

STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Case No. 23-2221-INV

Investigation into the Clean Heat Standard Default Delivery Agents Costs and Quantities	
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VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE'S COMMENTS

On June 30, 2023, the Vermont Public Utility Commission (“Commission”) issued an Order Opening Investigation, pursuant to Act 18 of 2023 (the “Affordable Heat Act”). This investigation is pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 815(e)(1) to “establish the default delivery agent credit costs or costs and the quantity of credits to be generated for the subsequent three-year period.” In its Order the Commission sought comments as to the process to be utilized for this proceeding. The Vermont Department of Public Service’s (“Department”) comments are as follows:

We request comments from stakeholders and members of the public as to the scope and process to be followed in this proceeding. In particular, we request comments on whether there are other matters from Act 18 that are appropriately addressed within the scope of this proceeding rather than in Case No. 23-2220-RULE, or perhaps another proceeding. We also request comments on whether we should follow any contested-case-like procedures for this proceeding.

It is the Department’s understanding that this proceeding will address both the appointment of one or more Default Delivery Agents (“DDA”) and the establishment of budgets for the DDA(s). Under Act 18, the DDA(s) must be designated by June 1, 2024, which is prior to delivery of the results of the Thermal Sector Potential Study (September 1, 2024) and before the GHG reduction value of clean heat measures is known.

The Department recommends that this proceeding follow the process which was utilized in Case No. 19-0397-PET, wherein the proceeding was not conducted as a contested case, but the schedule included testimony and an evidentiary hearing. The Department asserts that this posture

will allow for the most people to participate and have their positions known in a less formal, yet structured manner.

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont this 4th day of August 2023.

VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE

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