

STATE OF VERMONT  
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Case No. 22-2954-PET

Petition of the Department of Public Service to open a proceeding to initiate EEU Demand Resource Plan proceeding for the 2024-2026 and 2027-2029 performance periods	
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Order entered: 08/29/2022

**INFORMATION REQUEST REGARDING POTENTIAL STUDY**

On July 27, 2022, the Department of Public Service (“Department”) filed an initial draft potential study in this proceeding. On August 18, 2022, the Vermont Public Utility Commission (“Commission”) issued an order that, among other things, established a deadline for comments, questions, and requests for a workshop regarding the initial draft potential study.

On August 25, 2022, Efficiency Vermont filed a letter stating that it does not have comments at this time and does not request a workshop regarding the initial draft potential study.

No other comments have been filed.

Commission staff request that the Department or its contractors address the following topic in written responses, due September 9, 2022.

The initial draft potential study includes income-eligible equity assumptions for Efficiency Vermont, the City of Burlington Electric Department (“BED”), and Vermont Gas Systems, Inc. (“Vermont Gas”) service territories. Income-eligible households in Efficiency Vermont and BED service territories are defined as those households that are at or below 80% median income. Vermont Gas income-eligible households are defined as “households that are at or below a combination of 60% and 80% at or below median income – which is estimated using the number of VGS customers on the VGS residential low-income rate, low-income energy assistance plan (LIEAP) customers, and supplemental estimates from the 2015 Vermont residential baseline assessment.” For the program achievable potential scenario, it is assumed that:

- 16% of BED’s residential customers are income-eligible, representing 3% of the resource-acquisition budget;

- 32% of Efficiency Vermont’s residential customers are income-eligible, representing 12% of the resource-acquisition budget; and
- 9% of Vermont Gas’s residential customers are income-eligible, representing 4% of the resource-acquisition budget.<sup>1</sup>

Information Requests

1. Did the Department or its contractors consider harmonizing the “income-eligible” customer definition for Vermont Gas with the definitions applicable to Efficiency Vermont and BED?
2. If the “income-eligible” customer definition for Vermont Gas matched the definition applicable to Efficiency Vermont and BED, how would the assumed percentage of income-eligible residential customers in Vermont Gas territory change?
3. If the “income-eligible” customer definition for Vermont Gas matched the definition applicable to Efficiency Vermont and BED, how would the assumed percentage of Vermont Gas resource-acquisition budget change?
4. How would any of these changes affect the program achievable potential savings and budget results?
5. For purposes of the potential study, given the definitions and assumptions identified above, is it correct that all income-eligible BED customers who are also Vermont Gas customers would qualify as income-eligible for Vermont Gas? If not, please explain.

**SO ORDERED.**

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<sup>1</sup> Exh. DPS-1 at 28-29.

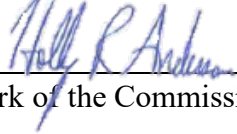
Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 29th day of August, 2022.



Thomas Knauer  
Hearing Officer

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

Filed: August 29, 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))*

PUC Case No. 22-2954-PET - SERVICE LIST

Parties:

Mary Bouchard  
Vermont Gas Systems, Inc.  
85 Swift Street  
South Burlington, VT 05403  
mbouchard@vermontgas.com

(for Vermont Gas Systems, Inc.)

William F. Ellis  
McNeil, Leddy & Sheahan  
271 South Union Street  
Burlington, VT 05401  
wellis@mcneilvt.com

(for City of Burlington Electric Department)

James Gibbons  
City of Burlington Electric Department  
585 Pine Street  
Burlington, VT 05401  
jgibbons@burlingtonelectric.com

(for City of Burlington Electric Department)

Megan Ludwig, Esq.  
Vermont Department of Public Service  
112 State Street  
Montpelier, VT 05620-2601  
megan.ludwig@vermont.gov

(for Vermont Department of Public Service)

Jill Pfenning  
Vermont Gas Systems, Inc.  
85 Swift Street  
South Burlington, VT 05403  
jpfenning@vermontgas.com

(for Vermont Gas Systems, Inc.)

Darren Springer  
City of Burlington Electric Department  
585 Pine Street  
Burlington, VT 05401  
dspringer@burlingtonelectric.com

(for City of Burlington Electric Department)

Emily Stebbins-Wheelock  
City of Burlington Electric Department  
585 Pine Street  
Burlington, VT 05401  
estebbins-wheelock@burlingtonelectric.com

(for City of Burlington Electric Department)

Matthew J. Walker  
Efficiency Vermont-Vermont Energy  
Investment Corporation  
20 Winooski Falls Way  
5th Floor  
Winooski, VT 05404  
mjwalker@veic.org

(for Efficiency Vermont - Vermont Energy  
Investment Corporation)

David C. Westman  
Efficiency Vermont - Vermont Energy  
Investment Corporation  
20 Winooski Falls Way  
5th Floor  
Winooski, VT 05404  
dwestman@veic.org

(for Efficiency Vermont - Vermont Energy  
Investment Corporation)