

STATE OF VERMONT  
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Case No. 22-2954-PET

Petition of the Department of Public Service to initiate energy efficiency utility Demand Resources Plan proceeding for the 2024-2026 performance period	
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Order entered: 02/09/2024

**ORDER ADDRESSING SCHEDULE FOR AMENDED DEMAND RESOURCES PLANS**

On January 10, 2024, the Vermont Public Utility Commission (“Commission”) separately approved amended Demand Resources Plans (“DRP”) for the City of Burlington Electric Department (“BED”) and Efficiency Vermont to reflect the implementation of greenhouse gas emissions reduction programs as authorized by Public Act No. 44. The Commission approved amendments to BED’s and Efficiency Vermont’s DRP to allow for the implementation of Act 44 programs in the 2024 performance year and for years 2025 and 2026, the Commission allowed for further process to examine whether the proposed programs and budget levels result in the largest possible greenhouse gas emission reductions in a cost-effective manner.

By March 11, 2024, Efficiency Vermont and BED were directed to make additional filings examining the tradeoffs of their Act 44 proposals for the 2025 and 2026 performance years, including examining budget reductions or other program changes that improve expected savings from the electric portfolio and increase the number of weatherized units for the 2024-2026 performance period. The Vermont Department of Public Service (“Department”) was also provided with the opportunity to make additional filings examining the tradeoffs of its Act 44 budget proposals.

On February 8, 2024, I held a status conference to discuss the content of the March 11 supplemental filings. The Parties agreed to a schedule that provided the opportunity for additional supplement filings and response filings.

The deadline for BED and Efficiency Vermont to make supplemental filings examining the tradeoffs of their Act 44 proposals for the years 2025 and 2026, is March 11, 2024. As part of these supplemental filings, BED and Efficiency Vermont are requested to provide additional details on whether their proposed Act 44 programs are additive and complementary to, and do

not replace or compete with distribution utility Tier 3 projects. This process should include examining changes to program implementation or other operational improvements to reduce the proposed budgets to achieve the largest possible greenhouse gas emission reductions in a cost-effective manner. This examination should include an analysis of how any changes affect or improve the expected savings and QPI targets of the electric portfolio and the number of weatherized units for the 2024-2026 performance period.

In addition, the Department identified policy changes and funding in the transportation and thermal sectors that should be considered in setting Act 44 programs and budgets, summarized in findings 63 through 70 of the January 10 Order addressing Efficiency Vermont's amended DRP and in findings 57 through 63 of the January 10 Order addressing BED's amended DRP. BED and Efficiency Vermont should address how or whether these policy changes and funding affect their Act 44 programs proposed for years 2025 and 2026, including whether the policy changes and funding reduce the need or replace the need for their proposed Act 44 programs.

The deadline for the Department to make supplemental filings examining the tradeoffs of its Act 44 budget proposals is March 29, 2024. The Department is requested to file more detail on how identified policy changes and funding in the transportation and thermal sectors affect the Act 44 programs and budgets proposed by BED and Efficiency Vermont and specifics on why these changes call for the Act 44 budget reductions proposed by the Department. The Department is also requested to provide quantitative or qualitative analysis of how the Department's proposed Act 44 budgets improve BED's and Efficiency Vermont's expected savings and QPI targets of their electric portfolios.

In addition, March 29, 2024, serves as the deadline for Parties to file stipulated or separate proposals for Act 44 programs covering the years 2025 or 2026. New Act 44 proposals should address tradeoffs, including the expected savings and QPI targets for the electric portfolio.

The deadline for responses to the March 11 and March 29 filings is April 19, 2024. Parties are encouraged to make response filing as quickly as possible.

**SO ORDERED.**

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 9th day of February, 2024.

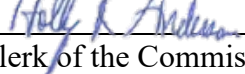
Mary Jo Krolewski

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Mary Jo Krolewski  
Hearing Officer

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

Filed: February 9, 2024

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

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