

STATE OF VERMONT  
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Case No. 20-0203-INV

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Investigation into the establishment of reduced rates for low-income residential ratepayers of Vermont electric utilities	
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Order entered: 06/28/2022

**ORDER DENYING MOTION TO ALTER OR AMEND**

This proceeding concerns an investigation by the Vermont Public Utility Commission (“Commission”) into the establishment of reduced rates for low-income residential ratepayers of Vermont electric utilities. On April 26, 2022, the Commission issued an Order Clarifying the Scope of this Proceeding and Requesting Information.

On May 24, 2022, the Vermont Public Power Supply Authority (“VPPSA”)—excluding Hardwick Electric Department—filed a Motion to Alter or Amend under Rule 59(e) of the Vermont Rules of Civil Procedure.<sup>1</sup> VPPSA recognizes that the Commission has authority to “order each individual utility to implement low-income residential electric rates,” but VPPSA does not believe the Commission can “require adoption of low-income rates on a statewide basis.”<sup>2</sup>

We deny VPPSA’s motion because it is premature. Rule 59(e) is for motions to alter or amend a “judgment,” which Rule 54 defines as “any order from which an appeal lies.” An appeal is, in general, only available after a “final order, judgment, or decree of the Commission.”<sup>3</sup> The Commission’s April 26, 2022, order is not a final order that can be appealed. Rather, that order requested additional information so that further proceedings can occur. VPPSA’s Rule 59(e) motion is thus premature and is denied without prejudice to VPPSA’s ability to refile the same or a similar motion at the appropriate time.

**SO ORDERED.**


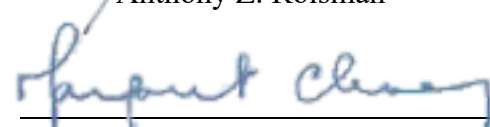
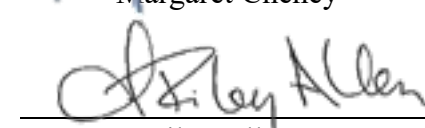
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<sup>1</sup> See Commission Rules 2.103 and 2.105 (noting that the Vermont Rules of Civil Procedure apply to Commission proceedings).

<sup>2</sup> VPPSA’s Motion to Alter or Amend at 3.


<sup>3</sup> 30 V.S.A. § 12.

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 28th day of June, 2022.

	)	
Anthony Z. Roisman	)	PUBLIC UTILITY
	)	
	)	
Margaret Cheney	)	COMMISSION
	)	
	)	
J. Riley Allen	)	OF VERMONT

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

Filed: June 28, 2022

Attest:   
 Clerk of the Commission

*Notice to Readers: This decision is subject to revision of technical errors. Readers are requested to notify the Clerk of the Commission (by e-mail, telephone, or in writing) of any apparent errors, in order that any necessary corrections may be made. (E-mail address: [puc.clerk@vermont.gov](mailto:puc.clerk@vermont.gov))*

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