

# PURA Quarterly Newsletter

2024

Q4



Connecticut Public Utilities Regulatory Authority

# PURA Outlook

October 1, 2024

This summer marked a new chapter for the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA) as we welcomed David Arconti, Jr. to our panel of commissioners. Nominated by Governor Lamont in July, Commissioner Arconti officially joined PURA in August.

Commissioner Arconti represented Danbury's 109th district in the State House of Representatives from January 2013 until January 2024. Over his decade in the General Assembly, he held several key leadership roles, including Vice Chair of the General Law Committee, Vice Chair of the Environment Committee, Deputy Majority Leader, and the House co-chair of the Energy and Technology Committee.

Beyond those leadership roles, Commissioner Arconti served on a number of committees, including public health, housing, general law, veterans and military affairs, environment, energy and technology, and public safety and security.

Notably, during his time in Hartford, Commissioner Arconti introduced and led the passage of the Take Back Our Grid Act ([Public Act 20-5](#)), further building on important measures to enhance utility company accountability and oversight.

In addition to his legislative experience, Commissioner Arconti brings expertise from the utility sector, with a focus on fuel cells, government relations, and community engagement.

Commissioner Arconti earned a Bachelor of Science from Southern Connecticut State University and serves as a board member on the Danbury Police Activities League (PAL) and Meserve Board. He is a member of the Danbury High School Athletics Hall of Fame. Please join us in welcoming Commissioner Arconti to PURA!

Additionally, as we shift away from the hot summer months to the cooler fall weather in Connecticut, it's a good time to remember and review eligibility requirements for the hardship and payment assistance programs available to utility customers. For more information on utility payment assistance programs and other energy and fuel assistance programs, visit [PURA's Customer Affairs webpage](#).

# Q3 Docket Decisions



## ELECTRIC SECTOR

- 23-11-04 - PURA Implementation of the Legal Services Funding Provisions of Section 30 of Public Act 23-102
- 24-05-21 - Application of the Connecticut Light and Power Company d/b/a Eversource Energy For Approval of the Issuance of Long-Term Debt
- 24-01-03 - PURA Annual Review of the Rate Adjustment Mechanisms of the Connecticut Light and Power Company
- 24-01-04 - PURA Annual Review of the Rate Adjustment Mechanisms of the United Illuminating Company
- 24-04-15 - Appeal of Tree Warden's Decision Pursuant to General Statutes 16-234(c)(6)



## GRID MODERNIZATION

- 23-08-02 - Annual Residential Renewable Energy Solutions Program Review - Year 3



## NATURAL GAS SECTOR

- No natural gas decisions this quarter. Proceedings are ongoing.



## TELECOMM SECTOR (+ UTILITY POLES)

- 24-01-15 - Petition of Office of Consumer Counsel for Investigation of Quality of Service Standards for the Southern New England Telephone Company d/b/a Frontier Communications
- 24-01-41 - Request to Transfer Community Access Provider Designation
- 21-04-25 - Application of Electric Lightwave, LLC d/b/a Allstream for a Telecom Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity



## WATER SECTOR

- 13-02-20WI26 - Application of Aquarion Water Company of Connecticut for Approval of Water Infrastructure and Conservation Adjustment Projects
- 24-02-15 - Application of Aquarion Water Company of Connecticut for Approval of the Issuance of Long-Term Debt in the Principal Amount of up to \$118,516,577
- 22-07-01RE01 - Application of Aquarion Water Company of Connecticut to Amend its Rate Schedule - Remand
- 17-10-34RE01 - Appeal Petition Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes 16-235 Aquarion Water Tank, Westport, CT - Project Review
- 24-06-20 - Application of the Connecticut Water Company for Approval of the Issuance of up to \$150,000,000 of Unsecured Notes
- 23-08-32WI01 - Application of the Connecticut Water Company for a Water Infrastructure Conservation Adjustment Semi Annual Filing Report
- 24-07-07 - Lattizori Development, LLC - Request for Approval of Special Deposit Contract
- 22-07-01WI01 - Application of Aquarion Water Company of Connecticut for a Water Infrastructure and Conservation Adjustment



# Electric Sector

## Q3 Major Decision Summaries

### 23-11-04

#### **PURA Implementation of the Legal Services Funding Provisions of Section 30 of Public Act 23-102**

- The Authority established the Customer Legal Advocacy Services Program (CLAS Program), including an application and approval process to distribute up to \$1 million annually to organizations or individuals providing legal services to assist customers in accessing and navigating the available affordability programs offered by public service companies and to negotiate reasonable amortization payment plans as contemplated in General Statutes § 16-262(b)(8) and amended by Public Act 23-102, § 30.
- The CLAS Program will enable organizations or individuals interested in providing such services to apply to be included on the program's qualified provider list (QPL).
- Providers who meet the requirements of the program and are approved to participate would then be able to seek reimbursement according to the program parameters outlined starting on January 1, 2025.

### 24-05-21

#### **Application Of The Connecticut Light And Power Company d/b/a Eversource Energy For Approval Of The Issuance Of Long-Term Debt**

- PURA approved the request of Eversource to issue long-term debt in the form of first mortgage bonds or unsecured notes, in one or more series, with a maturity from one to 30 years, in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$1.0 billion through December 31, 2025.

### **24-01-04**

## **PURA Annual Review of the Rate Adjustment Mechanisms of The United Illuminating Company**

- The Authority conducts an annual review to ensure accurate billing and address any over- or under-collections in reconciling rate mechanisms.
- Each year, by March 1, electric distribution companies (EDCs) submit their Rate Adjustment Mechanism (RAM) filings, detailing over- or under-recoveries for the previous calendar year and expected revenue requirements for the current year.
- The Authority approved rates for UI's RAM components as part of this process.
- To mitigate bill increases due to RAM components, the Authority ordered the EDCs to delay the rate increase until July 1 to coincide with the expected decrease in residential generation rates.

### **24-01-03**

## **PURA Annual Review of the Rate Adjustment Mechanisms of The Connecticut Light and Power Company**

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- Each year, by March 1, electric distribution companies (EDCs) submit their Rate Adjustment Mechanism (RAM) filings, detailing over- or under-recoveries for the previous calendar year and expected revenue requirements for the current year.
- The Authority approved rates for Eversource Energy's RAM components as part of this process.
- To mitigate bill increases due to RAM components, the Authority ordered the EDCs to delay the rate increase until July 1 to coincide with the expected decrease in residential generation rates.

**24-04-15**

**Appeal of Tree Warden's Decision Pursuant to General Statutes 16-234(c)(6)**

- The Authority determined that The United Illuminating Company has proven that public convenience and necessity requires the proposed pruning of two trees located on private property in Hamden, Connecticut.
- The Company may prune the trees to comply with current professional tree care standards, and in a manner that retains the structural integrity and health of the vegetation.
- UI is encouraged to trim the trees to the minimum amount necessary to provide safety for operators and customers as well as the ongoing health of the trees.

# Grid Modernization

## Q3 Major Decision Summaries

**23-08-02**

**Annual Residential Renewable Energy Solutions Program Review – Year 3**

- The Authority approved with modification the Multifamily Housing Working Group's (MFH WG) proposal for master-metered affordable housing to participate in the RRES Program and to share financial benefits of the RRES tariff with tenants through qualified building upgrades.
- The Decision approves the MFH WG's proposed list of approved building upgrades that provide direct and indirect benefits to tenants, and provides clarifications pertaining to the implementation of master-metered housing participation in the RRES program.
- Finally, the Decision directs the EDCs to begin allowing master-metered affordable housing projects to apply and enroll in the RRES Program starting August 1, 2024.

# **Telecomm + Utility Poles Sector**

## Q3 Major Decision Summaries

24-01-15

### Petition of Office of Consumer Counsel for Investigation of Quality of Service Standards for The Southern New England Telephone Company d/b/a Frontier Communications

- PURA investigated the compliance of Frontier Communications with the minimum quality of service standards applicable to telecommunications providers.
- Based on its investigation, the Authority finds that from January 1, 2015, through December 31, 2023, Frontier failed to meet the minimum of two quality of service standards. In addition, the Authority finds that Frontier failed to file exception reports on 16 occasions, which were, cumulatively, 8,811 days overdue as of December 31, 2023, and that Frontier routinely failed to properly file adequate semi-annual and exception reports.
- Consequently, the Authority orders additional reporting requirements and issued a Notice of Violation and Civil Penalty in the amount of approximately \$2.5 million pursuant to General Statutes § 16-41.

21-04-25

### Application of Electric Lightwave, LLC d/b/a Allstream for a Telcom Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity

- In a 2021 Decision in this docket, PURA granted the request of Electric Lightwave, LLC d/b/a Allstream to operate as a reseller and facilities-based provider of telecommunications services and issued the Company a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN).
- In 2022, Electric Lightwave and Zayo Group, LLC notified the Authority of pro forma consolidations of the former and its parent company, into Zayo Group, with Zayo Group remaining as the surviving entity. This consolidation was completed in 2023.
- In this proceeding, Electric Lightwave notified the Authority that it requested surrender and cancellation of its CPCN. The Authority revoked Electric Lightwave's CPCN.

**24-01-41**

**Request to Transfer Community Access Provider Designation**

- PURA directed Brass City Community Television, Inc. to assume the Community Access Provider designation as well as the responsibilities for and the control of operations at the access facility, which are currently designated to and controlled by Skye Cable XII, Inc.
- In January 2024, Skye filed an inquiry with the Authority as to the procedure to transfer its Community Access Provider designation as well as responsibility for and control of operations of the access facility.
- On March 4, 2024, the Authority issued a Notice of Proceeding and Procedural Order directing Skye to file an accounting of its assets addressing the process for nonprofits to request to assume responsibility. The Authority requested that any community-based nonprofit organization that desired to assume responsibility for the Company's community access operations file a petition with the Authority.
- The Authority further directs Skye to work with Brass City to effectuate a smooth transfer of operations and assets.

# **Water Sector**

## Q3 Major Decision Summaries

**13-02-20WI26**

**Application of Aquarion Water Company of Connecticut for Approval of Water Infrastructure and Conservation Adjustment Projects**

- PURA approved 189 of the 197 projects proposed by the Aquarion Water Company with an estimated cost of \$128,050,496 as eligible projects under the Water Infrastructure and Conservation Adjustment (WICA) program.
- In 2007, the Authority implemented the WICA Program, which is a rate adjustment mechanism to accelerate water system infrastructure improvements. In 2008, the Authority approved the Company's Infrastructure Assessment Report (IAR), which inventories the Company's water system and prioritizes a list of WICA projects, thereby allowing the Company to implement a WICA adjustment.



**24-02-15**

**Application of Aquarion Water Company of Connecticut for Approval of the Issuance of Long-Term Debt in the Principal Amount of up to \$118,516,577**

- The Authority found that the Aquarion Water Company of Connecticut has met the requirements to enter into Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) loan agreements with the Department of Public Health (DPH) to fund six projects.
- Additionally, the Authority concurs with the DPH Commissioner's approval of the DWSRF Project's final plans and specifications.

**22-07-01RE01**

**Application of Aquarion Water Company of Connecticut to Amend its Rate Schedule - Remand**

- In this Decision, PURA addressed the Superior Court's remand of three issues to the Authority for further proceedings. The Aquarion Water Company of Connecticut filed a twelve-count appeal of the Authority's final decision with respect to the Company's rate amendment application.
- The Superior Court dismissed nine of the counts in whole and another in part. The remaining counts were remanded back to the Authority.
- As a result of the remand and the Authority's further review of the administrative record, the Authority increases the Company's approved revenue requirement by \$96,748 for a total approved revenue requirement of \$195,658,438. This increase accounts for adjustments for state and federal taxes, rate case expenses, and the Company's treatment of deferred income taxes.

### **17-10-34RE01**

#### **Appeal Petition Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes 16-235 Aquarion Water Tank, Westport, CT – Project Review**

- The Authority reopened Docket No. 17-10-34 in this proceeding to investigate Aquarion’s compliance with the previous Decision, which affirmed the issuance of a special permit by the Westport Planning and Zoning Commission for Aquarion to construct two water tanks in Westport, Connecticut.
- Through the course of its investigation, the Authority determined that Aquarion substantially complied with the Water Tank Decision, with minor violations of the Authority’s orders. This decision summarizes the findings of this investigation.

### **24-06-20**

#### **Application of The Connecticut Water Company for Approval of the Issuance of up to \$150,000,000 of Unsecured Notes**

- PURA approved the request of the Connecticut Water Company to issue one or more unsecured notes in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$150,000,000 prior to December 31, 2025.

### **23-08-32WI01**

#### **Application of The Connecticut Water Company for a Water Infrastructure Conservation Adjustment Semi Annual Filing Report**

- The Authority authorizes a WICA surcharge of 3.43% for Connecticut Water Company (CWC) effective October 1, 2024, as a result of CWC completing 30 WICA-eligible projects with a total cost of \$41,859,677.
- The Company’s cumulative WICA surcharge effective October 1, 2024, on a bills-rendered basis, shall be 3.43%.
- The Authority also approves 21 new projects, Project Nos. 567 – 587, with an estimated cost of \$28,275,000 as WICA-eligible. All WICA-eligible projects will be subject to a prudency review during the company’s next distribution rate case.

**24-07-07**

**Lattizori Development, LLC - Request for Approval of Special Deposit Contract**

- On July 15, 2024, Lattizori Development, LLC and the Aquarion Water Company of Connecticut submitted an application requesting that PURA approve in a special contract between the Companies the inclusion of a pump station. Lattizori represents that the pump station is not needed to benefit Aquarion's system as a whole and, therefore, the Companies sought Authority approval.
- Based on its review, the Authority approves the inclusion of the pump station into the agreement. Aquarion will pay an estimated \$192,246 in costs related to the Facilities' construction, which consists of incremental costs for domestic pumps and associated variable drives, generator and associated automatic transfer switches, fire pumps, and supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) design, integration, and telecommunications.

# Q4 Upcoming Procedural Events



## Planned Procedural Meetings

Date	Docket No.	Docket Name	Event & Registration
10/1/2024 1:00pm	24-08-08	Non-Wires Solutions Process Initiation Phase	Technical Meeting - Hearing Room 1
10/7/2024 2:00pm	24-06-02	GenConn Energy LLC Application to Establish 2025 Revenue Requirements	Hearing - Hearing Room 1
10/16/2024 11:00am	24-06-03	GB II New Haven LLC Application to Establish 2025 Revenue Requirements	Hearing - Hearing Room 2
10/21/2024 1:00pm	24-06-02	GenConn Energy LLC Application to Establish 2025 Revenue Requirements	LFE Hearing- Hearing Room 1
10/22/2024 9:00am	21-09-17	PURA Investigation into Medium and Heavy-Duty Electric Vehicle Charging	<u>Technical Meeting</u>
10/24/2024 TBD	21-05-15RE01	PURA Investigation into Revenue Adjustment Mechanisms for a Performance-Based Regulation Framework	Technical Meeting (Roundtable Discussion) - Hearing Room 1

## Planned Procedural Meetings Continued

Date	Docket No.	Docket Name	Event & Registration
10/24/2024 10:00am	24-10-02 / 23-10-02	Annual Allocation of Public Educational and Governmental Programming and Education Technology Investment Account pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 16-331cc	<u>Question and Answer Session</u>
10/28/2024 2:00pm	24-06-03	GB II New Haven LLC Application to Establish 2025 Revenue Requirements	LFE Hearing 3 - Hearing Room 2
10/28/2024 3:00pm	17-12-03RE11	PURA Investigation into Distribution System Planning of the Electric Distribution Companies – New Rate Designs and Rates Review	Oral Arguments - TBD
10/30/2024 1:00pm	23-11-02	PURA Investigation into Performance Mechanisms for a Performance-Based Regulation Framework	Oral Arguments - Hearing Room 1
10/31/2024 9:00am	21-05-15RE02	PURA Investigation into Performance Mechanisms for a Performance-Based Regulation Framework	Technical Meeting (Roundtable Discussion) - Hearing Room 1
10/31/2024 2:00pm	17-10-46RE04	Application of The Connecticut Light and Power Company d/b/a Eversource Energy to Amend its Rate Schedules - AMI Cost Recovery	Oral Arguments - TBD
11/6/2024 1:00pm	24-01-15RE01	PURA Consideration of Civil Penalty and Enforcement Action Against The Southern New England Telephone Company d/b/a Frontier Communications After Investigation of Quality of Service Standard Performance	Hearing - Hearing Room 1
11/18/2024 1:00pm	21-05-15RE01	PURA Investigation into the Establishment of Integrated Distribution System Planning within a Performance-Based Regulation Framework	Technical Meeting (Roundtable Discussion) - Hearing Room 1
11/19/2024 10:00am	21-05-15RE03	PURA Investigation into the Establishment of Integrated Distribution System Planning within a Performance-Based Regulation Framework	<u>Technical Meeting</u>
11/25/2024 1:00pm	21-05-15RE02	PURA Investigation into the Establishment of Integrated Distribution System Planning within a Performance-Based Regulation Framework	Technical Meeting (Roundtable Discussion) - Hearing Room 1

**Click to see the PURA  
Calendar of Events**

All events are listed in chronological order, categorized by the colors and sectors listed on page 2.

## Planned Procedural Meetings Continued

Date	Docket No.	Docket Name	Event & Registration
12/9/2024 1:00pm	21-05-15RE01	PURA Investigation into the Establishment of Integrated Distribution System Planning within a Performance-Based Regulation Framework	Technical Meeting (Roundtable Discussion) - Hearing Room 1
12/10/2024 10:00am	24-06-03	GB II New Haven LLC Application to Establish 2025 Revenue Requirements	Oral Arguments - Hearing Room 1
12/10/2024 1:00pm	24-06-02	GenConn Energy LLC Application to Establish 2025 Revenue Requirements	Oral Arguments - Hearing Room 1
12/11/2024 1:00pm	24-03-01	Annual Review of the System Expansion Reconciliation Mechanisms	Oral Arguments - TBD
12/16/2024 1:00pm	21-05-15RE02	PURA Investigation into the Establishment of Integrated Distribution System Planning within a Performance-Based Regulation Framework	<u>Technical Meeting</u>
12/17/2024 10:00am	21-05-15RE03	PURA Investigation into the Establishment of Integrated Distribution System Planning within a Performance-Based Regulation Framework	<u>Technical Meeting</u>

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## Planned Final Opportunities to Comment

Date	Docket	Docket Title	Event Type
10/10/2024	24-06-15	Petition of Verizon New York Inc. to Reclassify Remaining Services as Competitive and to Retire the Alternative Form of Regulation Plan	Written Exceptions
10/15/2024	24-03-01	Annual Review of the System Expansion Reconciliation Mechanisms	Briefs
10/15/2024	24-05-11	Petition for Declaratory Ruling on Behalf of Communications Workers of America Local 1298 Regarding General Statutes 16-42	Written Exceptions
10/21/2024	17-10-46RE04	Application of The Connecticut Light and Power Company d/b/a Eversource Energy to Amend its Rate Schedules - AMI Cost Recovery	Written Exceptions
10/21/2024	24-08-04	Annual Shared Clean Energy Facility Program Review - Year 6	Briefs
10/24/2024	24-08-03	Annual Non-Residential Renewable Energy Solutions Program Review - Year 4	Written Exceptions
10/25/2024	23-11-02	Application of Connecticut Natural Gas Corporation and The Southern Connecticut Gas Company to Amend Their Rate Schedules	Written Exceptions
10/28/2024	24-06-02	GenConn Energy LLC Application to Establish 2025 Revenue Requirements	Briefs
10/30/2024	24-05-01	Annual Review of Affordability Programs and Offerings (Energy Affordability Annual Review)	Written Exceptions
11/1/2024	24-06-03	GB II New Haven LLC Application to Establish 2025 Revenue Requirements	Briefs
11/6/2024	17-12-03RE11	PURA Investigation into Distribution System Planning of the Electric Distribution Companies - New Rate Designs and Rate Review	Written Exceptions
11/14/2024	24-08-06	Annual EV Charging Program Review - Year 4	Written Exceptions
11/15/2024	24-01-15RE01	PURA Consideration of Civil Penalty and Enforcement Action Against The Southern New England Telephone Company d/b/a Frontier Communications After Investigation of Quality of Service Standard Performance	Briefs

## Planned Final Opportunities to Comment Continued

Date	Docket	Docket Title	Event Type
11/18/2024	24-08-05	Annual Energy Storage Solutions Program Review - Year 4	Written Exceptions
11/26/2024	24-08-04	Annual Shared Clean Energy Facility Program Review - Year 6	Written Exceptions
12/03/2024	24-03-01	Annual Review of the System Expansion Reconciliation Mechanisms	Written Exceptions
12/04/2024	24-08-08	Non-Wires Solutions Process Initiation Phase	Written Exceptions
12/09/2024	24-06-02	GenConn Energy LLC Application to Establish 2025 Revenue Requirements	Written Exceptions
12/09/2024	24-06-03	GB II New Haven LLC Application to Establish 2025 Revenue Requirements	Written Exceptions
12/13/2024	24-09-01	Call before You Dig, Inc. - Proposed Budget for 2025	Written Exceptions



## PURA Regular Meeting Dates & Planned Final Decisions

Regular Meeting Date	Docket No.	Docket Title
10/16/2024	24-08-02	Annual Residential Renewable Energy Solutions Program Review – Year 4
	24-06-15	Petition of Verizon New York Inc. to Reclassify Remaining Services as Competitive and to Retire the Alternative Form of Regulation Plan
10/23/2024	24-05-11	Petition for Declaratory Ruling on Behalf of Communications Workers of America Local 1298 Regarding General Statutes 16-42
11/6/2024	24-08-03	Annual Non-Residential Renewable Energy Solutions Program Review – Year 4
	24-05-01	Annual Review of Affordability Programs and Offerings (Energy Affordability Annual Review)
11/18/2024 (Special Meeting)	23-11-02	Application of Connecticut Natural Gas Corporation and The Southern Connecticut Gas Company to Amend Their Rate Schedules
11/20/2024	17-10-46RE04	Application of The Connecticut Light and Power Company d/b/a Eversource Energy to Amend its Rate Schedules - AMI Cost Recovery
	17-12-03RE11	PURA Investigation into Distribution System Planning of the Electric Distribution Companies – New Rate Designs and Rates Review
12/4/2024	24-08-05	Annual Energy Storage Solutions Program Review – Year 4
	24-08-06	Annual EV Charging Program Review – Year 4
12/11/2024	24-08-04	Annual Shared Clean Energy Facility Program Review – Year 6
	23-08-07	Innovative Energy Solutions Program Cycle 02
12/18/2024	24-03-01	Annual Review of the System Expansion Reconciliation Mechanisms
	24-06-02	GenConn Energy LLC Application to Establish 2025 Revenue Requirements
	24-06-03	GB II New Haven LLC Application to Establish 2025 Revenue Requirements
	24-08-08	Non-Wires Solutions Process Initiation Phase
	24-09-01	Call Before You Dig – 2025 Budget

**[Click here to stream PURA's Regular Meetings](#)**

All planned final decisions are listed in chronological order, categorized by the colors and sectors listed on page 2.

# PURA 101 Workshops



The Authority will resume the PURA 101 Workshop series this spring. To request a PURA 101 presentation on site or via Zoom, compose an email to [Taren.OConnor@ct.gov](mailto:Taren.OConnor@ct.gov). In the request, please include a preferred time, date range, location, target audience, and topics you would like the Authority to cover. Organizers are responsible for securing in-person locations.

## Watch the Below Videos to Help You Interpret Your Electric Bill

[EVERSOURCE CUSTOMERS](#)



[UI CUSTOMERS](#)



[PURA 101](#)



# PURA In the News

## 7/1/2024 CT Insider

[Here's How Eversource, UI Bills Will Change in Connecticut in July and Why](#)

## 7/25/2024 CT Mirror

[CT PURA Shakeup: Lamont Names David Arconti; Betkoski to Retire](#)

## 7/11/2024 CT News Junkie

[PURA Fines Frontier \\$2.5 Million for Lapses in Performance](#)

## 8/8/2024 CT News Junkie

[Analysis | The Truth About Your Electric Bill](#)

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