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July 31, 2026

Ms. Holly Anderson, Clerk
Vermont Public Utility Commission
112 State Street
Montpelier, Vermont 05620-2701

RE: Case No. 25-2607-INV
Investigation into the City of Burlington Electric Department's operations and management practices

Dear Ms. Anderson:

On October 22, 2025, the Vermont Public Utility Commission ("Commission") opened the above captioned case investigating the operations and management practices of the City of Burlington Electric Department ("BED") in relation to BED's regulatory shortcomings. As part of this investigation, the Vermont Department of Public Service ("Department") engaged an outside consultant, ARC Business Solutions Inc. ("ARC"), to conduct a management and business process audit of BED ("Audit"). By this letter, the Department submits the Audit of BED conducted by ARC along with ARC's supporting testimony and the resume for Darwin Perrier, the ARC team lead. The Department fully supports the conclusions and recommendations contained within the Audit.

On July 14, 2026, the Hearing Officer issued a Scheduling Order directing a contested process, including discovery, testimony, reply testimony, and an evidentiary hearing. BED has been collaborative and forthcoming throughout the Audit process, for which the Department is appreciative. The Department understands that BED intends to accept the findings and recommendations of the Audit. As such, the Department will have no need for an opportunity for discovery or further testimony. The Department anticipates that the Commission may have information requests for ARC and BED.

The Department, with ARC, and BED intend to file joint proposed dates for an evidentiary hearing on August 3, 2026, as directed in the Scheduling Order.

Sincerely,

Signed by:
A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "James Porter".
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Jim Porter
Director for Public Advocacy