STATE OF CONNECTICUT PUBLIC UTILITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY

INVESTIGATION INTO ELECTRIC : DOCKET NO. 20-08-03

DISTRIBUTION COMPANIES'

PREPARATION FOR AND RESPONSE TO:

TROPICAL STORM ISAIAS : AUGUST 6, 2020

MOTION OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT TO INTERVENE & CLARIFY SCOPE OF PROCEEDING

William Tong, Attorney General of the State of Connecticut ("Attorney General"), hereby respectfully files this motion to (1) be designated an intervenor in the above-captioned proceeding, and (2) clarify the scope of this proceeding. The Attorney General thanks the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority ("PURA") for opening this critical investigation into the preparedness and response of The Connecticut Light and Power Company d/b/a Eversource Energy and The United Illuminating Company (together, the electric distribution companies, or "EDCs") to Tropical Storm Isaias, and looks forward to active participation on behalf of Connecticut residents therein.

First, with regard to his motion to clarify the scope of the proceeding, the Attorney General respectfully urges PURA to include in its forthcoming Notice of Proceeding clarification that this proceeding will encompass determinations on the prudency of the EDCs' storm preparation and response management. Importantly, the Attorney General further submits that PURA should include in the forthcoming Notice of Proceeding that this docket will take into consideration the appropriateness of EDC storm cost recovery disallowances as well as return on equity ("ROE") penalties. *See* Docket No. 11-09-09, *PURA Investigation of Public Service Companies' Response to 2011 Storms*, PURA Decision (Aug. 1, 2012), at 14-17.

Second, in support of his motion to intervene in this proceeding, the Attorney

General makes the following representations:

- The Attorney General is a Constitutional Officer empowered to represent the interests
 of the people of the State of Connecticut and the State of Connecticut. Conn. Const.,
 Amend. I; Conn. Gen. Stat. § 3-125; Commission on Special Revenue v. Freedom of
 Information Commission, 174 Conn. 308, 318-19 (1978).
- 2. On August 6, 2020, the Authority, on its own motion, entered its Request to Establish a New Docket on PURA's Own Motion. PURA stated the reason for the request as follows:

Tropical Storm Isaias caused wide-spread power outages and resulted in lengthy delays in restoration of service. Pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. §§ 16-11 and 16-41, [the Authority] is opening this docket to investigate The Connecticut Light and Power Company d/b/a Eversource Energy's and The United Illuminating Company's (together, EDCs) preparation for and response to the Tropical Storm Isaias.

- 3. The Attorney General is also concerned about the EDCs' preparedness for and response to Tropical Storm Isaias.
- 4. The Authority's consideration of the issues presented in this proceeding directly impacts the interests of the people of the State of Connecticut and the State of Connecticut. The Attorney General represents the people of the State of Connecticut and the State of Connecticut. His participation in these matters will be of assistance to the state and the people of the State, and will aid the Authority.
- 5. Conn. Gen. Stat. § 4-177a(b) provides that "[t]he presiding officer may grant any person status as an intervenor in a contested case if that officer finds that: (1) Such person has submitted a written petition to the agency and mailed copies to all parties, at least five days before the date of hearing; and (2) the petition states facts that demonstrate that the petitioner's participation is in the interests of justice and will not impair the orderly conduct of the proceedings." *See also* Regulations of Connecticut

State Agencies § 16-1-18(a) ("At any time prior to the commencement of oral testimony in any hearing on a contested case any person may request that the presiding officer permit that person to participate in the hearing as an intervenor.").

- 6. The Attorney General, therefore, requests the right to participate fully in this proceeding, including filing interrogatories, receiving data and information filed by parties and other intervenors, cross-examining witnesses, filing briefs, and presenting oral arguments concerning any and all issues that may be presented in this matter.
- 7. The Attorney General has designated John S. Wright, Assistant Attorney General, and Lauren H. Bidra, Assistant Attorney General, to assist him in these proceedings.

WHEREFORE, the Attorney General requests to be designated as an intervenor in this proceeding.

Respectfully Submitted,

WILLIAM TONG ATTORNEY GENERAL STATE OF CONNECTICUT

BY: /s/ Lauren H. Bidra

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Service is certified to all parties and intervenors on this agency's service list.

/s/ Lauren H. Bidra

Lauren H. Bidra Commissioner of the Superior Court