

STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Case No. 24-1493-PET

Efficiency Vermont request for a proceeding to review the effects of unanticipated Energy Efficiency Utility funding on quantifiable performance indicators, fees, and services, including the 2024-2026 Demand Resources Plan	
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Order entered: 05/14/2024

ORDER PROVIDING NOTICE OF PROCEEDING AND REQUESTING COMMENT

This case concerns a motion filed by Efficiency Vermont with the Vermont Public Utility Commission (“Commission”) requesting a proceeding to review the effects of unanticipated Energy Efficiency Utility (“EEU”) funding on its quantifiable performance indicators (“QPIs”), fees, and services.¹ Efficiency Vermont’s motion includes a request for it to manage the activities supported by the unanticipated funding separately from those activities supported by the energy efficiency charge or thermal-energy-and-process-fuels (“TEPF”) budgets and a request that the Commission open a process to allow for proposed amendments to Efficiency Vermont’s Demand Resources Plan for 2024-2026 performance period to account for the unanticipated funding.

Pursuant to Section I.2.C of the Process and Administration of an Energy Efficiency Utility Order of Appointment (the “Process and Administration document”), an EEU must notify the Commission and the Vermont Department of Public Service (“Department”) of any unanticipated additional funding that it secures and propose to the Commission a method by which the funding should affect QPIs, fees, and/or services to be provided by an EEU.² The Process and Administration document also provides that the Commission establish a process to review and determine the effects of the funding on the EEU’s QPIs, fees, and services.

¹ On May 1, 2024, Efficiency Vermont filed its motion in Case 22-2954-PET. The Commission opened a new proceeding to address the motion and appointed Mary Jo Krolewski as hearing officer.

² The Process and Administration document was approved on December 27, 2022, in Case No. 22-1647-PET.

In its motion, Efficiency Vermont provides notice that the State of Vermont through the Department has entered a contract with Efficiency Vermont for a total of \$25 million in federal American Rescue Plan Act (“ARPA”) funds for calendar years 2024 through 2026. The contract will provide funding and technical assistance to residential customers for weatherization projects. The contract includes an administrator’s performance award.

In its motion, Efficiency Vermont requests that the Commission’s process be conducted in two steps. First, Efficiency Vermont requests that the Commission affirm that activities supported by the contract should be managed as activities separate from those supported by the energy efficiency charge or TEPF budgets. Second, Efficiency Vermont requests that the process to review the effects of the funding on its QPIs, fees, and services allow for Efficiency Vermont and the Department to identify proposed amendments the TEPF services, budgets, and goals in its 2024-2026 DRP and proposed schedule for the next steps in this proceeding no later than 30 days following the Commission’s Order on the treatment of contract activities.

The Commission adopts this two-step process. Before making its decision, in the first step, the Commission seeks comment on whether the activities supported by the contract should be managed as separate activities from Efficiency Vermont’s approved DRP programs. The deadline for comments is Friday, May 24, 2024.

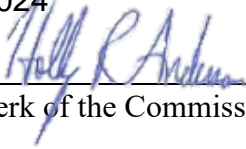
SO ORDERED.

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 14th day of May, 2024.

Mary Jo Krolewski
Hearing Officer

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

Filed: May 14, 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)

PUC Case No. 24-1493-PET - SERVICE LIST

Parties:

*James Porter, Director of Public Advocacy
Vermont Department of Public Service
DPS-PA@vermont.gov

(for Vermont
Department of Public
Service)

Morris L. Silver, Esq.
Law Offices of Morris L. Silver, Esq.
P.O. Box 606
Benson, VT 05731-0606
mlsilver@sover.net

(for Efficiency Vermont
- Vermont Energy
Investment Corporation)

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)

*Notice of appearance to be filed.