

STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Case No. 17-4999-INV

Investigation into PUC Rule 3.300, Disconnection of Residential Electric, Gas and Water Service; PUC Rule 3.200, Ratepayer Deposits for Gas, Electric, and Water Service); and PUC Rule 3.400, Disconnection of Cable Television Service and Non-Residential Electric, Gas and Water Service	
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Order entered:

PROCEDURAL ORDER EXTENDING COMMENT PERIOD

This proceeding concerns an investigation into Vermont Public Utility Commission (“Commission”) Rules 3.200, 3.300, and 3.400.

In today’s Order, I extend the comment deadline in this proceeding **until July 1, 2020**.

On March 16, 2020, the Department of Public Service (“Department”) submitted a draft comprehensive rule incorporating aspects of existing Commission Rules 3.200, 3.300, and 3.400 in Commission Case 17-4999.

On March 24, 2020, I issued a memorandum setting May 5, 2020, as the due date for parties to submit comments on the Department’s March 16, 2020, filing. In the memorandum, noting the current coronavirus-related state of emergency in Vermont, I urged parties to request additional time to comment should staffing or other issues preclude a party from submitting comments by the May 5, 2020, deadline.¹

On April 21, 2020, the Vermont Public Power Supply Authority (“VPPSA”), because of coronavirus-related issues, among other things, asked the Commission to extend the comment deadline in this proceeding until July 1, 2020.² VPPSA represented that it was supported in its request by Burlington Electric Department, Green Mountain Power, Vermont Electric Cooperative, Vermont Gas Systems, and Washington Electric Cooperative.³

¹ *Investigation into PUC Rule 3.200*, Case No. 17-4999-INV, memorandum issued on 3/24/20, at 1.

² VPPSA comments, filed on 4/21/20, at 1.

³ *Id.*

On April 23, 2020, Comcast of Connecticut/Georgia/Massachusetts/New Hampshire/New York/North Carolina/Virginia/Vermont, LLC (“Comcast”), filed comments supporting VPPSA’s request for an extension.⁴

No other comments were received by the Commission.

Because of the logistical complications for parties associated with the coronavirus pandemic, I grant the request to extend the deadline for comments. **The new deadline for comments in this proceeding is now July 1, 2020.**

Again, I observe that the coronavirus pandemic has and is causing all parties to stretch limited resources. Going forward, should staffing or other issues make the July 1, 2020, due date unmanageable, participants should feel free to petition the Commission for additional time to file comments associated with this proceeding. I simply ask that requests for additional time are filed with the Commission at least three days before the deadline to which they refer.

SO ORDERED.

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this _____.



John C. Gerhard, Esq.
Hearing Officer

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

Filed:

Attest: _____
Deputy Clerk of the Commission

Notice to Readers: This decision is subject to revision of technical errors. Readers are requested to notify the Clerk of the Commission (by e-mail, telephone, or in writing) of any apparent errors, in order that any necessary corrections may be made. (E-mail address: puc.clerk@vermont.gov).

⁴ Comcast comments, filed on 4/23/20, at 1.

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