



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

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NOTICE OF FILING AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

D.P.U. 23-41

May 12, 2023

Petition of NSTAR Electric Company, d/b/a Eversource Energy, for Approval of its 2023 Energy Efficiency Surcharges for effect July 1, 2023.

On May 1, 2023, NSTAR Electric Company, d/b/a Eversource Energy ("Company"), filed with the Department of Public Utilities ("Department") a petition seeking approval of its 2023 Energy Efficiency Surcharges ("EES"), effective July 1, 2023. The Department docketed the Company's petition as D.P.U. 23-41.

An EES collects additional funds for approved energy efficiency programs when the cost of implementing those programs exceeds other funding sources. See G.L. c. 25, § 19(a). The proposed EES are designed to: (1) collect costs associated with the Company's 2023 energy efficiency program implementation in excess of other funding sources; and (2) reconcile expenses and revenues from the previous year's program implementation.

In compliance with the Department's directives in NSTAR Electric Company, D.P.U. 22-22, at 469 (2022), the Company's proposed 2023 EES incorporate a revised calculation method. In particular, the Company previously calculated a separate EES for residential customers and low-income residential customers. The revised EES calculation method allocates low-income energy efficiency program costs between a single, combined residential/low-income sector and the commercial and industrial ("C&I") sector. D.P.U. 22-22, at 469. As a result, the Company will now calculate a single EES for residential customers, including low-income residential customers.

Low-income residential customers will no longer pay a separate low-income EES; however, they will continue to receive a discount on their total electric bill. In part to offset future bill impacts from the change in EES calculation method, the Department approved an increase in NSTAR Electric's total bill discount for low-income residential customers from 36 percent to 42 percent. D.P.U. 22-22, at 470. That change took effect January 1, 2023, six months prior to the implementation of the new EES calculation method, and resulted in an additional monthly decrease to a typical low-income customer's bill of approximately \$12 in the eastern Massachusetts service territory and approximately \$13 in the western Massachusetts service territory. See D.P.U. 22-22, at 470-471; see also Compliance Exhibit J (Exh. ES-BILLS-1).

The Company proposes the following revised EES for effect July 1, 2023: (1) 2.084 cents per kilowatt-hour (“kWh”) for residential customers, including low-income residential customers; and (2) 0.651 cents per kWh for commercial and industrial (“C&I”) customers. If the Department approves the 2023 EES as proposed, a typical residential customer (R-1) in the eastern Massachusetts service territory using 600 kWh of electricity per month will experience a monthly bill increase of \$0.48 (or approximately 0.2 percent). A typical residential customer (R-1) in the western Massachusetts service territory using 600 kWh of electricity per month will experience a monthly bill increase of \$0.60 (or approximately 0.3 percent). A typical low-income residential (R-2) customer in the eastern Massachusetts service territory using 600 kWh of electricity per month will experience a monthly bill increase of \$5.93 (or approximately 4.2 percent). A typical low-income residential (R-2) customer in the western Massachusetts service territory using 600 kWh of electricity per month will experience a monthly bill increase of \$5.94 (or approximately 4.7 percent). C&I customers will experience a monthly bill impact ranging from 0.0 percent to a decrease of 1.0 percent. For specific bill impacts, please contact the Company as shown below.

Any person interested in commenting on this matter may submit written comments no later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **Friday, June 2, 2023**. Written comments from the public may be sent by email to dpu.efiling@mass.gov, krista.hawley@mass.gov, and the Company’s attorney, John K. Habib, Esq., at jhabib@keeganwerlin.com. Please note that in the interest of transparency any comments will be posted to our website as received and without redacting personal information, such as addresses, telephone numbers, or email addresses. As such, consider the extent of information you wish to share when submitting comments. The Department strongly encourages public comments to be submitted by email. If, however, a member of the public is unable to send written comments by email, a paper copy may be sent to Mark D. Marini, Secretary, Department of Public Utilities, One South Station, Boston, Massachusetts, 02110.

All documents should be submitted to the Department in **.pdf format** by e-mail attachment to dpu.efiling@mass.gov and krista.hawley@mass.gov. The text of the e-mail must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (D.P.U. 23-41); (2) the name of the person or company submitting the filing; and (3) a brief descriptive title of the document. All documents submitted in electronic format will be posted on the Department’s website through our online File Room as soon as practicable (enter “23-41”) at: <https://ecaonline.eea.state.ma.us/DPU/Fileroom/dockets/bynumber>. In addition, one copy of all written comments should be emailed to the Company’s attorney, John K. Habib, Esq., at jhabib@keeganwerlin.com.

The filing and all subsequent related documents submitted to the Department or issued by the Department will be available on the Department's website as referenced above as soon as is practicable. To the extent a person or entity wishes to submit comments in accordance with this Notice, electronic submission, as detailed above, is sufficient. To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), contact the Department's ADA coordinator at Gabriella.Knight@mass.gov.

For further information regarding the Company's filing, please contact the Company's attorneys, identified above. For further information regarding this Notice, please contact Krista Hawley, Hearing Officer, Department of Public Utilities, at krista.hawley@mass.gov.

