceptional circumstances where a Party or Intervenor believes that information is confidential under law, the Party or Intervenor may file a Motion for a Protective Order requesting an exemption from public disclosure. The Motion must provide specific legal arguments with reference to state or federal law describing with supporting facts why the information should be kept confidential. A certified affidavit supplied by a competent witness in support of the Motion, a proposed protective order and nondisclosure agreement must be appended to the Motion.

Attorneys not licensed by Connecticut must follow Connecticut's pro hac vice procedures in order to appear before PURA in any administrative proceeding. The Connecticut Superior Court Forms JD-CL-142 & 143, titled an "Application for Permission for Attorney to Appear Pro Hac Vice Before a Municipal or State Agency, Commission, Board or Tribunal" and "Affidavit of Attorney Seeking Permission to Appear Pro Hac Vice" must be filed with and granted by the Connecticut Superior Court. Upon the Court's approval, the Forms JD-CL-142 & 143 together with the Court's order granting the Pro Hac Vice status, is required to be filed with the Authority prior to an attorney's participation in each relevant PURA proceeding.

The Authority will be strictly observing Conn. Gen. Stat. § 4-181, which prohibits ex parte communication. As such, there may be no communication, direct or indirect, with Commissioners or the Authority's staff on any issue of fact or law pertaining to this matter unless that communication takes place in the course of a noticed hearing or meeting, or is made in writing and submitted in the docket with copies supplied to all other designated Parties and Intervenors. Communication with the PURA case coordinator regarding scheduling is not ex parte and is permitted. Communication with staff assigned to EOE, which has status as a Party or Intervenor, is not constrained. The normal discourse that takes place between Parties and Intervenors is permitted.

Dated at New Britain, Connecticut this 1st day of February, 2021.

PUBLIC UTILITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY



Jeffrey R. Gaudiosi, Esq.
Executive Secretary