

**STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

Case No. 26-1130-TF

Tariff filing of Town of Stowe Electric Department, pursuant to 30 V.S.A. §§ 225 and 227(a), for a 14.6% rate increase effective on service rendered on or after August 1, 2026	
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**RECOMMENDATION OF THE
VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE**

On June 5, 2026, the Town of Stowe Electric Department (“Stowe”) filed a request with the Vermont Public Utility Commission (“Commission”) for a 14.6% rate increase¹ (“Rate Change”), pursuant to 30 V.S.A. §§ 225, 226, and 227, for electric service rendered on or after the effective date of August 1, 2026. Based on a test year consisting of March 1, 2025, through February 28, 2026, adjusted for known and measurable changes, Stowe predicts a revenue shortfall under its current rates. Stowe maintains that the main drivers of its Rate Change include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. An increase in purchased power supply and transmission costs;
2. Adjustments to account for increased labor expenses;
3. Renewable Energy Standard compliance costs and;
4. Maintaining a net-income that reflects a Times Interest Earned Ratio (“TIER”) of 2.0.

Moreover, the Department observes that some of Stowe’s filings appear to contain multiple errors and some filings appear to be missing information. Due to the

¹ An overall increase in the retail revenue requirement of \$2,250,603.00.

magnitude of Stowe's proposed Rate Change and the Department's concerns regarding sufficiency of some of Stowe's evidence, the Vermont Department of Public Service ("Department") respectfully recommends that the Commission: (1) open an investigation into the justness and reasonableness of Stowe's proposed Rate Change; and (2) set a date for an initial conference to establish a litigation schedule for this proceeding pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 225(b). Opening an investigation in this proceeding will provide the Commission and the Department with the opportunity to ensure, among other things, that Stowe's estimates and forecasts used for ratemaking are fully updated and consistent with current market conditions prior to being approved.

Thank you, please contact me with any questions.

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont this 6th day of July, 2026.

By:

/s/



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cc: ePUC Service List