

**STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

Case No. 24-3432-TF

Tariff filing of Vermont Electric Cooperative
Inc. for approval of a 4.84% rate increase to
be effective on January 1, 2025

**VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE'S COMMENTS
IN RESPONSE TO VERMONT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.**

On May 16, 2025, Vermont Electric Cooperative, Inc. ("VEC") filed a letter with the Vermont Public Utility Commission ("Commission") in the above-referenced proceeding stating that VEC accepts the recommendations of the Department of Public Service ("Department"). VEC consents to the admission of all prefiled testimony and exhibits, and indicates that it does not believe further process is necessary. As reflected in the prefiled direct testimony of Scott Wheeler, filed April 3, 2025, the Department finds VEC's proposed rate increase of 4.84% to be just and reasonable and does not recommend further adjustments.

However, given that VEC proposes a significant acceleration of its pole inspection and treatment efforts, the Department recommends that VEC be required to make two compliance filings as described more fully in testimony.¹ The Department agrees to stipulate to the admission of all prefiled testimony and exhibits, and if an evidentiary hearing is held during the week of June 9, 2025,² the Department does not intend to cross-examine VEC's witnesses. The Department will be prepared to make its witnesses available should the Commission have any questions, and respectfully asks that the Hearing Officer identify any witnesses they may wish to question in advance of the hearing. The Department will also be prepared to file a brief by the current deadline of June 30, 2025, or sooner if the schedule is adjusted. Thank you, and please contact me with any questions or concerns.

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¹ See Scott G. Wheeler, Vermont Department of Public Service, pf. (4/3/25) at 5.

² See *Tariff Filing of Vermont Electric Cooperative*, Case No. 24-3432-TF, Scheduling Order of 1/23/25 at 2.

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont this 22th day of May 2025.

VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE

Respectfully submitted,

By: /s/ Ben Civiletti
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cc: Service List (via ePUC)