

STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD

Docket No. 7535

Investigation into: (1) petition of AARP, for the)
establishment of reduced rates for low-income)
consumers of Green Mountain Power Corporation and)
Central Vermont Public Service Corporation and (2) as)
expanded to possibly include general applicability to all)
Vermont retail electric utilities)

Order entered: 3/2/2015

ORDER RE: ELECTRIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM REPORTING

I. PROCEDURAL HISTORY

In 2009, the Vermont Legislature passed 30 V.S.A. § 218(e), which authorized the Public Service Board ("Board") to implement reduced rates for low-income electric utility consumers to better assure affordability of electric service for these consumers.

On September 6, 2012, after a lengthy proceeding and significant input from a variety of stakeholders, the Board issued an Order authorizing Green Mountain Power Corporation ("GMP") to implement the Electric Assistance Program ("EAP"), which provides reduced rates to low-income GMP residential consumers.

On March 28, 2014, GMP filed with the Board a report on the EAP's first year of activities, as well as a joint proposal for refunding a portion of the \$3.5 million of excess EAP funds collected by GMP during the first year of the EAP's operation. GMP's filing was supported by AARP, the Vermont Department of Public Service, and International Business Machines Corporation.

On June 26, 2014, the Board issued an Order directing GMP to refund a portion of the excess EAP funds to consumers, to use another portion of the excess EAP funds for program activities, and to hold the remaining EAP funds in reserve. Also, the Board directed GMP to file a report on year-two activities at the end of the second program year.

On January 26, 2015, GMP filed a proposal for complying with its EAP reporting requirement.

II. DISCUSSION

GMP proposes to file its EAP status report with the Board on March 31, 2015. GMP asserts that this additional time is needed in order for its Accounting Department to compile all of the 2014 data necessary for the status report and in order for GMP to acquire data from the Vermont Department for Children and Families, which has been working with GMP on the EAP during the 2014 program year. GMP states that the Department of Public Service supports GMP's request to file on March 31, 2015.

We hereby grant GMP's request to file its EAP second-year status report on March 31, 2015. We also ask GMP to include in the status report in addition to data for the 2014 program year, comparative, historical data from the 2013 program year.¹ Finally, going forward, GMP is directed to file an EAP status report annually on the last day of March.

SO ORDERED.

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 2nd day of March, 2015.

<u>s/James Volz</u>	)	
	)	
	)	PUBLIC SERVICE
	)	
<u>s/John D. Burke</u>	)	
	)	BOARD
	)	
	)	OF VERMONT
<u>s/Margaret Cheney</u>	)	

OFFICE OF THE CLERK
FILED: March 2, 2015

ATTEST: s/Susan M. Hudson
Clerk of the Board

NOTICE TO READERS: This decision is subject to revision of technical errors. Readers are requested to notify the Clerk of the Board (by e-mail, telephone, or in writing) of any apparent errors, in order that any necessary corrections may be made. (E-mail address: psb.clerk@state.vt.us).

Appeal of this decision to the Supreme Court of Vermont must be filed with the Clerk of the Board within thirty days. Appeal will not stay the effect of this Order, absent further order by this Board or appropriate action by the Supreme Court of Vermont. Motions for reconsideration or stay, if any, must be filed with the Clerk of the Board within ten days of the date of this decision and Order.

1. This comparative, historical data will make it easier for the Board to see the program's performance over time and to detect program trends.