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**State of Vermont
Public Utility Commission**

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MEMORANDUM

To: Participants in PUC Case Number 17-4999-INV

From: John C. Gerhard, Esq. 

Re: Expanded Notice & Request for Comments

Date: January 16, 2020

Introduction

This proceeding concerns an investigation into the Vermont Public Utility Commission's ("Commission") Rules 3.200 (Ratepayer Deposits for Gas, Electric, Water, Telephone, and Cable Television Service), 3.300 (Disconnection of Residential Gas, Electric, and Water Service), and 3.400 (Disconnection of Cable Television Service and Non-residential Electric, Gas, and Water Service).

In today's memorandum, I ask the Clerk of the Commission to expand the notice list for this proceeding and seek comments on an extension to the schedule.

Background

On November 22, 2017, the Commission opened the current proceeding investigating Rule 3.300.

From November 2017, until October 2019, the Commission issued several requests for comments from participants, received several rounds of comments, and held two workshops. On October 1, 2019, the Vermont Department of Public Service ("Department") filed a proposed draft rule and asked the Commission to broaden the scope of the proceeding to consider the revision of Rules 3.200, 3.300, and 3.400.

On November 6, 2019, the Commission issued an Order expanding the scope of the proceeding to include a review of Rules 3.200, 3.300, and 3.400 and to give more time to the Department to file a proposed rules.

On January 10, 2019, the Department filed a motion asking the Commission to provide more time to the Department to draft and file the proposed rules. The Department also noted that the service list for the proceeding should be expanded to include Vermont cable and water utilities, because the Department's proposed modifications would affect these entities.¹

Notice

I agree that the service list for this proceeding should be expanded to include all affected entities, including cable and water companies. I will ask the Clerk's Office to expand the service list to include these entities.

Because this is not a contested case, participants need not file a notice of appearance. Participants need only follow and participate in the proceeding through Case No. 17-4999-INV on ePUC (accessible at <https://epuc.vermont.gov/>). If any participant has problems using ePUC, they should contact the Clerk's Office at (802) 828-2358.

Request for Comments

The Department asked the Commission for three additional weeks during which to work on the rule revisions.² I propose providing additional time, beyond the three weeks requested by the Department. This will give any new participants additional time during which to familiarize themselves with the record and provide the Department with some additional time to complete its revisions. I propose that the Department files its proposed Rule by no later than **March 1, 2020**.

I ask participants to file comments on my proposed deadline of March 1, 2020. These comments should be filed no later than **January 28, 2020**.

¹ *Department Motion*, Case No. 17-4999-INV, filed on 1/10/2020 at 1.

² *Id.*

PUC Case No. 17-4999-INV - SERVICE LIST

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Other Entities Receiving Notice:

Vermont Cable Companies (see attached list)

Vermont Water Companies (see attached list)

VERMONT PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD
CABLE COMPANIES
AUTHORIZED TO OPERATE IN VERMONT

CHAMPLAIN BROADBAND, LLC
d/b/a Burlington Telecom
f/k/a City of Burlington
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COMCAST OF CONNECTICUT/GEORGIA/MASSACHUSETTS/
NEW HAMPSHIRE/NEW YORK/NORTH CAROLINA/VIRGINIA/VERMONT
d/b/a Comcast
Melissa Pierce, Manager of Government & Regulatory Affairs
299 North Main Street
Rutland, VT 05701
(802) 776-1632 — Customer Service (800) 266-2278
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DUNCAN CABLE TV SERVICE
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