

STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Investigation into the City of Burlington	)	
Electric Department's Operations and	)	Case No. 25-2607-INV
Management Practices	)	

PREFILED TESTIMONY OF EMILY STEBBINS-WHEELOCK

City Burlington Electric Department

September 11, 2026

Summary of Testimony

The witness's testimony is provided per the Commission's scheduling order dated July 14, 2026 in Case No. 25-2607.

TESTIMONY OF EMILY STEBBINS-WHEELOCK

Q.01. Please state your name and business address.

A.01. My name is Emily Stebbins-Wheelock. My business address is 585 Pine Street,
Burlington, Vermont.

Q. 02. By whom are you employed, and in what capacity?

A. 02. I am currently employed by the Burlington Electric Department (“BED”) as CFO and
Manager of Strategy and Innovation. I have been a full-time employee of BED since
September 2019.

**Q. 03. What are your current responsibilities as Manager of Strategy and Innovation at
BED?**

A. 03. I am a member of the executive management team at BED, reporting to the General
Manager. I lead BED’s Center for Innovation, which includes BED’s Finance &
Accounting (including Billing & Analytics), Policy & Planning, Information Services,
and Sustainability & Workforce Development teams, each under the leadership of a
Director.

Q. 04. By whom were you employed prior to BED?

A. 04. I was employed by the University of Vermont (“UVM”) from 2004 to 2019 in the roles
of Strategic Planner/Analyst, Senior Project Manager, and ultimately the Director of
Operational Excellence for the Division of Finance. During my time at UVM, I
developed an enterprise risk management program, managed the implementation of a
new budget model and a new budgeting and financial reporting system, and was
responsible for improving the effectiveness and efficiency of financial operations.

Q. 05. Briefly describe your educational background.

A. 05. I received a Bachelor of Arts degree in English & American Literature & Language from
Harvard College and a Master of Science degree in Community Development & Applied
Economics from the University of Vermont. I am also a certified Project Management

1 Professional and Associate in Risk Management with the Enterprise Risk Management
2 designation.

3 **Q. 07. Have you previously testified before the Vermont Public Utility Commission?**

4 A. 07. Yes, several, including BED's 2021 (Case No. 21-2186-TF), 2023 (Case No. 23-2044-
5 TF), 2024 (Case No. 24-1848-TF), and 2025 (Case No. 25-1172-TF) rate filings and
6 BED's 2023 Integrated Resource Plan (Case No. 23-3799).

7 **Q. 08. What is the purpose of your testimony?**

8 A. 08. My testimony is in response to the Commission's scheduling order dated July 14, 2026
9 that calls for BED to file testimony responding to the Department of Public Service's
10 testimony and consultant report by September 11, 2026.

11 **Q. 09. What is BED's position on the Consultant Report?**

12 A. 09. As discussed in the letter from Joshua Diamond, counsel for BED in this matter, dated
13 July 31, 2026 (BED-ESW-Exhibit 1), BED worked hard to ensure the consultant had
14 timely access to the information, interviews, and systems they needed to complete their
15 work. BED understands that the consultant report identifies BED's prior shortcomings in
16 meeting the standard for regulatory work the Commission and Department expects of
17 BED and for which BED expects of itself. BED is committed to learning from prior
18 errors and shortcomings and implementing the recommendations in the report.
19 Recognizing that perfection is neither the standard set out in the report nor achievable,
20 BED seeks to implement effective systems, controls, and processes that prevent errors
21 from occurring or recurring to the greatest extent practicable. With that in mind, BED
22 supports the report's recommendations without reservation. BED has waived discovery
23 on the Department and seeks to waive further process in this case, including the
24 evidentiary hearing to the extent that the consultant report and testimony from the
25 Department serve as an adequate basis for a Commission order regarding implementation
26 of the report recommendations. BED understands the implementation of the roadmap
27 timeframes for the report's recommendations are tied to issuance of a final order by the

Commission, and BED seeks to expeditiously move forward with implementing these recommendations if further process is not required in this case.

Q. 10. Did BED have any other response to the report and testimony from the Department?

A. 10. BED appreciates the work conducted through this audit with the Department and its consultant, and BED welcomes the opportunity to implement the recommendations and achieve regulatory performance commensurate with our regulators' expectations. Additionally, BED reserves its rights to further process, as described in BED-ESW-Exhibit 1 if the report's findings were to be used for an outcome beyond implementation of the report's recommendations. BED stands ready to implement the report's recommendations and dedicate significant organizational effort to achieve the timeframes for implementation discussed in the report roadmap.

Q. 11. Does this conclude your testimony?

A. 11. Yes.

I, Emily Stebbins-Wheelock, declare that the above pre-filed testimony that I have sponsored is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief and was prepared by me or under my direct supervision. I understand that if the above statement is false, I may be subject to sanctions by the Commission pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 30.

Emily Stebbins-Wheelock

September 11, 2026

Date