# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY Status Report of Current Regulatory and Legal Proceedings as of June 17, 2022

The following activity, as more fully described in the attached litigation report, has occurred since the report dated May 3, 2022 ("last Report") was circulated. New matters/proceedings since the last Report are preceded by an asterisk '\*'. Page numbers precede the matter description.

	I. C	Complaints/S	Section 206 Proceedings
1	RENEW/ACPA Resource Capacity Accreditation & Operating Reserve Designation Complaint (EL22-42)	May 17	ISO-NE answers RENEW Apr 29 answer
	II.	Rate, ICR, FC	CA, Cost Recovery Filings
7	FCA16 Results Filing (ER22-1417)	May 5 May 16 May 31	Comments filed by: NTE Connecticut, SEIA  ISO-NE answers comments No Coal No Gas answers ISO-NE's May 16, 2022 answer
8	Constellation Post-Spin Updates to Mystic COS Agreement (ER22-1192)	Jun 2 Jun 3 Jun 10	First settlement conference held; second scheduled for <i>Jun 28, 202</i> . Constellation moves for adoption of protective order Chief Judge adopts protective order
9	Mystic 8/9 COS Agreement First CapEx Info Filing (ER18-1639)	May 4 May 27 Jun 10	Judge Andrea McBarnette designated settlement judge Mystic requests clarification or reh'g of Mystic First CapEx Info. Filin Order ENECOS answer Mystic's May 27 request
		Jun 15	First settlement conference held
	III. Market Rule and Inform	nation Policy	Changes, Interpretations and Waiver Requests
10	MOPR Elimination Filing (ER22-1528)	May 5-20	ISO-NE, NEPOOL, NEPGA, Calpine/Cogentrix/Vistra, and North East Offshore file answers
		May 17	Clean Energy & Consumer Advocates answer ISO-NE, NEPOOL, NEPO and Calpine/Cogentrix/Vistra answers
		May 27	FERC accepts MOPR elimination; transition mechanism revisions eff May 30, 2022; reformed mitigation construct revisions, Mar 1, 2024
10	New England's <i>Order 2222</i> Compliance Filing (ER22-983)	May 16	<u>AEE/PowerOptions/SEIA</u> and <u>AEMA</u> answer ISO-NE and National Grid/Avangrid/Eversource answers
		May 18	FERC issues deficiency letter
		May 24	FERC acknowledges comments by 4 New England US Senators
		Jun 17	ISO-NE files its responses to the May 18 deficiency letter; comment response to ISO-NE's deficiency letter response due <i>Jul 8, 2022</i>
	IV. OATT	Amendment	s / TOAs / Coordination Agreements
11	Attachment F Corrections & Updates (ER22-2021)	Jun 3	PTO AC submits proposed revisions to OATT Attachment F to (i) corminor errors in certain worksheets of the "Formula Rate Template" contained in Appendices A and B; and (ii) update the name of Versa Power in Appendices A, B and D; comment deadline <i>Jun 24, 2022</i>
		Jun 13	NESCOE intervenes

V. Financial Assurance/Billing Policy Amendments

	VI. Schedule 20/21/22/23 Changes			
* 12	Schedule 21-NEP: Revised RI LSAs Compliance Filing (ER22-1918)	May 20	New England Power submits a compliance filing to (i) reflect all changes to the LSAs accepted by the FERC in ER22-707 and ER22-927 and (ii) provide executed versions of the conformed LSAs	
12	Schedule 21-NEP: 2nd Revised Narragansett LSA (ER22-707)	Jun 16	FERC issues "Allegheny Order", modifying the discussion in the 2nd Rev Narragansett LSA Order and continuing to reach the same result	

# VII. NEPOOL Agreement/Participants Agreement Amendments



# No Activity to Report

VIII. Regional Reports				
* 1	Capital Projects Report - 2022 Q1 (ER22-1880)	May 12 May 20-Jun 2 May 20	ISO-NE files 2022 Q1 Report NEPOOL, Eversource intervene NEPOOL files comments	
1	Capital Projects Report - 2021 Q4 (ER22-1041)	Jun 9	FERC accepts 2021 Q4 Report, eff. Jan 1, 2022	
* 1	Interconnection Study Metrics Processing Time Exceedance Report Q1 2022 (ER19-1951)	May 16	ISO-NE files required quarterly report	
* 1	5 IMM Quarterly Markets Reports - 2021 Fall (ZZ22-4)	May 4	IMM files Winter 2022 Report; reviewed at May 10 Markets Committee meeting	
* 1	5 IMM 2021 Annual Markets Report (ZZ22-4)	May 26	IMM files annual report covering calendar year 2021	
* 1	7 ISO-NE FERC Form 3-Q (2021/Q4) (not docketed)	May 27	ISO-NE submits its 2021 Q4 FERC Form 3-Q	
* 1	7 ISO-NE 2021 FERC Form 714 (not docketed)	Jun 1	ISO-NE submits its 2021 FERC Form 714	
		IX. Memb	pership Filings	
* 1	7 Jun 2022 Membership Filing (ER22-1991)	May 31	NEPOOL requests that the FERC accept (i) the memberships of Related Persons Ebsen LLC and Umber LLC (Supplier Sector); (ii) the terminations of Dantzig Energy; Pilot Power Group; and Twin Eagle Resource Management; and (iii) the name change of LS Power Grid Northeast; comment deadline <i>Jun 21, 2022</i>	
18	April 2022 Membership Filing (ER22-1531)	May 26	FERC accepts the memberships of AMP Solar US Holdings, NRG Kiosk and Octopus Energy, eff. Apr 1, 2022	
* 18	Suspension Notice – Howard Wind, LLC (not docketed)	Jun 17	ISO-NE files notice of Jun 15 suspension of Howard Wind, LLC from the New England Markets	
* 18	Suspension Notice – Manchester Methane, LLC (not docketed)	Jun 6	ISO-NE files notice of Jun 2 suspension of Manchester Methane, LLC from the New England Markets	
* 18	Suspension Notice – Pilot Power Group (not docketed)	May 20	ISO-NE files notice of May 18 suspension of Pilot Power Group, LLC from the New England Markets	

# X. Misc. - ERO Rules, Filings; Reliability Standards



18 Revised Reliability Standard (CIP-014 Jun 16 Compliance Section) (RD22-3)

FERC approves changes to CIP-014, eff. Jun 16, 2022

				JUN 21-23, 2022 SUMMER MEETING, AGENDA ITEM #6
	20	Rules of Procedure Changes (CMEP Risk-Based Approach Enhancements) (RR21-10)	May 19	FERC approves in part, and denies in part, NERC's proposed revisions to its Rules of Procedure proposed in NERC's Sep 29, 2021 filing; compliance filing due <i>Jul 18, 2022</i>
			XI. Misc.	- of Regional Interest
*	21	203 Application: Stonepeak/JERA Americas (EC22-71)	Jun 1 Jun 3-13	Stonepeak and its Related Person public utilities request authorization for the sale of 100% of their membership interests to a wholly-owned subsidiary of JERA Americas Inc.; comment deadline <i>Jun 22, 2022</i> MA AG, Public Citizen intervene
	21	203 Application: Pixelle / Spectrum (EC22-49)	May 16 May 19 May 25	FERC authorizes sale Transaction consummated Spectrum files notice that the transaction was consummated
	21	203 Application: Howard Wind / Greenbacker Wind (EC22-13)	May 3 May 12	Transaction consummated Howard Wind files notice that the transaction was consummated
	22	203 Application: PPL/Narragansett (EC21-87)	May 25	Transaction consummated; notice of consummation filed
*	22	IAs: NEP / Narragansett (ER22-2039/2038)	Jun 6	New England Power and Narragansett Electric file wires-to-wires interconnection agreement to govern the interconnection of the two companies' transmission systems; comment deadline <i>Jun 27, 2022</i>
*	22	LGIA: CL&P / EIP Investment (New Britain, CT Fuel Cell) (ER22-1862)	May 12	CL&P files non-conforming LGIA with EIP Investment to govern the interconnection of EIP's 20 MW fuel cell project
	22	Related Facilities Agreement: NSTAR / Ocean State Power (ER22-1675)	Jun 14	FERC accepts RFA, eff. Apr 26, 2022
	22	CL&P Att. F App. D Depreciation Rate Change (ER22-1548)	May 31	FERC accepts rate change, eff. Jul 1, 2022
	23	TSA: NSTAR/Park City Wind (ER22-1247)	Jun 17	FERC accepts TSA, eff. Mar 3, 2022
	24	IA Termination: CL&P / Sterling Property (ER21-2860)	May 10 May 26	Eversource answers Sterling's request for clarification and/or rehearing of the <i>Sterling IA Allegheny Order</i> FERC issues notice of denial of rehearing of <i>Sterling IA Allegheny Order</i> by operation of law
	25	Orders 864/864-A (Public Util. Trans. ADIT Rate Changes): New England Compliance Filings (various)	May 6 May 10 Jun 7	ER20-2429 (CMP - LNS). CMP supplements its further Mar 31 Order 864 compliance filing ER22-1850 (UI). UI submits further compliance filing changes ER20-1089 (New England Elec. Trans. Corp.); ER20-1087 (New England Hydro Trans. Corp.); ER20-1088 (New England Hydro Trans. Elec. Co.); and ER20-2594 (VTransco (1991 VTA)). FERC accepts filings
		XII. Misc	Administ	rative & Rulemaking Proceedings
*	26	New England Gas-Electric Winter Forum (AD22-9)	May 19	FERC announces a <i>Sep 8, 2022</i> forum, to be held in Burlington, VT
	26	NOI: Dynamic Line Ratings (AD22-5)	May 9 May 25	PJM files comments  AEP, Clean Energy Entities, EEI, Joint Consumer Advocates, MISO TOs,  P. Stroot Institute file reply comments

R Street Institute file reply comments

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27	Joint Federal-State Task Force on	May 6	FERC convenes third JFSTF meeting
	Electric Transmission (AD21-15)	May 11	FERC issues notice inviting post-meeting comments by Jun 1, 2022
		May 18	Transcript of May 6 meeting posted in eLibrary
		May 23	FERC issues notice of Jul 20, 2022 fourth JFSTF meeting; suggested
			agenda items due on or before Jun 6, 2022
		Jun 1	Post-May 6 meeting comments filed by: <u>Ameren</u> , <u>EEI</u> , <u>Omaha Power</u>
		lum C	District, Orsted, Xcel Energy
		Jun 6	Suggestions for Jul 20 fourth JFSTF meeting agenda items filed by:
			ACORE, AEP, Large Public Power Council, NRDC, PJM
29	Increasing Market and Planning Efficiency Through Improved Software Tech Conf (Jun 21-23, 2022) (AD10-12)	May 27	FERC issues supplemental notice of tech conf; post-tech conf comments due <i>Jul 29, 2022</i>
* 29	NOPR: Extreme Weather Vulnerability Assessments (RM22-16; AD21-13)	Jun 16	FERC issues NOPR proposing to require transmission providers to submit one-time informational reports describing their current or
			planned policies and processes for conducting extreme weather vulnerability assessments; comment date [60 days after the date of publication in the <i>Federal Register</i> ]
* 29	NOPR: Interconnection Reforms	Jun 16	FERC issues NOPR; comment deadline [100 days after the date of
23	(RM22-14)	Juli 10	publication in the <i>Federal Register</i> ]; reply comments deadline [130 day after the date of publication in the <i>Federal Register</i> ]
* 04			
* 31	NOPR: Transmission System Planning Performance Requirements for Extreme Weather (RM22-10)	Jun 16	FERC issues NOPR; comment deadline [60 days after the date of publication in the <i>Federal Register</i> ]
22		N4 25	FEDC issues wating outstailing assument data to Aug 17, 2022, would
33	Transmission NOPR (RM21-17)	May 25	FERC issues notice extending comment date to <b>Aug 17, 2022</b> ; reply
		Jun 1, 6	comments to <i>Sep 19, 2022</i> <u>Clean Energy Coalition, Large Public Power Council</u> submit comments
35	Order 881-A: Managing Transmission Line Ratings (RM20-16)	May 19	FERC issues <i>Order 881-A</i> addressing arguments raised on rehearing and clarification
	)	(III. FERC	Enforcement Proceedings
39	Rover and ETP (Tuscarawas River	May 11	FERC issues an order dismissing Respondents' request for rehearing of
	HDD Show Cause Order) (IN17-4)	•	the FERC's Designation Notice
		May 13	Respondents submit surreply to Show Cause Order
40	Total Gas & Power North America,	May 9	Interlocutory appeal denied
40	Inc. et al. (IN12-17)	May 11	Chief Judge issues order extending the deadline for commencement of
	20 a ( = -, )	,	hearings to Nov 15, 2022; initial decision deadline to Apr 27, 2023
		May 12	Presiding Judge adopts revised procedural schedule
		Jun 17	Respondents move to dismiss proceedings based on or stay
			proceedings pending further review of 5 <sup>th</sup> Circuit opinion in <i>Jarkesy v.</i>
			Securities Exchange Commission
		XIV. N	atural Gas Proceedings
41	Iroquois ExC Project (CP20-48)	Jun 17	Iroquois submits Implementation Plan in accordance with the Iroquois Certificate Order
42	Northern Access Project	May 4	FERC requests additional environmental information
72	(CP15-115)	May 9	National Fuels provides requested information
	XV. State Pr	oceedings	& Federal Legislative Proceedings

			XVI. F	Federal Courts
*	44	2nd Revised Narragansett LSA Orders (22-1108)	Jun 15 Jun 17	Green Development petitions DC Circuit for review of the FERC's 2 <sup>nd</sup> Revised Narragansett LSA Orders Clerk directs initial submissions and appearances by <b>Jul 18, 2022</b> ; dispositive motions, Certified Index to the Record by <b>Aug 1, 2022</b>
	45	NTE CT Petition for Review of Killingly CSO Termination Orders (22-1027)	May 10	DC Circuit dismisses case
	45	CSC Request for Regulatory Asset Recovery of Previously-Incurred CIP IROL Costs (21-1275)	May 17 May 31	CSC moves for voluntary dismissal of its petition CSC May 17 motion granted, case dismissed, mandate issued to the FERC
	45	Mystic ROE (21-1198 et al.)	May 4 May 24	Court grants CT Parties motion to intervene Court establishes briefing schedule
	46	Mystic 8/9 COS Agreement (20-1343 et al.)(consolidated)	May 5 May 13 May 23 Jun 10	Oral argument held before Judges Srinivasan, Henderson, Rao FERC moves for leave to issue its <i>May 2, 2022 Order</i> (if and to the extent the <i>May 2, 2022 Order</i> constitutes a modification or vacatur of the capital structure ruling in the initial orders in this proceeding Parties file responses to FERC's May 13 motion Court grants FERC's motion
	48	ISO-NE's Inventoried Energy Program ("IEP") Proposal (19-1224 et al.)	Jun 17	Court issues decision upholding all but one component of the FERC's decision to approve ISO-NE's IEP tariff revisions; vacates the inclusion of nuclear, biomass, coal and hydro generators in the IEP
	49	Algonquin Atlantic Bridge Project Briefing Order (21-1115 et al.)	May 31	Petitioners ask the DC Circuit to continue to hold this proceeding in abeyance

#### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** NEPOOL Participants Committee Members and Alternates

**FROM:** Patrick M. Gerity, NEPOOL Counsel

**DATE:** June 19, 2022

**RE:** Status Report on Current Regional Wholesale Power and Transmission Arrangements Pending

Before the Regulators, Legislatures and Courts

We have summarized below the status of key ongoing proceedings relating to NEPOOL matters before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC"),<sup>1</sup> state regulatory commissions, and the Federal Courts and legislatures through June 17, 2022. If you have questions, please contact us.

# I. Complaints/Section 206 Proceedings

• RENEW/ACPA Resource Capacity Accreditation & Operating Reserve Designation Complaint (EL22-42)
On March 15, 2022, RENEW Northeast, Inc. ("RENEW") and the American Clean Power Association
("ACPA") filed a Complaint under section 206 of the Federal Power Act ("FPA") against ISO-NE seeking a FERC
order directing ISO-NE to make changes to its rules for capacity accreditation and operating reserve designations,
effective no later than FCA18 with respect to capacity accreditation and promptly with respect to operating
reserve designations. RENEW/ACPA asserted that the changes are needed to address undue preferences granted
under ISO-NE's rules and procedures to gas-fired generation resources that have neither dual-fuel capability nor
dedicated, firm natural gas supply arrangements ("Gas-Only Resources"). Complainants asserted that the undo
preferences arise in the context of capacity accreditation through an assumption of 100% fuel availability for GasOnly Resources, and in the context of operating reserves, through the absence of any pre-dispatch requirements
to confirm fuel availability. ISO-NE's response and comments, following a request for extension granted by the
FERC on March 28, were due on or before April 14, 2022.

On April 14, 2022, <u>ISO-NE</u> responded to the Complaint. Protests and comments on the Complaint were filed by: <u>NEPOOL</u>, <u>AEE</u>, <u>Calpine</u>, <u>EDF</u>, <u>FirstLight</u>, <u>LS Power</u>, <u>NEPGA</u>, <u>NESCOE</u>, <u>Public Interest Orgs</u>, <sup>2</sup> <u>Vistra/LSP Power</u>, <u>State Parties</u>, <sup>3</sup> <u>EPSA</u>, <u>National Hydropower Assoc.</u>, and the Solar Energy Industries Association ("<u>SEIA</u>"). On April 29, RENEW/ACPA answered the ISO-NE and NEPOOL motions to dismiss and answered the protests and comments filed in opposition to the Complaint. On May 17, ISO-NE answered the April 29 RENEW/ACPA answer. Interventions only were filed by AEP, Avangrid, Avangrid Renewables, Borrego, Brookfield, Constellation, CPV Towantic, Dominion, ENE, Excelerate, National Grid, NextEra, NH OCA, North East Offshore, NRG, Public Systems, <sup>4</sup> CT PURA, MA DPU, MPUC, Repsol, APPA, EPSA, the Institute for Policy Integrity at New York University School of Law, and Public Citizen. This matter is pending before the FERC. If you have any questions concerning this matter,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Capitalized terms used but not defined in this filing are intended to have the meanings given to such terms in the Second Restated New England Power Pool Agreement (the "Second Restated NEPOOL Agreement"), the Participants Agreement, or the ISO New England Inc. ("ISO" or "ISO-NE") Transmission, Markets and Services Tariff (the "Tariff").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> "Public Interest Orgs" are the Sustainable FERC Project, Acadia Center, Conservation Law Foundation ("CLF"), Sierra Club, and Natural Resources Defense Council ("NRDC").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> "State Parties" are the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection ("CT DEEP"), the Massachusetts Attorney General ("MA AG"), and the Connecticut Attorney General ("CT AG").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> "Public Systems" are Connecticut Municipal Electric Energy Cooperative ("CMEEC"), Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company ("MMWEC"), New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc. ("NHEC"), and Vermont Public Power Supply Authority ("VPPSA").

please contact Sebastian Lombardi (860-275-0663; <u>slombardi@daypitney.com</u>) or Rosendo Garza (860-275-0660; <u>rgarza@daypitney.com</u>).

# NMISA Complaint Against PTO AC (Reciprocal TOUT Discount) (EL22-31)

On February 14, 2022, the Northern Maine Intendent System Administrator ("NMISA") filed a complaint against the Participating Transmission Owners Committee ("PTO AC") (who for these purposes hold exclusive Section 205 rights) for failure to consider and implement a reciprocal discount to the Through and Out ("TOUT") charges applied to transactions between the New England and Northern Maine regions ("TOUT Discount"), one which would be identical in substance to the reciprocity between New England and New York. The PTO AC response and comments on this Complaint were due on or before March 7, 2022. In its March 7 response, the PTO AC offered the following explanations as to why it is not in a position to advocate for the TOUT Discount: (i) differences between NYISO and NMISA, including the absence of an interconnection between New England and NMISA; (ii) the TOUT rate is how the TOs recover their costs for point-to-point transactions with neighboring utility systems and other systems not electrically connected, and NMISA is similarly situated to HQ and NBSO, which are also subject to a TOUT Rate; (iii) TOUT Rate does not apply to transactions sinking in New England; and (iv) NMISA's proposal would increase customer rates in New England. On March 16, NMISA answered the PTO AC's response. NEPOOL, Brookfield, Calpine, Eversource, National Grid, NESCOE, and Versant Power submitted docless interventions. This matter remains pending before the FERC. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Eric Runge (617-345-4735; ekrunge@daypitney.com).

#### • 206 Investigation: ISO-NE Tariff Schedule 25 and Section I.3.10 (EL21-94)

As previously reported, the FERC instituted on September 7, 2021 a proceeding under FPA Section 206 to consider whether Schedule 25 and Tariff section I.3.10 may be unjust and unreasonable. This proceeding arises out of issues raised in the NECEC Transmission LLC ("NECEC")/Avangrid Complaint Against NextEra/Seabrook (related to the interconnection of the New England Clean Energy Connect transmission project ("NECEC Project")) summarized below (EL21-6). Specifically, the FERC identified a concern that "Schedule 25's definition of Affected Party and Tariff section I.3.10 may be unjust and unreasonable to the extent they may allow generating facilities and their components to be identified as facilities on which adverse impacts must be remedied before an elective transmission upgrade can interconnect to the ISO-NE transmission system, even though generators are not subject to the [FERC]'s open access transmission principles," and could result in upgrades identified on an Affected Party's system without any obligation for the Affected Party to construct the identified upgrades.

Accordingly, the FERC directed ISO-NE to: (1) show cause as to why Schedule 25 and Tariff section I.3.10 remain just and reasonable or (2) explain what changes to Schedule 25 and/or Tariff section I.3.10 it believes would remedy the identified concerns if the FERC were to determine that Schedule 25 and/or Tariff section I.3.10 has become unjust and unreasonable and proceeds to establish a replacement rate. On September 8, 2021, the FERC issued a notice of the proceeding and of the refund effective date, which will be October 13, 2020 (the date the NECEC/Avangrid Complaint Against NextEra/Seabrook was filed). Those interested in participating in this proceeding were required to intervene on or before October 5, 2021.<sup>7</sup> NEPOOL, NESCOE, Brookfield, Calpine, Dominion, Eversource, HQ US, LS Power, MA AG, MMWEC, National Grid, NECEC Transmission, NEPGA, NextEra, NRG, CT DEEP, MA DOER, Pixelle Androscoggin (out-of-time), Vistra (out-of-time), ACPA, EPSA, RENEW, and Public Citizen intervened.

*ISO-NE Answer*. On November 8, 2021, ISO-NE submitted its answer explaining why Schedule 25 and Tariff section I.3.10 remain just and reasonable. ISO-NE called for the FERC to "assist Affected Parties and

 $<sup>^5</sup>$  NECEC Transmission LLC and Avangrid, Inc. v. NextEra Energy Resources, LLC et al. and ISO New England Inc., 176 FERC  $\P$  61,148 (Sep. 7, 2021) ("Sep 7 Order").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> *Id.* at P 20.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> The Notice was published in the Fed. Reg. on Sep. 14, 2021 (Vol. 86, No. 175) p. 51,140.

Interconnection Customers in resolving any disputes pertaining to upgrades on Affected Systems—such as the dispute between NECEC Transmission and NextEra Energy Seabrook, LLC in Docket No. EL21-6—as quickly as possible." Interested parties had until January 7, 2022 to address whether ISO-NE's existing Tariff remains just and reasonable and if not, what changes to ISO-NE's Tariff should be implemented as a replacement rate.

**Comments.** Comments were filed by the January 7, 2022 deadline by NEPOOL, NECEC/Avangrid, NEPGA, NextEra. On January 20 NextEra answered the NECEC/Avangrid comments. On January 28, NECEC answered NextEra's January 20 answer and ISO-NE answered NECEC's Jan 7 comments.

This matter is pending before the FERC. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Eric Runge (617-345-4735; ekrunge@daypitney.com).

# NECEC/Avangrid Complaint Against NextEra/Seabrook (EL21-6)

As previously reported, NECEC and Avangrid Inc. (together, "Avangrid") filed a complaint (the "Complaint") on October 13, 2020 requesting FERC action "to stop NextEra from unlawfully interfering with the interconnection of the NECEC Project and seeking, among other things, an initial, expedited order that would grant certain relief<sup>8</sup> and direct NextEra to immediately commence engineering, design, planning and procurement activities that are necessary for NextEra to construct the generator owned transmission upgrades during Seabrook Station's Planned 2021 Outage. NextEra submitted an answer to the October 13 Complaint (requesting the FERC dismiss or deny the Complaint) and National Grid filed comments. Doc-less interventions were filed by Dominion, Eversource, Calpine, Exelon, HQ US, MA AG, MMWEC National Grid, NESCOE, NRG, and Public Citizen. Avangrid answered NextEra's answer and NextEra answered Avangrid's November 17 answer ("supplemental answer"), repeating its request that the FERC dismiss or deny the Complaint. Avangrid also answered the supplemental answer.

Avangrid amended the Complaint on March 26, 2021 to reflect that aspects of the relief originally requested in the Complaint are no longer feasible within the timeline previously sought. Avangrid continues to seek expeditious FERC action, requesting in its March 26 filing a FERC order on or before May 7, 2021 (which did not occur). On April 15, 2021, NextEra answered the amended Complaint. On April 20, 2021, Avangrid answered NextEra's April 15 answer. On May 6, 2021, ISO-NE submitted a letter to express importance of prompt resolution of these matters. On May 17, Avangrid submitted a letter supporting ISO-NE's May 6, 2021 letter.

**Additional Briefing.** On September 7, 2021, the FERC issued an order establishing additional briefing in this proceeding and instituted a broader Section 206 proceeding (see EL21-94 above). Initial briefs were due on

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Directing NextEra to comply with the ISO-NE OATT, to comply with open access requirements, and to cease and desist unlawful interference with the NECEC Project; and to have the FERC temporarily revoke NextEra's blanket waiver under Part 358 of the FERC's regulations and to initiate an investigation and require NextEra to preserve and provide documents related to the interconnection of the NECEC Project.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> NECEC Transmission LLC and Avangrid, Inc. v. NextEra Energy Resources, LLC et al. and ISO New England Inc., 176 FERC ¶ 61,148 (Sep. 7, 2021).

The FERC requested additional briefing from the Parties, as well as from ISO-NE, on the following issues: (i) whether or not Seabrook's breaker is properly identified as a part of Seabrook's generating facility; (ii) if Seabrook's breaker is part of Seabrook's generating facility, under what authority, if any, Seabrook may be subject to the upgrade obligations imposed on Affected Parties under the ISO-NE Tariff; (iii) if Seabrook's breaker is part of Seabrook's generating facility, what obligations, if any, Seabrook has under its LGIA with respect to replacement of the breaker and whether or not ISO New England Operating Documents and Applicable Reliability Standards impose an obligation to replace the breaker. If Seabrook's breaker is appropriately classified as a system protection facility, what obligations Seabrook has to replace the breaker. If the Seabrook LGIA obligates Seabrook to act, a description of the scope of Seabrook's obligation under the LGIA; (iv) whether there exists any solution for the interconnection of the NECEC Project that may be implemented without the replacement of Seabrook's breaker; and (v) If replacement of Seabrook's breaker is necessary for the interconnection of the NECEC Project, whether there exists any interim solution for the interconnection of the NECEC Project that would allow energization of the NECEC Project prior to the replacement of Seabrook's breaker.

or before October 7, 2021, and were filed by ISO-NE, Avangrid, NextEra, MA AG, NEPGA/EPSA, MA DOER. Reply briefs were due on or before October 22, 2021, and were filed by Avangrid, NextEra, ISO-NE. Avangrid answered NextEra's November 4 answer, NextEra moved to lodge a letter from a Branch Chief of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission ("NRC"), including an Inspection Report for Seabrook Station for the time period from July 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021 (together, the "NRC Seabrook Report"), to directly refute a central claim of Avangrid (that Seabrook should have already replaced the Generation Breaker at issue in this proceeding), and Avangrid opposed that motion to lodge (asserting that the NRC Seabrook Report is outside the scope of these proceedings and will not assist the FERC in its decision making). With briefing complete, this matter is again before the FERC. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Eric Runge (617-345-4735; ekrunge@daypitney.com).

• NextEra Energy Seabrook Declaratory Order Petition re: NECEC Elective Upgrade Costs Dispute (EL21-3)
In a related matter, initiated a week earlier than the Avangrid Complaint, NextEra Energy Seabrook, LLC
("Seabrook") filed a Petition for a Declaratory Order ("Petition") "by which it seeks to understand the scope of its
FERC-jurisdictional regulatory obligations with respect to the project ("NECEC Elective Upgrade"), and to resolve
its dispute with NECEC". Specifically, Seabrook asked the FERC to declare that: (1) Seabrook is not required to
incur a financial loss to upgrade, for NECEC's sole benefit, a 24.5 kV generator circuit breaker and ancillary
equipment ("Generation Breaker") at Seabrook Station; (2) "Good Utility Practice" for replacement of the nuclear
plant Generation Breaker is defined in terms of the practices of the nuclear power industry, such that Seabrook's
proposed definition of that term is appropriate for use in a facilities agreement with NECEC; and (3) Seabrook will
not be liable for consequential damages for the service it provides to NECEC under a facilities agreement
(collectively, the "Requested Declarations"). Alternatively, Seabrook asked that the FERC declare that nothing in
ISO-NE's Tariff requires Seabrook to enter into an agreement to replace the Generation Breaker, and therefore,
Seabrook and the Joint Owners are entitled to bargain for appropriate terms and conditions to recover their costs,
to define Good Utility Practice, and to limit liability associated with providing the service ("Alternative
Declaration").

Comments on Seabrook's Petition were filed by Eversource, MMWEC and NEPGA. Avangrid and NECEC Transmission ("Avangrid") protested the Declaratory Order Petition. Doc-less interventions were filed by Avangrid, Dominion, Eversource, Calpine, Exelon, HQ US, National Grid, NESCOE, NRG, and Public Citizen. NextEra answered Avangrid's protest and Avangrid answered NextEra's answer. On May 6, 2021, ISO-NE submitted a letter in this proceeding, as well as in EL21-6, to express importance of prompt resolution of these matters. NextEra moved to lodge both an August 29, 2021 filing containing an executed Engineering and Procurement Agreement ("E&P Agreement") between Seabrook and NECEC Transmission, LLC ("NECEC") that was filed with the FERC on August 19, 2021 and the NRC Seabrook Report. Avangrid answered that motion, asserting that the NRC Seabrook Report was outside the scope of the proceeding and the motion to lodge should be denied. This matter remains pending before the FERC. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Eric Runge (617-345-4735; ekrunge@daypitney.com).

#### Base ROE Complaints I-IV: (EL11-66, EL13-33; EL14-86; EL16-64)

There are four proceedings pending before the FERC in which consumer representatives seek to reduce the TOs' return on equity ("Base ROE") for regional transmission service.

▶ Base ROE Complaint I (EL11-66). In the first Base ROE Complaint proceeding, the FERC concluded that the TOs' ROE had become unjust and unreasonable, 11 set the TOs' Base ROE at 10.57% (reduced from 11.14%), capped the TOs' total ROE (Base ROE plus transmission incentive adders) at 11.74%, and required implementation effective as of October 16, 2014 (the date of Opinion

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> The TOs' 11.14% pre-existing Base ROE was established in *Opinion 489. Bangor Hydro-Elec. Co.*, Opinion No. 489, 117 FERC  $\P$  61,129 (2006), order on reh'g, 122 FERC  $\P$  61,265 (2008), order granting clarif., 124 FERC  $\P$  61,136 (2008), aff'd sub nom., Conn. Dep't of Pub. Util. Control v. FERC, 593 F.3d 30 (D.C. Cir. 2010) ("Opinion 489")).

- 531-A).<sup>12</sup> However, the FERC's orders were challenged, and in *Emera Maine*,<sup>13</sup> the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit ("DC Circuit") vacated the FERC's prior orders, and remanded the case for further proceedings consistent with its order. The FERC's determinations in *Opinion 531* are thus no longer precedential, though the FERC remains free to re-adopt those determinations on remand as long as it provides a reasoned basis for doing so.
- ➤ Base ROE Complaints II & III (EL13-33 and EL14-86) (consolidated). The second (EL13-33)<sup>14</sup> and third (EL14-86)<sup>15</sup> ROE complaint proceedings were consolidated for purposes of hearing and decision, though the parties were permitted to litigate a separate ROE for each refund period. After hearings were completed, ALJ Sterner issued a 939-paragraph, 371-page Initial Decision, which lowered the base ROEs for the EL13-33 and EL14-86 refund periods from 11.14% to 9.59% and 10.90%, respectively. The Initial Decision also lowered the ROE ceilings. Parties to these proceedings filed briefs on exception to the FERC, which has not yet issued an opinion on the ALJ's Initial Decision.
- ▶ Base ROE Complaint IV (EL16-64). The fourth and final ROE proceeding<sup>17</sup> also went to hearing before an ALJ, Judge Glazer, who issued his initial decision on March 27, 2017.<sup>18</sup> The Base ROE IV Initial Decision concluded that the currently-filed base ROE of 10.57%, which may reach a maximum ROE of 11.74% with incentive adders, was not unjust and unreasonable for the Complaint IV period, and hence was not unlawful under section 206 of the FPA.<sup>19</sup> Parties in this proceeding filed briefs on exception to the FERC, which has not yet issued an opinion on the Base ROE IV Initial Decision.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Coakley Mass. Att'y Gen. v. Bangor Hydro-Elec. Co., 147 FERC  $\P$  61,234 (2014) ("Opinion 531"), order on paper hearing, 149 FERC  $\P$  61,032 (2014) ("Opinion 531-A"), order on reh'g, 150 FERC  $\P$  61,165 (2015) ("Opinion 531-B").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Emera Maine v. FERC, 854 F.3d 9 (D.C. Cir. 2017) ("Emera Maine"). Emera Maine vacated the FERC's prior orders in the Base ROE Complaint I proceeding, and remanded the case for further proceedings consistent with its order. The Court agreed with both the TOs (that the FERC did not meet the Section 206 obligation to first find the existing rate unlawful before setting the new rate) and "Customers" (that the 10.57% ROE was not based on reasoned decision-making, and was a departure from past precedent of setting the ROE at the midpoint of the zone of reasonableness).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> The 2012 Base ROE Complaint, filed by Environment Northeast (now known as Acadia Center), Greater Boston Real Estate Board, National Consumer Law Center, and the NEPOOL Industrial Customer Coalition ("NICC", and together, the "2012 Complainants"), challenged the TOs' 11.14% ROE, and seeks a reduction of the Base ROE to 8.7%.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> The 2014 Base ROE Complaint, filed July 31, 2014 by the Massachusetts Attorney General, together with a group of State Advocates, Publicly Owned Entities, End Users, and End User Organizations (together, the "2014 ROE Complainants"), seeks to reduce the current 11.14% Base ROE to 8.84% (but in any case no more than 9.44%) and to cap the Combined ROE for all rate base components at 12.54%. 2014 ROE Complainants state that they submitted this Complaint seeking refund protection against payments based on a preincentives Base ROE of 11.14%, and a reduction in the Combined ROE, relief as yet not afforded through the prior ROE proceedings.

 $<sup>^{16}</sup>$  Environment Northeast v. Bangor Hydro-Elec. Co. and Mass. Att'y Gen. v. Bangor Hydro-Elec. Co, 154 FERC  $\P$  63,024 (Mar. 22, 2016) ("2012/14 ROE Initial Decision").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> The 4th ROE Complaint asked the FERC to reduce the TOs' current 10.57% return on equity ("Base ROE") to 8.93% and to determine that the upper end of the zone of reasonableness (which sets the incentives cap) is no higher than 11.24%. The FERC established hearing and settlement judge procedures (and set a refund effective date of April 29, 2016) for the 4th ROE Complaint on September 20, 2016. Settlement procedures did not lead to a settlement, were terminated, and hearings were held subsequently held December 11-15, 2017. The September 26, 2016 order was challenged on rehearing, but rehearing of that order was denied on January 16, 2018. *Belmont Mun. Light Dept. v. Central Me. Power Co.*, 156 FERC ¶ 61,198 (Sep. 20, 2016) ("Base ROE Complaint IV Order"), reh'g denied, 162 FERC ¶ 61,035 (Jan. 18, 2018) (together, the "Base ROE Complaint IV Orders"). The Base ROE Complaint IV Orders, as described in Section XVI below, have been appealed to, and are pending before, the DC Circuit.

 $<sup>^{18}</sup>$  Belmont Mun. Light Dept. v. Central Me. Power Co., 162 FERC ¶ 63,026 (Mar. 27, 2018) ("Base ROE Complaint IV Initial Decision").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> *Id.* at P 2.; Finding of Fact (B).

October 16, 2018 Order Proposing Methodology for Addressing ROE Issues Remanded in Emera Maine and Directing Briefs. On October 16, 2018, the FERC, addressing the issues that were remanded in Emera Maine, proposed a new methodology for determining whether an existing ROE remains just and reasonable.<sup>20</sup> The FERC indicated its intention that the methodology be its policy going forward, including in the four currently pending New England proceedings (see, however, Opinion 569-A<sup>21</sup> (EL14-12; EL15-45) in Section XI below). The FERC established a paper hearing on how its proposed methodology should apply to the four pending ROE proceedings.<sup>22</sup>

At highest level, the new methodology will determine whether (1) an existing ROE is unjust and unreasonable under the first prong of FPA section 206 and (2) if so, what the replacement ROE should be under the second prong of FPA section 206. In determining whether an existing ROE is unjust and under the first prong of Section 206, the FERC stated that it will determine a "composite" zone of reasonableness based on the results of three models: the Discounted Cash Flow ("DCF"), Capital Asset Pricing Model ("CAPM"), and Expected Earnings models. Within that composite zone, a smaller, "presumptively reasonable" zone will be established. Absent additional evidence to the contrary, if the utility's existing ROE falls within the presumptively reasonable zone, it is not unjust and unreasonable. Changes in capital market conditions since the existing ROE was established may be considered in assessing whether the ROE is unjust and unreasonable.

If the FERC finds an existing ROE unjust and unreasonable, it will then determine the new just and reasonable ROE using an averaging process. For a diverse group of average risk utilities, FERC will average four values: the midpoints of the DCF, CAPM and Expected Earnings models, and the results of the Risk Premium model. For a single utility of average risk, the FERC will average the medians rather than the midpoints. The FERC said that it would continue to use the same proxy group criteria it established in *Opinion 531* to run the ROE models, but it made a significant change to the manner in which it will apply the high-end outlier test.

The FERC provided preliminary analysis of how it would apply the proposed methodology in the Base ROE I Complaint, suggesting that it would affirm its holding that an 11.14% Base ROE is unjust and unreasonable. The FERC suggested that it would adopt a 10.41% Base ROE and cap any preexisting incentive-based total ROE at 13.08%.<sup>23</sup> The new ROE would be effective as of the date of *Opinion 531-A*, or October 16, 2014. Accordingly, the issue to be addressed in the Base ROE Complaint II proceeding is whether the ROE established on remand in the first complaint proceeding remained just and reasonable based on financial data for the six-month period September 2013 through February 2014 addressed by the evidence presented by the participants in the second proceeding. Similarly, briefing in the third and fourth complaints will have to address whether whatever ROE is in effect as a result of the immediately preceding complaint proceeding continues to be just and reasonable.

The FERC directed participants in the four proceedings to submit briefs regarding the proposed approaches to the FPA section 206 inquiry and how to apply them to the complaints (separate briefs for each

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Coakley v. Bangor Hydro-Elec. Co., 165 FERC ¶ 61,030 (Oct. 18, 2018) ("Order Directing Briefs" or "Coakley").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Ass'n of Buss. Advocating Tariff Equity v. Midcontinent Indep. Sys. Operator, Inc., Opinion No. 569-A, 171 FERC ¶ 61,154 (2020) ("Opinion 569-A"). The refinements to the FERC's ROE methodology included: (i) the use of the Risk Premium model instead of only relying on the DCF model and CAPM under both prongs of FPA Section 206; (ii) adjusting the relative weighting of long- and short-term growth rates, increasing the weight for the short-term growth rate to 80% and reducing to 20% the weight given to the long-term growth rate in the two-step DCF model; (iii) modifying the high-end outlier test to treat any proxy company as high-end outlier if its cost of equity estimated under the model in question is more than 200% of the median result of all the potential proxy group members in that model before any high- or low-end outlier test is applied, subject to a natural break analysis. This is a shift from the 150% threshold applied in Opinion 569; and (iv) calculating the zone of reasonableness in equal thirds, instead of using the quartile approach that was applied in Opinion 569.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> *Id.* at P 19.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> *Id.* at P 59.

proceeding). Additional financial data or evidence concerning economic conditions in any proceeding must relate to periods before the conclusion of the hearings in the relevant complaint proceeding. Following a FERC notice granting a request by the TOs and Customers<sup>24</sup> for an extension of time to submit briefs, the latest date for filing initial and reply briefs was extended to January 11 and March 8, 2019, respectively. On January 11, initial briefs were filed by EMCOS, Complainant-Aligned Parties, TOs, Edison Electric Institute ("EEI"), Louisiana PSC, Southern California Edison, and AEP. As part of their initial briefs, each of the Louisiana PSC, SEC and AEP also moved to intervene out-of-time. Those interventions were opposed by the TOs on January 24, 2019. The Louisiana PSC answered the TOs' January 24 motion on February 12. Reply briefs were due March 8, 2019 and were submitted by the TOs, Complainant-Aligned Parties, EMCOS, and FERC Trial Staff.

**TOs Request to Re-Open Record and file Supplemental Paper Hearing Brief**. On December 26, 2019, the TOs filed a Supplemental Brief that addresses the consequences of the November 21 *MISO ROE Order*<sup>25</sup> and requested that the FERC re-open the record to permit that additional testimony on the impacts of the *MISO ROE Order*'s changes. On January 21, 2020, EMCOS and CAPs opposed the TOs' request and brief.

These matters remain pending before the FERC. If you have any questions concerning these matters, please contact Eric Runge (617-345-4735; <a href="mailto:ekrunge@daypitney.com">ekrunge@daypitney.com</a>) or Joe Fagan (202-218-3901; <a href="mailto:jfagan@daypitney.com">jfagan@daypitney.com</a>).

#### II. Rate, ICR, FCA, Cost Recovery Filings

#### FCA16 Results Filing (ER22-1417)

As previously reported, ISO-NE filed on March 21, 2022 the results of the sixteenth FCA ("FCA16") held February 7, 2022 for the June 1, 2025-May 31, 2026 Capacity Commitment Period ("CCP"). ISO-NE reported the following highlights:

- ◆ FCA16 Capacity Zones were the Southeastern New England ("SENE") Capacity Zone (the Northeastern Massachusetts ("NEMA")/Boston, Southeastern Massachusetts, and Rhode Island Load Zones), the Northern New England ("NNE") Capacity Zone (the Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont Load Zones), the Maine Capacity Zone (the Maine Load Zone) and the Rest-of-Pool ("ROP") Capacity Zone (the Connecticut and Western/Central Massachusetts Load Zones). SENE was modeled as an import-constrained zone; NNE, as an export-constrained Capacity Zone. The Maine Load Zone was modeled as a separate nested export-constrained Capacity Zone within NNE.
- FCA16 commenced with a starting price of \$12.40/kW-mo. and concluded for all Capacity Zones after four rounds.
- Capacity Clearing Prices were as follows (prices expressed per kw-mo.): SENE \$2.639; NNE and Maine \$2.531; ROP \$2.591; imports over the NY AC Ties (837 MW) and the Phase I/II HQ Excess external interface (465 MW) \$2.591; imports over Highgate (58 MW) and New Brunswick (144 MW) \$2.531.
- There were no active demand bids for the substitution auction and, accordingly, the substitution auction was not conducted.
- No resources cleared as Conditional Qualified New Generating Capacity Resources.
- No Long Lead Time Generating Facilities secured a Queue Position to participate as a New Generating Capacity Resource.
- No De-List Bids were rejected for reliability reasons.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> For purposes of the motion seeking clarification, "Customers" are CT PURA, MA AG and EMCOS.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Ass'n of Buss. Advocating Tariff Equity v. Midcontinent Indep. Sys. Operator, Inc., Opinion No. 569, 169 FERC ¶ 61,129 (Nov. 21, 2019) ("MISO ROE Order"), order on reh'g, Opinion No. 569-A, 171 FERC ¶ 61,154 (May 21, 2020).

ISO-NE asked the FERC to accept the FCA16 rates and results, effective July 19, 2022.

Comments on this filing were due on or before May 5, 2022 and were filed by <a href="MTE Connecticut">NTE Connecticut</a> (which requested that the FERC note NTE's pending appeal in its order) and <a href="MEIA">SEIA</a> (questioning whether the FCM is producing results that will continue to attract new investment in the types of resources that are required to ensure the reliable delivery of electric power in New England) in addition to comments by over 140 individuals and the No Coal No Gas Campaign, which largely protested the continued selection of Merrimack Station in New Hampshire, and urged a more exigent transition from fossil fuel-fired resources to renewable energy resources. NEPOOL, Calpine, Constellation, Dominion, Eversource, National Grid, NESCOE, and the MA DPU filed doc-less interventions. On May 16, 2022, ISO-NE filed an answer to the comments and protests. No Coal No Gas submitted an answer to ISO-NE's answer on May 31. This matter is pending before the FERC. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Sebastian Lombardi (860-275-0663; <a href="mainto:slope-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left-state-left

# • Mystic COS Agreement Updates to Reflect Constellation Spin Transaction<sup>26</sup> (ER22-1192)

On May 2, the FERC accepted and suspended in part Constellation Mystic Power, LLC's ("Mystic's") changes to its Amended and Restated Cost-of-Service Agreement ("COS Agreement") to reflect Mystic's current upstream ownership.<sup>27</sup> The changes were accepted effective as of Jun 1, 2022, but subject to refund. Specifically, the FERC accepted (i) Mystic's changes throughout the COS Agreement to replace the term "Exelon Generation Company, LLC" with "Constellation Energy Generation, LLC"; and (ii) the addition of language to the true-up methodology that provides that the values included in the true-up methodology exclude costs associated with the Spin Transaction. However, noting that Mystic's contested proposal on the issue of capital structure and cost of debt raises issues of material fact that cannot be resolved based on the record, the FERC accepted and suspended this portion of the COS Agreement for a nominal period, to become effective June 1, 2022, subject to refund and to the outcome of paper hearing procedures. The FERC also directed the appointment of a settlement judge and will hold the paper hearing in abeyance so as to provide the participants an opportunity for settlement discussions.<sup>28</sup>

On May 10, Chief Judge Cintron designated Judge Steven Glazer as the Settlement Judge. Judge Glazer convened a first settlement conference on June 2, 2022. A second settlement conference is scheduled for June 28, 2022. Prior to that conference, the parties have agreed to respond to data requests by June 9; attend a technical conference (without Judge Glazer present) on June 15; and provide counter offers (Intervenors on June 17 and Staff on June 21).

If you have questions on any aspect of this proceeding, please contact Joe Fagan (202-218-3901; <a href="mailto:jfagan@daypitney.com">jfagan@daypitney.com</a>) or Sebastian Lombardi (860-275-0663; <a href="mailto:slowbardi@daypitney.com">slowbardi@daypitney.com</a>).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> In the Spin Transaction, ExGen's and Mystic's corporate parent changed from Exelon Corporation to a newly-created holding company, Constellation Energy Corporation ("Constellation Corporation"). Mystic continues to be an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of Constellation Energy Generation, LLC, which in turn is a direct, wholly-owned subsidiary of Constellation Corporation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Constellation Mystic Power, LLC, 179 FERC ¶ 61,081 (May 2, 2022) ("May 2, 2022 Order").

<sup>28</sup> Id. at P 24.

# Mystic 8/9 Cost of Service Agreement (ER18-1639)

As previously reported, each of the *July 17 Orders*<sup>29</sup> and the *Mystic ROE Orders*,<sup>30</sup> which addressed in part or in whole the COS Agreement<sup>31</sup> among Mystic, Constellation Energy Generation, LLC<sup>32</sup> ("Constellation") and ISO-NE, have been appealed to, and consolidated before, the DC Circuit (*see* Section XVI below).

**Revised ROE (Sixth) Compliance Filing (-014).** Still pending is Mystic's December 20, 2021 filing in response to the requirements of the *Mystic ROE Allegheny Order*. The sixth compliance filing revised (i) the Cost of Common Equity figures from 9.33% to 9.19%, for both Mystic 8&9 and Everett Marine Terminal ("Everett"), and (ii) the stated Annual Fixed Revenue Requirements for both the 2022/23 and 2023/24 Capacity Commitment Periods. Comments on the sixth compliance filing were due on or before January 10, 2022; none were filed. The Sixth Compliance Filing is pending before the FERC.

First CapEx Info. Filing. On September 15, 2021, Mystic submitted, as required by orders in this proceeding and Sections I.B.1.i. and II.6.of Schedule 3A of the COS Agreement ("Protocols"), its informational filing to provide support for the capital expenditures and related costs that Mystic projects will be collected as an expense between June 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022 ("First CapEx Projects Info. Filing"). Formal challenges to the September 15 filing were submitted by the Eastern New England Customer-Owned Systems ("ENECOS") and NESCOE. Comments on the formal challenges were due on or before November 17, 2021, and Mystic responded on November 17 asserting that that the challenges should be rejected without further procedures. ENECOS and NESCOE replied to Mystic's November 17, 2021 reply on December 2 and December 6, 2021, respectively.

On April 28, 2022, the FERC issued an order granting in part, and denying in part, ENECOS' and NESCOE's formal challenges, subject to refund, and established hearing and settlement judge procedures.<sup>33</sup> The FERC summarily denied NESCOE's challenge regarding the update to the AFRR and ENECOS' challenge with regard to the improper booking of items. Those items, and challenges to other underlying projected costs, may be challenged in connection with Mystic's Second Informational Filing (where the informal challenge process begins on April 1, 2022 and the formal challenge process begins on September 15, 202).<sup>34</sup> The FERC reiterated that all items except return on equity and depreciation are subject to the true-up process described in Schedule 3A of the COS Agreement, not just projected capital expenditures. However, with respect to NESCOE's and ENECOS' allegations that Mystic failed to support all of its projected capital expenditures, the FERC found that the First CapEx Projects

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> The "July 17 Orders" are the July 2018 Rehearing Order, Dec 2018 Rehearing Order and the July 17 Compliance Order. Constellation Mystic Power, LLC, 164 FERC ¶ 61,022 (July 13, 2018) ("July 2018 Order"), clarif. granted in part and denied in part, reh'g denied, 172 FERC ¶ 61,043 (July 17, 2020) ("July 2018 Rehearing Order"); Constellation Mystic Power, LLC, 165 FERC ¶ 61,267 (Dec. 20, 2018) ("Dec 2018 Order"), set aside in part, clarification granted in part and clarification denied in part, 172 FERC ¶ 61,044 (July 17, 2020) ("Dec 2018 Rehearing Order"); Constellation Mystic Power, LLC, 172 FERC ¶ 61,045 (July 17, 2020) ("July 17 Compliance Order") (order on compliance and directing further compliance).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> Constellation Mystic Power, LLC, 176 FERC ¶ 61,019 (July 15, 2021) ("Mystic ROE Order") (setting the base ROE for the Mystic COS Agreement at 9.33%); Constellation Mystic Power, LLC, 177 FERC ¶ 61,106 (Nov. 18, 2021) ("Mystic ROE First Allegheny Order") (resetting Mystic's ROE to 9.19%); Constellation Mystic Power, LLC, 177 FERC ¶ 61,106 (Nov. 18, 2021) ("Mystic ROE Second Allegheny Order", and together with the Mystic ROE Order and the Mystic ROE Allegheny Order, the "Mystic ROE Orders") (modifying the discussion in, but sustaining the results of, the Mystic ROE First Allegheny Order).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> The COS Agreement, submitted on May 16, 2018, is between Mystic, Exelon Generation Company, LLC ("ExGen") and ISO-NE. The COS Agreement is to provide cost-of-service compensation to Mystic for continued operation of Mystic 8 & 9, which ISO-NE has requested be retained to ensure fuel security for the New England region, for the period of June 1, 2022 to May 31, 2024. The COS Agreement provides for recovery of Mystic's fixed and variable costs of operating Mystic 8 & 9 over the 2-year term of the Agreement, which is based on the pro forma cost-of-service agreement contained in Appendix I to Market Rule 1, modified and updated to address Mystic's unique circumstances, including the value placed on continued sourcing of fuel from the Distrigas liquefied natural gas ("LNG") facility.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> On Feb. 1, 2022, Exelon Generation Company, LLC was renamed and is now known as Constellation Energy Generation, LLC.

<sup>33</sup> Constellation Mystic Power, LLC, 179 FERC ¶ 61,011 (Apr. 28, 2022) ("Mystic First CapEx Info. Filing Order").

<sup>34</sup> Id. at PP 23-24.

Info. Filing raised issues of material fact that could not be resolved based on the record and would be more appropriately addressed under hearing and settlement judge procedures.<sup>35</sup> Accordingly, the FERC set these matters for a trial-type evidentiary hearing. The FERC encouraged the parties to make every effort to settle their disputes before hearing procedures are commenced, and to that end, will hold the hearing in abeyance pending the appointment of a settlement judge and completion of settlement judge procedures.<sup>36</sup> On May 4, Chief Judge Cintron designated Judge Andrea McBarnette as the Settlement Judge. A first settlement conference was convened on Wednesday June 15, 2022. Judge McBarnette's first status report (which are to be filed every 60 days) is due on or before *July 5, 2022*.

Request for Clarification or Rehearing of Mystic First CapEx Info. Filing Order. On May 27, 2022, Mystic requested that the FERC clarify that it did not determine that Mystic's already-litigated historical (pre-2018) rate base is subject to re-litigation as part of any "true-up" process under the Mystic Agreement. ENECOS answered that request on June 10, 2022. Mystic's request is pending before the FERC, with FERC action required on or before June 27, 2022, or the request will be deemed denied by operation of law.

If you have questions on any aspect of this proceeding, please contact Joe Fagan (202-218-3901; <a href="mailto:jfagan@daypitney.com">jfagan@daypitney.com</a>) or Sebastian Lombardi (860-275-0663; <a href="mailto:slombardi@daypitney.com">slombardi@daypitney.com</a>).

# III. Market Rule and Information Policy Changes, Interpretations and Waiver Requests

#### • MOPR Elimination Filing (ER22-1528)

On May 27, 2022, the FERC accepted, without change or condition, ISO-NE's and NEPOOL's proposal to eliminate the FCM Minimum Offer Price Rule ("MOPR") following the implementation of a two-year transition mechanism and to replace it with a reformed buyer-side market power mitigation review construct.<sup>37</sup> The transition mechanism revisions were accepted effective May 30, 2022; the reformed mitigation construct revisions, March 1, 2024, as requested. Each of the Commissioners weighed in apart from the *Order*, with separate concurrences by Chairman Glick, Commissioner Christie, jointly by Commissioners Clements and Phillips, and a dissent by Commissioner Danly. Challenges to the *MOPR Elimination Order* are due on or before *June 27*, 2022. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Rosendo Garza (860-275-0660; rgarza@daypitney.com) or Sebastian Lombardi (860-275-0663; slombardi@daypitney.com).

#### New England's Order 2222 Compliance Filing (ER22-983)

On February 2, 2022, ISO-NE, NEPOOL and the PTO AC ("Filing Parties") submitted Tariff revisions ("Order 2222 Changes") in response to the requirements of Order 2222. The Filing Parties stated that the Order 2222 Changes create a pathway for Distributed Energy Resource Aggregations ("DERAs") to participate in the New England Markets by: creating new, and modifying existing, market participation models for DERA use; establishing eligibility requirements for DERA participation (including size, location, information and data requirements); setting bidding parameters for DERAs; requiring metering and telemetry arrangements for DERAs and individual Distributed Energy Resources ("DERs"); and providing for coordination with distribution utilities and relevant electric retail regulatory authorities ("RERRAs") for DERA/DER registration, operations, and dispute resolution purposes.

Comments, following an extension of time granted by the FERC in response to a request by Advanced Energy Management Alliance ("AEMA"), were due on or before April 1, 2022. NEPOOL filed supplemental comments on March 28. Protests and comments were filed by: AEE/PowerOptions/SEIA; Environmental

<sup>35</sup> Id. at P 26.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> *Id.* at P 27.

 $<sup>^{37}</sup>$  ISO New England Inc. and New England Power Pool Participants Comm., 179  $\P$  61,139 (May 27, 2022) ("MOPR Elimination Order").

Organizations;<sup>38</sup> MA AG; Voltus; AEMA and 4 New England US Senators.<sup>39</sup> Doc-less interventions were filed by: Avangrid (CMP/UI), Calpine, Centrica Business Solutions Optimize (out-of-time), Constellation, ENE, Enerwise, Eversource, FirstLight, MA AG, National Grid, NESCOE, NRG, MA DPU, MPUC (out-of-time), APPA, and EEI. ISO-NE (April 20) and National Grid/Avangrid/Eversource (April 19) filed answers to the protests and adverse comments. Since the last Report, AEE/PowerOptions/SEIA and AEMA answered the ISO-NE and National Grid/Avangrid/Eversource answers.

**Deficiency Letter.** On May 18, 2022, the FERC issued a 25-page deficiency letter directing ISO-NE to provide, on or before June 17, 2022, additional information and clarifications. ISO-NE filed its 39-page response to the deficiency letter on June 17, 2022. Comments in response to ISO-NE's deficiency letter response are due on or before **July 8, 2022**.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Sebastian Lombardi (860-275-0663; <a href="mailto:slombardi@daypitney.com">slombardi@daypitney.com</a>); Eric Runge (617-345-4735; <a href="mailto:ekrunge@daypitney.com">ekrunge@daypitney.com</a>); or Rosendo Garza (860-275-0660; <a href="mailto:rgarza@daypitney.com">rgarza@daypitney.com</a>).

# IV. OATT Amendments / TOAs / Coordination Agreements

# Attachment F Corrections & Updates (ER22-2021)

On June 3, 2022, the PTO AC filed proposed revisions to Attachment F of the OATT to (i) correct minor errors in certain worksheets of the "Formula Rate Template" contained in Appendices A and B; and (ii) update the name of Versant Power in Appendices A, B and D. The PTO AC opined that the proposed corrections and updates do not have any impact on transmission rates and they do not alter the substance of the Formula Rate Template. An effective date of August 2, 2022 was requested. Comments on this filing are due on or before June 24, 2022. Thus far, NESCOE has filed a doc-less intervention. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Eric Runge (617-345-4735; <a href="mailto:ekrunge@daypitney.com">ekrunge@daypitney.com</a>).

# Order 676-J Compliance Filing Part I (CSC-Schedule 18-Attachment Z) (ER22-1168)

On March 2, 2022, in response to the requirements of *Order 676-J*,<sup>40</sup> ISO-NE and Cross-Sound Cable Company ("CSC") filed revisions to ISO-NE Tariff Schedule 18 Attachment Z to incorporate the new cybersecurity and PFV standards contained in the North American Energy Standards Board ("NAESB") Wholesale Electric Quadrant ("WEQ") Version 003.3 Standards ("Schedule 18 Order 676-J Part I Changes").<sup>41</sup> An effective date as of the date of the FERC order accepting these changes was requested. Comments on this filing were due on or before March 23, 2022; none were filed. Doc-less interventions were filed by CSC and NEPOOL. There was no activity since the last Report and this matter is pending before the FERC. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Eric Runge (617-345-4735; <a href="mailto:ekrunge@daypitney.com">ekrunge@daypitney.com</a>).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> Environmental Organizations are Acadia Center, Conservation Law Foundation ("CLF"), Environmental Defense Fund ("EDF"), Massachusetts Climate Action Network, Natural Resources Defense Council ("NRDC"), Sierra Club, and the Sustainable FERC Project.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> Senators Markey (MA), Sanders (VT), Warren (MA), and Whitehouse (RI).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> Standards for Business Practices and Communication Protocols for Public Utilities, Order No. 676-J, 175 FERC ¶ 61,139 (May 20, 2021) ("Order 676-J"). Order 676-J revised FERC regulations to incorporate by reference the latest version (Version 003.3) of the Standards for Business Practices and Communication Protocols for Public Utilities adopted by NAESB's Wholesale Electric Quadrant. The WEQ Version 003.3 Standards include, in their entirety, the WEQ-023 Modeling Business Practice Standards contained in the WEQ Version 003.1 Standards, which address the technical issues affecting Available Transfer Capability ("ATC") and Available Flowgate Capability ("AFC") calculation for wholesale electric transmission services, with the addition of certain revisions and corrections. The FERC also revised its regulations to provide that transmission providers must avoid unduly discriminatory and preferential treatment in the calculation of ATC.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> Compliance filings for the rest of the WEQ Version 003.3 Standards (Schedule 24 Order 676-J Part II Changes) were due 12 months after implementation of the WEQ Version 003.2 Standards, or no earlier than Oct. 27, 2022.

# • Order 676-J Compliance Filing Part I (TOs-Schedule 20/21-Common) (ER22-1161)

Also on March 2, 2022, in response to the requirements of *Order 676-J*, the PTO AC, ISO-NE, and the Schedule 20A Service Providers ("S20SPs") (collectively, the "TOs") filed revisions to ISO-NE Tariff Schedules 20A-Common and 21-Common to incorporate the new cybersecurity and PFV standards contained in NAESB WEQ Version 003.3 Standards ("Schedule 20/21-Common Order 676-J Part I Changes").<sup>41</sup> An effective date as of the date the FERC may determine was requested. Comments on this filing are due on or before March 23, 2022; none were filed. Doc-less interventions were filed by NEPOOL and Eversource. There was no activity since the last Report and this matter is pending before the FERC. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Eric Runge (617-345-4735; ekrunge@daypitney.com).

# Order 676-J Compliance Filing Part I (ISO-NE-Schedule 24) (ER22-1150)

Again on March 2, 2022, in response to the requirements of *Order 676-J*, ISO-NE filed revisions to ISO-NE Tariff Schedule 24 (Incorporation by Reference of NAESB Standards) to incorporate the new cybersecurity and PFV standards contained in NAESB WEQ Version 003.3 Standards ("Schedule 24 Order 676-J Part I Changes"). An effective date no earlier than June 2, 2022 was requested. The Transmission Committee recommended that the Participants Committee support the Schedule 24 Order 676-J Part I Changes at its March 23 meeting, and the Participants Committee supported the changes at the April 7 meeting (Consent Agenda Item # 1). Comments on this filing were due on or before March 23, 2022; none were filed. NEPOOL, Eversource, MA DPU, and National Grid submitted doc-less interventions. There was no activity since the last Report and this matter is pending before the FERC. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Eric Runge (617-345-4735; ekrunge@daypitney.com).

# V. Financial Assurance/Billing Policy Amendments

#### No Activity to Report

# VI. Schedule 20/21/22/23 Changes

# Schedule 21-NEP: Revised RI LSAs Compliance Filing (ER22-1918)

On May 20, 2022, New England Power submitted a compliance filing following FERC action on Local Service Agreement ("LSA") filings in ER22-707 (Narragansett LSA) and ER22-927 (BIPCO LSA) to: (i) reflect all changes to the LSAs accepted by the FERC in either docket and (ii) provide executed versions of the conformed LSAs. Comments on the Revised RI LSAs compliance filing were due on or before June 10, 2022; none were filed. This compliance filing is pending before the FERC. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Pat Gerity (pmgerity@daypitney.com; 860-275-0533).

#### Schedule 21-NEP: 2nd Revised Narragansett LSA (ER22-707)

As previously reported, the FERC accepted on February 18, 2022 a LSA among New England Power, The Narragansett Electric Company ("Narragansett") and ISO-NE.<sup>42</sup> As previously reported, the LSA reflects the construction of the new Iron Mine Hill Road Substation and related transmission modifications, and the assessment to Narragansett of a Direct Assignment Facilities Charge ("DAF Charge") associated with the facilities. The Iron Mine Hill Road Substation, a new 115 kV/34.5 kV substation (including modifications necessary to loop Narragansett's existing 115 kV H17 transmission line through the new substation) will connect to a new 34.5 kV distribution feeder, which will serve as the point of interconnection for several distributed generation projects being developed by Green Development, LLC ("Green Development"), located in North Smithfield, Rhode Island. The LSA was accepted effective as of January 1, 2022, as requested. The

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> ISO New England Inc. and New England Power Co. d/b/a National Grid, 178 FERC ¶ 61,115 (Feb. 18, 2022) ("2nd Rev Narragansett LSA Order").

FERC was not persuaded by Green Development's arguments that the revised Narragansett LSA was unjust and unreasonable and should be rejected.<sup>43</sup>

Request for Rehearing Denied by Operation of Law. On March 18, 2022, Green Development requested rehearing of the 2nd Rev Narragansett LSA Order. On April 18, 2022, the FERC issued a "Notice of Denial of Rehearings by Operation of Law and Providing for Further Consideration". <sup>44</sup> The Notice confirmed that the 60-day period during which a petition for review of the 2nd Rev Narragansett LSA Order could be filed with an appropriate federal court was triggered when the FERC did not act on Green Development's request for rehearing of the 2nd Rev Narragansett LSA Order. The Notice also indicated that the FERC would address, as is its right, the rehearing requests in a future order, and may modify or set aside its orders, in whole or in part, "in such manner as it shall deem proper," (which it did on June 16, see immediately below).

**2nd Rev Narragansett LSA Allegheny Order**. On June 16, 2022, pursuant to section 313(a) of the FPA, the FERC issued an order that modified the discussion, but reached the same result as, in the *2nd Rev Narragansett LSA Order*. On June 15, 2022, Green Development petitioned the DC Circuit for review of the *2nd Rev Narragansett LSA Order* and the *2nd Rev Narragansett LSA Allegheny Order*. Developments in that proceeding will be reported in Section XVI below.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Pat Gerity (pmgerity@daypitney.com; 860-275-0533).

# • Schedule 21-VP: 2021 Annual Update Settlement Agreement (ER20-2119-001)

On March 25, 2022, Versant Power submitted a joint offer of settlement between itself and the MPUC to resolve all issues raised by the MPUC in response to Versant's 2021 annual charges update filed, as previously reported, on June 15, 2021, and as amended on June 20, 2021 and July 8, 2021 (the "Versant 2021 Annual Update Settlement Agreement"). Under Part V of Attachment P-EM to Schedule 21-VP, "Interested Parties shall have the opportunity to conduct discovery seeking any information relevant to implementation of the [Attachment P-EM] Rate Formula. . . ." and follow a dispute resolution procedure set forth there. In accordance with those provisions, the MPUC identified certain disputes with the 2021 Annual Update, all of which are resolved by the Versant 2021 Annual Update Settlement Agreement. Comments on the Versant 2021 Annual Update Settlement Agreement were due on or before April 14, 2022; none were filed. There was no activity since the last Report and this matter is pending before the FERC. If you have any questions concerning this proceeding, please contact Pat Gerity (860-275-0533; pmgerity@daypitney.com).

#### Schedule 21-VP: 2020 Annual Update Settlement Agreement (ER15-1434-005)

On November 19, 2021, Versant Power submitted a joint offer of settlement between itself and the MPUC to resolve all issues raised by the MPUC in response to Versant's 2020 annual charges update filed, as previously reported, on June 15, 2020 (the "Versant 2020 Annual Update Settlement Agreement"). Under Part V of Attachment P-EM to Schedule 21-VP, "Interested Parties shall have the opportunity to conduct discovery seeking any information relevant to implementation of the [Attachment P-EM] Rate Formula. . . . " and follow a dispute resolution procedure set forth there. In accordance with those provisions, the MPUC identified certain disputes with the 2020 Annual Update, all of which are resolved by the Versant 2020 Annual Update Settlement Agreement. Comments on the Versant 2020 Annual Update Settlement Agreement were due on or before December 9, 2021; reply comments, December 19, 2021; none were filed. There was no

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> *Id.* at P 55.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>44</sup> ISO New England Inc. and New England Power Co. d/b/a National Grid, 179 FERC ¶ 62,035 (Apr. 18, 2022) (notice of denial of rehearing by operation of law and providing for further consideration).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>45</sup> ISO New England Inc. and New England Power Co. d/b/a National Grid, 179 FERC ¶ 61,186 (June 16, 2022) ("2nd Rev Narragansett LSA Allegheny Order").

activity since the last Report and this matter is pending before the FERC. If you have any questions concerning this proceeding, please contact Pat Gerity (860-275-0533; <a href="mailto:pmgerity@daypitney.com">pmgerity@daypitney.com</a>).

# Schedule 21-VP: Recovery of Bangor Hydro/Maine Public Service Merger-Related Costs (ER15-1434-001 et al.)

Still pending before the FERC is the MPS Merger Cost Recovery Settlement, filed by Emera Maine on May 8, 2018 to resolve all issues pending before the FERC in the consolidated proceedings set for hearing in the MPS Merger-Related Costs Order, 46 and certified by Settlement Judge Dring 47 to the Commission. 48 As previously reported, under this Settlement, permitted cost recovery over a period from June 1, 2018 to May 31, 2021 will be \$390,000 under Attachment P of the BHD OATT and \$260,000 under the MPD OATT. If you have any questions concerning this proceeding, please contact Pat Gerity (860-275-0533; pmgerity@daypitney.com).

# VII. NEPOOL Agreement/Participants Agreement Amendments

#### No Activity to Report

#### **VIII. Regional Reports**

# Opinion 531-A Local Refund Report: FG&E (EL11-66)

Fitchburg Gas & Electric's ("FG&E") June 29, 2015 refund report for its customers taking local service during *Opinion 531-A's* refund period remains pending. If there are questions on this matter, please contact Pat Gerity (860-275-0533; pmgerity@daypitney.com).

## • Opinions 531-A/531-B Regional Refund Reports (EL11-66)

The TOs' November 2, 2015 refund report documenting resettlements of regional transmission charges by ISO-NE in compliance with *Opinions No. 531-A*<sup>49</sup> and *531-B*<sup>50</sup> also remains pending. If there are questions on this matter, please contact Pat Gerity (860-275-0533; pmgerity@daypitney.com).

<sup>46</sup> Emera Maine and BHE Holdings, 155 FERC ¶ 61,230 (June 2, 2016) ("MPS Merger-Related Costs Order"). In the MPS Merger-Related Costs Order, the FERC accepted, but established hearing and settlement judge procedures for, filings by Emera Maine seeking authorization to recover certain merger-related costs viewed by the FERC's Office of Enforcement's Division of Audits and Accounting ("DAA") to be subject to the conditions of the orders authorizing Emera Maine's acquisition of, and ultimate merger with, Maine Public Service ("Merger Conditions"). The Merger Conditions imposed a hold harmless requirement, and required a compliance filing demonstrating fulfillment of that requirement, should Emera Maine seek to recover transaction-related costs through any transmission rate. Following an audit of Emera Maine, DAA found that Emera Maine "inappropriately included the costs of four merger-related capital initiatives in its formula rate recovery mechanisms" and "did not properly record certain merger-related expenses incurred to consummate the merger transaction to appropriate non-operating expense accounts as required by [FERC] regulations [and] inappropriately included costs of merger-related activities through its formula rate recovery mechanisms" without first making a compliance filing as required by the merger orders. The MPS Merger-Related Costs Order set resolution of the issues of material fact for hearing and settlement judge procedures, consolidating the separate compliance filing dockets.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> ALJ John Dring was the settlement judge for these proceedings. There were five settlement conferences -- three in 2016 and two in 2017. With the Settlement pending before the FERC, settlement judge procedures, for now, have not been terminated.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> *Emera Maine and BHE Holdings*, 163 FERC ¶ 63,018 (June 11, 2018).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> Martha Coakley, Mass. Att'y Gen., 149 FERC ¶ 61,032 (Oct. 16, 2014) ("Opinion 531-A").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>50</sup> Martha Coakley, Mass. Att'y Gen., Opinion No. 531-B, 150 FERC ¶ 61,165 (Mar. 3, 2015) ("Opinion 531-B").

# • Opinions 531-A/531-B Local Refund Reports (EL11-66)

The *Opinions 531-A and 531-B* refund reports filed by the following TOs for their customers taking local service during the refund period also remain pending before the FERC:

♦ Central Maine Power

♦ National Grid

◆ United Illuminating

♦ Emera Maine

♦ NHT

♦ VTransco

♦ Eversource

♦ NSTAR

If there are questions on this matter, please contact Pat Gerity (860-275-0533; pmgerity@daypitney.com).

# Capital Projects Report - 2022 Q1 (ER22-1880)

On May 12, 2022, ISO-NE filed its Capital Projects Report and Unamortized Cost Schedule covering the first quarter ("Q1") of calendar year 2022 (the "Report"). ISO-NE is required to file the Report under section 205 of the FPA pursuant to Section IV.B.6.2 of the Tariff. Report highlights include the following new projects: (i) Packet Broker Infrastructure Replacement Project (\$839,600); (ii) Amazon Web Services Cloud Foundation (\$829,100); (iii) Integrated Market Simulator Phase II (\$495,000); and (iv) FCM Non-Commercial Capacity Trading FA (\$290,000). Significant changes for Chartered Projects (2022 budget impact in parentheses) were: (i) FCM Cost Allocation & Accelerated Billing (\$185,000 increase); (ii) FCM Tracking System Infrastructure Conversion Part III (\$398,200 decrease); (iii) Solar DNE Dispatch Phase I (\$386,100 decrease); (iv) nGEM Hardware Phase II (\$1.15 million decrease); and (v) TranSMART Technical Architecture Update (\$135,500 decrease). Comments on this filing were due on or before June 2, 2022. NEPOOL filed comments on May 20. Eversource did not comment but filed a docless intervention. This matter is pending before the FERC. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Paul Belval (860-275-0381; pnbelval@daypitney.com).

#### Capital Projects Report - 2021 Q4 (ER22-1041)

On June 9, 2022, the FERC issued an order accepting ISO-NE's February 19, 2022 Capital Projects Report and Unamortized Cost Schedule covering the fourth quarter ("Q4") of calendar year 2021 (the "Report"). ISO-NE was required to file the Report under section 205 of the FPA pursuant to Section IV.B.6.2 of the Tariff. Report highlights included the following new projects: (i) nGEM Hardware Phase II (\$4.57 million); (ii) Forecast Enhancements (\$1.78 million); (iii) Solar Do-Not-Exceed ("DNE") Dispatch Phase I (\$1.595 million); (iv) Physical Security Improvement Project (\$1.136 million); (v) Replace Messaging Software (\$432,100); (vi) Asset Activation Automation (\$408,000); (vii) Browser Standardization (\$472,000); (viii) Linear State Estimator Phase I (\$362,000); (ix) Short-Term Load Forecast Curve Modification Enhancement (\$279,600); (x) FCM Delayed Commercial Resource Treatment Phase II (\$253,000); and (xi) Energy Management System Communications Monitoring (\$235,200). The one significant change for a Chartered Project was the Replacement of the LMP Monitor (an increase of \$265,000). Unless the June 9 order is challenged, this proceeding will be concluded. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Paul Belval (860-275-0381; pnbelval@daypitney.com).

# Interconnection Study Metrics Processing Time Exceedance Report Q1 2022 (ER19-1951)

On May 16, 2022, ISO-NE filed, as required,<sup>52</sup> public and confidential<sup>53</sup> versions of its Interconnection Study Metrics Processing Time Exceedance Report (the "Exceedance Report") for the First Quarter of 2022 ("2022 Q1"). ISO-NE reported that all six of the 2022 Q1 *Interconnection Feasibility Study ("IFS") reports* delivered to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup> ISO New England Inc., Docket No. ER22-1041 (June 9, 2022) (unpublished letter order).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>52</sup> Under section 3.5.4 of ISO-NE's Large Generator Interconnection Procedures ("LGIP"), ISO-NE must submit an informational report to the FERC describing each study that exceeds its Interconnection Study deadline, the basis for the delay, and any steps taken to remedy the issue and prevent such delays in the future. The Exceedance Report must be filed within 45 days of the end of the calendar quarter, and ISO-NE must continue to report the information until it reports four consecutive quarters where the delayed amounts do not exceed 25 percent of all the studies conducted for any study type in two consecutive quarters.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>53</sup> ISO-NE requested that the information contained in Section 3 of the un-redacted version of the Exceedance Report, which contains detailed information regarding ongoing Interconnection Studies and if released could harm or prejudice the competitive position of the Interconnection Customer, be treated as confidential under FERC regulations.

Interconnection Customers were delivered later than the best efforts completion timeline.<sup>54</sup> In addition, eight IFS Reports that are not yet completed have exceeded the 90-day completion expectation. The average mean time from ISO-NE's receipt of the executed IFS Agreement to delivery of the completed IFS report to the Interconnection Customer was 176 days (roughly 60 days longer than in 2021 Q4). Four of the six *System Impact Study ("SIS") reports* delivered to Interconnection Customers were delivered later than the best efforts completion timeline of 270 days. The average mean time from ISO-NE's receipt of the executed SIS Agreement to delivery of the completed SIS report to the Interconnection Customer was 460 days (an increase of 140 days from 2021 Q4). There were no Interconnection Requests with projects in the Interconnection Facilities Study phase of the interconnection process. Section 4 of the Report identified steps ISO-NE has identified to remedy issues and prevent future delays, including mitigating the impact of backlogs and initiating clustering, moving to earlier in the process certain Interconnection Customer data reviews, and enhanced information sharing and coordination efforts with Interconnecting TOs. This report was not noticed for public comment.

#### • Voltus Petition for a FERC Technical Conference on Order 2222 (RM18-9)

On December 22, 2022, Voltus, Inc. ("Voltus") requested that the FERC convene a technical conference regarding *Order 2222*-related issues sometime in the months of February or March, 2022. Specifically, Voltus requested the technical conference to allow for a collective discussion of key issues arising from the ISO/RTO *Order 2222* compliance proposals, including certain regional variability, roles of industry participants, narrowing perceived knowledge gaps, and subsequent FERC guidance, all of which Voltus asserts supports the request for a technical conference. On January 7, 2022, the FERC issued a notice of Voltus' request, inviting comments on Voltus' request on or before February 7, 2022. Comments supporting Voltus' request were filed by: AEE, AEMA, APPA/NRECA, EEI, ISO-RTO Council, MISO, SPP, Sunrun, Ameren, Camus Energy, Energy Web Foundation, Entegrity Energy Partners, Environmental Law and Policy Center, Fermata LLC, Google, Leapfrog Power, Nuvve Holding, Tesla, U Delaware EV Research and Development Group, and Utilidata. Voltus' request remains pending before the FERC.

### • IMM Quarterly Markets Reports – Winter 2022 (ZZ22-4)

On May 4, 2022, the IMM filed with the FERC its Winter 2022 report of "market data regularly collected by [the IMM] in the course of carrying out its functions under ... Appendix A and analysis of such market data," as required pursuant to Section 12.2.2 of Appendix A to Market Rule 1. These filings are not noticed for public comment by the FERC. The Winter 2022 Report was discussed with the Markets Committee at the May 10, 2022 Markets Committee meeting.

#### IMM 2021 Annual Markets Report (ZZ22-4)

On May 26, 2022, the IMM filed its 2021 Annual Markets Report, which covers the 2021 calendar year period. The report addresses the development, operation, and performance of the New England Markets and presents an assessment of each market based on market data, performance criteria, and independent studies, providing the information required under Section 17.2.4 of Appendix A to Market Rule 1. On the basis of its review of market outcomes and related information, the IMM concluded, as it has for many years in a row, that the New England Market operated competitively in 2021. The IMM reported that Day-Ahead and Real-Time Energy prices reflected changes in underlying primary fuel prices, electricity demand and the region's supply mix. No major reliability issues occurred in 2021, and there were no periods in the Energy Market when a shortage of energy and reserves resulted in very high energy prices or reserve scarcity pricing. The IMM reported that gas and energy prices rebounded from the record low levels seen in 2020. Electricity demand increased year-over-year due to colder weather and increased economic activity. The IMM forecasts that weather-normalized demand will begin to increase from 2022 because of the diminishing impacts of energy efficiency and solar generation and the growth in electrification of transportation and heating.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>54</sup> 90 days from the Interconnection Customer's execution of the study agreement.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>55</sup> Please note that Annual Markets Reports filings are not noticed for public comment by the FERC.

Wholesale costs were at their highest level since 2018 and considerably higher than 2020, driven by higher energy costs. For the eighth consecutive year, the forward capacity auction procured surplus capacity. Other highlights included:

- 2021 total wholesale costs (\$11.2 billion) were \$3.1 billion higher than 2020, driven by higher energy costs; with the exception of capacity costs, each component of the wholesale cost of electricity increased in 2021.
- 2021 Energy costs totaled \$6.1 billion, up 97% from 2020 (Day-Ahead LMPs averaged \$45.92/MWh; Real-Time LMPs, \$44.84/MW).
- Capacity costs (\$2.2 billion) decreased 16%. New entry and limited resource retirements have continued to maintain a system surplus of 4-5% above the capacity requirement, applying downward pressure on prices.
- Transmission and reliability costs in 2021 were \$2.7 billion, \$357 million (15%) more than 2020 costs. The primary driver was a 12% increase in infrastructure improvements costs.

In light of its review, the IMM, in Section 1.6 (pp. 29-33) of the Report, made a number of recommendations for Market Rule changes and identified areas for additional analysis in 2022. These recommendations will be discussed in more detail at the Participants Committee's August 4 meeting.

#### ISO-NE FERC Form 3-Q (2021/Q4) (not docketed)

On May 27, 2022, ISO-NE submitted its 2021/Q4 FERC Form 3-Q (quarterly financial report of electric utilities, licensees, and natural gas companies). FERC Form 3-Q is a quarterly regulatory requirement which supplements the annual FERC Form 1 financial reporting requirement. These filings are not noticed for comment.

#### ISO-NE 2021 FERC Form 714 (not docketed)

On June 1, 2022, ISO-NE submitted its Annual Electric Balancing Authority Area and Planning Area Report for calendar year 2021. Through its Form 714 filing, ISO-NE reports, among other things, generation in the New England Control Area, actual and scheduled inter-balancing authority area power transfers, and net energy for load, summer-winter generation peaks and system lambda. The FERC uses the data to obtain a broad picture of interconnected balancing authority area operations including comprehensive information of balancing authority area generation, actual and scheduled inter-balancing authority area power transfers, and load; and to prepare status reports on the electric utility industry including review of inter-balancing authority area bulk power trade information. Planning area data will be used to monitor forecasted demands by electric utility entities with fundamental demand responsibility, and to develop hourly demand characteristics. These filings are not noticed for comment.

# IX. Membership Filings

#### June 2022 Membership Filing (ER22-1991)

On May 31, 2022, NEPOOL requested that the FERC accept (i) the following Applicant's membership in NEPOOL: Ebsen LLC and Umber LLC (both in the Supplier Sector); (ii) the termination of the Participant status of Dantzig Energy; Pilot Power Group; and Twin Eagle Resource Management; and (iii) the name change of LS Power Grid Northeast, LLC (f/k/a New England Energy Connection, LLC). Comments on this filing are due on or before June 21, 2022.

# May 2022 Membership Filing (ER22-1738)

On April 29, 2022, NEPOOL requested that the FERC accept (i) the following Applicant's membership in NEPOOL: Altop Energy Trading LLC (Supplier Sector); Indra Power Business CT LLC [Related Person to Palmco Power MA, LLC (Supplier Sector)]; Indra Power Business MA LLC [Related Person to Palmco Power MA, LLC

(Supplier Sector)]; Leicester Street Solar, LLC [Related Person to Agilitas Companies (AR Sector, DG Sub-Sector)]; and Nexamp Markets, LLC [Related Person to Boston Energy Trading and Marketing (Supplier Sector)]; and (ii) the name change of the following Participant: Salem Harbor Power Development LP (f/k/a Footprint Power Salem Harbor Development LP). Comments on this filing were due on or before May20, 2022; none were filed. This matter is pending before the FERC.

#### April 2022 Membership Filing (ER22-1531)

On May 26, 2022, the FERC accepted the following Applicant's membership in NEPOOL: AMP Solar US Holdings Inc. AR Sector, DG Sub-Sector); NRG Kiosk LLC d/b/a Power Kiosk (Data-Only Member); and Octopus Energy (Supplier Sector).<sup>56</sup> Unless the May 26 order is challenged, this proceeding will be concluded.

#### • Suspension Notice (not docketed)

Since the last Report, ISO-NE filed, pursuant to Section 2.3 of the Information Policy, a notice with the FERC noting that the following Market Participant was suspended from the New England Markets on the date indicated (at 8:30 a.m.) due to a Financial Assurance Default:

Date of Suspension/ FERC Notice	Participant Name	Default Type	Date Reinstated
May 18/20	Pilot Power Group, LLC	Financial Assurance	N/A
Jun 6/2	Manchester Methane, LLC	Financial Assurance	
Jun 15/17	Howard Wind, LLC	Payment Default	

Suspension notices are for the FERC's information only and are not docketed or noticed for public comment.

## X. Misc. - ERO Rules, Filings; Reliability Standards

Questions concerning any of the ERO Reliability Standards or related rule-making proceedings or filings can be directed to Pat Gerity (860-275-0533; <a href="mailto:pmgerity@daypitney.com">pmgerity@daypitney.com</a>).

#### Revised Reliability Standard (CIP-014 Compliance Section) (RD22-3)

On June 16, 2022, the FERC approved proposed changes to the compliance section of CIP-014 (Physical Security).<sup>57</sup> As previously reported, the changes remove from the Compliance section the provision that requires all evidence demonstrating compliance with the standard to be retained at the Transmission Owner's or Transmission Operator's facility. No changes to the mandatory and enforceable provisions of the CIP-014 standard were proposed. The changes were accepted effective as of the date of the order, or June 16, 2022. Unless the June 16 order is challenged, this proceeding will be concluded.

# CIP Standards Development: Informational Filings on Virtualization and Cloud Computing Services Projects (RD20-2)

As previously reported, NERC is required to file on an informational basis quarterly status updates regarding the development of new or modified Reliability Standards pertaining to virtualization and cloud computing services. On March 15, 2022, NERC submitted an informational filing regarding one active CIP standard development project (Project 2016-02 – Modifications to CIP Standards ("Project 2016-02")). Project 2016-02 focuses on modifications to the CIP Reliability Standards to incorporate applicable protections for virtualized

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>56</sup> New England Power Pool Participants Comm., Docket No. ER22-1531 (May 26, 2022) (unpublished letter order).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>57</sup> N. Am. Elec. Rel. Corp., 179 FERC ¶ 61,187 (June 16, 2022).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>58</sup> The other project which had been addressed in prior updates, Project 2019-02, has concluded, and the FERC approved in RD21-6 the Reliability Standards revised as part of that project (CIP-004-7 and CIP-011-3) on Dec. 7, 2021.

environments. A revised schedule for Project 2016-02 calls for final balloting of revised standards in April 2022, NERC Board of Trustees Adoption in May 2022 and filing of the revised standards with the FERC in June 2022.

# NOI: Virtualization and Cloud Computing Services in BES Operations (RM20-8)

On February 20, 2020, the FERC issued a NOI seeking comments on (i) the potential benefits and risks associated with the use of virtualization and cloud computing services in association with bulk electric system ("BES") operations; and (ii) whether the CIP Reliability Standards impede the voluntary adoption of virtualization or cloud computing services. <sup>59</sup> On March 25, 2020, Joint Associations <sup>60</sup> requested an extension of time to submit comments and reply comments. On April 2, the FERC granted Joint Associations' request and extended the deadline for initial comments on the NOI to July 1, 2020; the deadline for reply comments, July 31, 2020. Comments were filed by NERC, the IRC, Accenture, Amazon Web Services ("Amazon"), Bonneville, the Bureau of Reclamation, Barry Jones, Georgia System Operations, GridBright, Idaho Power, Microsoft, MISO, MISO Transmission Owners, Siemens Energy Management, Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, VMware, Inc., AEE, American Association for Laboratory Accreditation ("A2LA"), APPA, Canadian Electricity Assoc., EEI, NRECA, and Waterfall Security Solutions. Reply comments were due on or before July 31, 2020, and were filed by AEE, Amazon and Microsoft.

**Dec 2021 Informational Filing.** In part in response to the comments filed, the FERC, in a December 17, 2020 order, <sup>61</sup> directed NERC to begin a formal process to assess, and to make an informational filing in a little over one year (January 1, 2022) that addresses, the feasibility of voluntarily conducting BES operations in the cloud in a secure manner, as well as the status and schedule for any plans to modify the standards. NERC submitted that informational filing on December 17, 2021. In that filing, NERC addressed the status of NERC's formal process to assess the feasibility of voluntarily conducting BES operations in the cloud in a secure manner, evaluated potential modifications to the CIP Standards to facilitate expanded use of the cloud, and considered topic areas raised in comments to the NOI. NERC requested that the FERC accept the informational filing as consistent with the *Order Directing Info. Filing*. NERC committed to continue to consider ways to support industry in securely adopting evolving technologies as necessary, including conducting BES reliability operating services in the cloud. NERC reported that there is no Standard Authorization Request ("SAR") to initiate standards development or a field test, nor had it identified a reliability gap that would necessitate standards development to facilitate BES reliability operating services in the cloud.

# Order 873 - Retirement of Reliability Standard Requirements (Standards Efficiency Review) (RM19-17; RM19-16)

On September 17, 2020, the FERC approved the retirement of the 18 Reliability Standard requirements through the retirement of four Reliability Standards and the modification of five Reliability Standards,<sup>62</sup> concluding that the 18 requirements "(1) provide little or no reliability benefit; (2) are administrative in nature or relate expressly to commercial or business practices; or (3) are redundant with other Reliability Standards."<sup>63</sup> The FERC also approved the associated violation risk factors, violation severity levels, implementation plan, and effective dates proposed by NERC. Because it was not persuaded by NERC's justification for the retirement of FAC-008-4

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>59</sup> Virtualization and Cloud Computing Services, 170 FERC ¶ 61,110 (Feb. 20, 2020).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>60</sup> "Joint Associations" are for purposes of this proceeding: EEI, APPA, NRECA, and LPPC.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>61</sup> Virtualization and Cloud Computing Services, 173 FERC ¶ 61,243 (Dec. 17, 2020) ("Order Directing Info. Filing").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>62</sup> Elec. Rel. Org. Proposal to Retire Reqs. in Rel. Standards Under the NERC Standards Efficiency Review, Order No. 873, 172 FERC ¶ 61,225 (Sep. 17, 2020) ("Order 873"). The four Reliability Standards being eliminated in their entirety are FAC-013-2 (Assessment of Transfer Capability for the Near-term Transmission Planning Horizon), INT-004-3.1 (Dynamic Transfers), INT-010-2.1 (Interchange Initiation and Modification for Reliability), MOD-020-0 (Providing Interruptible Demands and Direct Control Load Management Data to System Operations and Reliability Coordinators). The five modified Reliability Standards are INT-006-5 (Evaluation of Interchange Transactions), INT-009-3 (Implementation of Interchange) and PRC-004-6 (Protection System Misoperation Identification and Correction), IRO-002-7 (Reliability Coordination—Monitoring and Analysis), TOP-001-5 (Transmission Operations).

<sup>63</sup> Order 873 at P 2.

requirement R8, the FERC remanded the retirement of requirements R7 and R8 to NERC for further consideration.<sup>64</sup>

The FERC left for another day its final action on the remaining 56 requirements for which the FERC proposed to approve retirement in the *Retirements NOPR*<sup>65</sup> (the "MOD A Reliability Standards"). The FERC intends to coordinate the effective dates for the retirement of the MOD A Reliability Standards with successor NAESB business practice standards (v. 003.3) that include Modeling business practices, which were accepted in *Order* 676-J.<sup>66</sup>

# NPCC Bylaws Changes (RR22-2)

On March 11, 2022, NERC and NPCC filed for approval changes to the NPCC Bylaws (the "Bylaws") designed to, among other things: (1) to improve corporate governance; (2) to ensure consistency with the Not-for-Profit Corporation Law of the State of New York ("N-PCL"), pursuant to which NPCC is organized; and (3) to remove extraneous provisions rom the Bylaws, create efficiencies, and reflect changes at NPCC since 2012 (when the last changes to the Bylaws were filed). The Bylaws changes are to take effect upon FERC approval. Comments on this filing were due on or before April 1, 2022. Public Citizen protested the filing, arguing that the FERC should require a change to the composition of NPCC's Board of Directors. Specifically, Public Citizen suggested that NPCC be compelled to ensure that, of NPCC's eight board sectors and 15 voting members, "household consumer advocates" have two voting seats in Sector 7 (Sub-Regional Reliability Councils, Customers, Other Regional Entities and Interested Entities), and that regulators, reliability coordinators, and end-users compose at least half of the voting seats of the board. On April 6, 2022, NERC and NPCC jointly responded to the Public Citizen comments. National Grid filed a doc-less intervention. This matter is pending before the FERC.

# • Rules of Procedure Changes (CMEP Risk-Based Approach Enhancements) (RR21-10)

On May 19, 2022, the FERC approved in part, and denied in part, NERC's proposed revisions to its Rules of Procedure ("ROP") proposed in NERC's September 29, 2021 filing.<sup>67</sup> Specifically, the FERC approved the proposed revisions to the NERC ROP for the Personnel Certification and Credential Maintenance Program in ROP section 600, the Training and Education Program in ROP section 900, and Confidential Information in ROP section 1500. The FERC approved CMEP-related ROP sections 401, 404, 407-409; Appendix 2 (other than the definition of "Self-Logging"); and Appendix 4C sections 5.0, 6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0, and Attachment 1. The FERC rejected certain of the proposed revisions to ROP sections 402, 403, 405, and 406, Appendix 2, and Appendix 4C (concerned that, taken together, those revisions could adversely impact the nature and extent of the ERO's and the FERC's oversight of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>64</sup> Order 873 at P 5. Pursuant to FPA section 215(d)(4), if the FERC disapproves a modification to a Reliability Standard in whole or in part, it must remand the entire Reliability Standard to NERC for further consideration. Accordingly, although it was satisfied here with the justification for the retirement of R7, the FERC was required to remand both R7 and R8 so that its concerns with the retirement of Requirement R8 could be addressed.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>65</sup> Electric Reliability Organization Proposal to Retire Requirements in Rel. Standards Under the NERC Standards Efficiency Review, 170 FERC ¶ 61,032 (Jan. 23, 2020) ("Retirements NOPR") (proposing to approve the retirement of 74 of 77 Reliability Standard requirements requested to be retired by NERC in these two dockets in connection with the first phase of work under NERC's Standards Efficiency Review, an initiative begun in 2017 that reviewed the body of NERC Reliability Standards to identify those Reliability Standards and requirements that were administrative in nature, duplicative to other standards, or provided no benefit to reliability). As previously reported, NERC withdrew its proposed changes to VAR-001-6 on May 14, 2020, reducing to 76 the number of requirements proposed to be retired.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>66</sup> Standards for Business Practices and Communication Protocols for Public Utilities, Order No. 676-J, 175 FERC ¶ 61,139 (May 20, 2021) ("Order 676-J").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>67</sup> N. Am. Elec. Rel. Corp., 179 FERC ¶ 61,129 (May 19, 2022). In its Sep. 29, 2021 filing, NERC proposed changes to sections 400 (Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement) and 1500 (Confidential Information), Appendix 2 (Definitions) and Appendix 4C (Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program) of NERC's ROP. The changes were proposed to further enhance the risk-based approach to the Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program ("CMEP") whereby registered entities and the ERO Enterprise focus on the greatest risks to the reliability and security of the Bulk Power System ("BPS").

reliability compliance and enforcement activities). Accordingly, the FERC directed that NERC submit a 60-day compliance filing (on or before *July 18, 2022*) reinstating language in its ROP.

# Rules of Procedure Changes (Reliability Standards Development Revisions) (RR21-8)

On August 18, 2021, NERC filed for approval revisions to sections 300 (Reliability Standards Development), Appendix 3B (Procedure for Election of Members of the Standards Committee) and Appendix 3D (Development of Registered Ballot Body Criteria) of the NERC Rules of Procedure ("ROP"), which are designed to update language, staff titles, and processes; remove unnecessary or duplicative obligations; and clarify roles and responsibilities related to the development of Reliability Standards (the "Reliability Standards Development ROP Revisions"). Comments on this filing were due on or before September 8, 2021; none were filed.

**Deficiency Letter, Response & Amendment.** On February 24, 2022, the FERC issued a deficiency letter, directing NERC to provide, on or before March 28, 2022, additional information and clarifications. On March 18, NERC provided an amended petition for approval, including revisions to Section 305.3.3 (Review of Segment Criteria) to provide that the qualification guidelines and rules for joining Registered Ballot Body Segments shall be reviewed periodically, instead of every three years. Comments on NERC's amended petition were due on or before April 8, 2022. On April 8, 2022, Public Citizen filed comments (relating to "the absence of balanced stakeholder representation in aspects of NERC's governance"). On April 26, 2022, NERC responded to Public Citizen's comments. This matter is pending before the FERC.

# XI. Misc. - of Regional Interest

# • 203 Application: Stonepeak / JERA Americas (EC22-71)

On June 1, 2022, Stonepeak<sup>68</sup> requested authorization for the sale of 100% of the interests in Canal Power Holdings LLC to a wholly-owned affiliate of JERA Americas Inc. ("JERA Americas").<sup>69</sup> Comments on the 203 application are due on or before June 22, 2022. Thus far, doc-less interventions have been filed by MA AG and Public Citizen. If you have any questions, please contact Pat Gerity (pmgerity@daypitney.com; 860-275-0533).

#### • 203 Application: Pixelle / Spectrum (EC22-49)

On May 16, 2022, the FERC authorized the sale of 100% of the interests in Pixelle Holding<sup>70</sup> by affiliates of the LG Fund to Spectrum Group Buyer, Inc. ("Spectrum").<sup>71</sup> On May 25, Spectrum filed a notice that the transaction was consummated on May 19, 2022. Reporting on this matter is concluded. If you have any questions, please contact Pat Gerity (pmgerity@daypitney.com; 860-275-0533).

#### • 203 Application: Howard Wind / Greenbacker Wind (EC22-13)

On January 11, 2022, the FERC authorized Greenbacker Wind, LLC's acquisition of 100% of the equity interests in Howard Wind LLC from Everpower Wind Holdings, Inc. ("Everpower").<sup>72</sup> On May 12, 2022 Howard Wind filed a notice that the transaction was consummated on May 3, 2022. Reporting on this matter is concluded. If you have any questions, please contact Pat Gerity (pmgerity@daypitney.com; 860-275-0533).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>68</sup> "Stonepeak" includes Canal Power Holdings LLC ("Seller"), and its indirect wholly-owned, public utility subsidiaries, Canal Generating LLC ("Canal 3"), Bucksport Generation LLC ("Bucksport"), and Stonepeak Kestrel Energy Marketing LLC ("Stonepeak Marketing").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>69</sup> JERA Americas Related Persons include Provisional Member Cricket Valley Energy Center, LLC.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>70</sup> "Pixelle" includes Pixelle Specialty Solutions Holding LLC ("Pixelle Holding") and its indirectly, wholly-owned subsidiaries with FERC-jurisdictional facilities, Pixelle Specialty Solutions LLC, Pixelle Androscoggin LLC, and Pixelle Energy Services LLC (a member of the Generation Sector).

 $<sup>^{71}</sup>$  Pixelle Specialty Solutions Holding LLC et al., 179 FERC  $\P$  62,091 (May 16, 2022).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>72</sup> Howard Wind LLC, 178 FERC ¶ 62,024 (Jan. 11, 2022).

# • 203 Application: PPL/Narragansett (EC21-87)

On September 23, 2021, the FERC authorized PPL's acquisition of 100% of the outstanding shares of common stock of The Narragansett Electric Company ("Narragansett").<sup>73</sup> On May 25, 2022, Narragansett filed a notice that the transaction was consummated on May 25, 2022. No longer a Related Person of National Grid, Narragansett is now an individual voting member in the Transmission Sector. Reporting on this matter is concluded. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Pat Gerity (pmgerity@daypitney.com; 860-275-0533).

#### IAs: NEP / Narragansett (ER22-2039/2038)

On June 6, 2022, New England Power (ER22-2038) and Narragansett (ER22-2039) each filed a wires-to-wires interconnection agreement ("IA") to govern the interconnection of the two companies' transmission systems. A May 25, 2022 effective date was requested for both of the IA filings. Comments on these IA filings are due on or before June 27, 2022. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Pat Gerity (pmgerity@daypitney.com; 860-275-0533).

#### • LGIA: CL&P / EIP Investment (New Britain, CT Fuel Cell) (ER22-1862)

On May 12, 2022, ISO-NE and CL&P filed a non-conforming LGIA with EIP Investment ("EIP") to govern the interconnection of EIP's 20 MW fuel cell project through Interconnection Facilities that include facilities owned and used by The Farmington River Power Company to serve the Stanley Black & Decker manufacturer campus in New Britain, Connecticut. The LGIA is non-conforming in that it contains limited deviations from the *pro forma* LGIA in Schedule 22 of the ISO-NE OATT that are necessary to reflect unique characteristics of the proposed interconnection, including that the Interconnection Facilities include elements that are not for Interconnection Customer's sole use. An April 12, 2022 effective date was requested. Comments on this filing were due on or before June 2, 2022; none were filed. This matter is pending before the FERC. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Pat Gerity (pmgerity@daypitney.com; 860-275-0533).

### Related Facilities Agreement: NSTAR / Ocean State Power (ER22-1675)

On June 14, 2022, the FERC accepted NSTAR's Related Facilities Agreement ("RFA") with Ocean State Power. The RFA provides the terms and conditions governing NSTAR's activities regarding, and Ocean State Power's cost responsibility for, a replacement disconnect switch and associated equipment located at NSTAR's West Walpole Station #447. The RFA was accepted effective as of April 23, 2022, as requested. Unless the June 14 order is challenged, this proceeding will be concluded. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Pat Gerity (pmgerity@daypitney.com; 860-275-0533).

#### CL&P Att. F App. D Depreciation Rate Change (ER22-1548)

On May 31, 2022, the FERC accepted CL&P's proposed changes to the transmission plant depreciation rate for the Norwalk Harbor-Northport underground transmission line set forth in CL&P's Appendix D to Attachment F of the ISO-NE OATT.<sup>75</sup> CL&P stated that the depreciation rate will reduce CL&P's revenue requirement by approximately \$215,199 annually. The changes were accepted effective July 1, 2022, as proposed. Unless the May 31 order is challenged, this proceeding will be concluded. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Pat Gerity (pmgerity@daypitney.com; 860-275-0533).

## Maine Power Link Application for Negotiated Rate Authority (ER22-1290)

On March 10, 2022, Maine Power Link, LLC ("MPL") submitted an application for authority to charge negotiated rates associated with transmission capacity rights on its proposed Northern Maine Line transmission

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>73</sup> PPL Corp. and The Narragansett Elec. Co., 176 FERC ¶ 61,175 (Sep. 23, 2021).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>74</sup> NSTAR Electric Company, Docket No. ER22-1675 (June 14, 2022) (unpublished letter order).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>75</sup> ISO New England Inc., Docket No. ER22-1548 (May 31, 2022) (unpublished letter order).

project (the "Project"). Comments on MPL's application were due on or before March 28, 2022. The Maine Office of Public Advocate ("MOPA") submitted comments urging the FERC to condition its approval of the application subject to a number of additional conditions. MPL answered MOPA's comments (asserting that the first two conditions suggested are unnecessary and the other two conditions "can be addressed in the negotiation of the TSA, as part of the Northern Maine RFP process"). On April 19, MOPA answered MPL's April 15 answer. This matter remains pending before the FERC. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Pat Gerity (pmgerity@daypitney.com; 860-275-0533).

# TSA: NSTAR/Park City Wind (ER22-1247)

On June 17, 2022, the FERC conditionally approved a Transmission Support Agreement ("TSA") that commits NSTAR to construct, and sets forth the Parties' respective responsibilities to finance and pay for, the transmission facilities required to interconnect Park City Wind's proposed 800 MW wind farm off the coast of Martha's Vineyard to NSTAR's transmission system (near West Barnstable on Cape Cod).<sup>78</sup> The question of whether or not some or all of the interconnection costs of this public policy-driven project can be allocated to or regionalized among consumers in other New England states was explicitly left to another day. Of note, Commissioner Christie in his concurrence emphasized that if NSTAR and PCW seek regional cost allocation for any portion of the interconnection costs,

ISO-NE should ensure that adequate notice and opportunity to be heard is provided to all affected third parties, including the other states in ISO-NE, before making any decision on a request to regionalize such costs, a principle that should apply to any such effort to regionalize the costs of one or more state's public-policy driven projects in any RTO/ISO. Further, imposing the costs of a project driven by one state's public policies onto another state that has not consented to such cost allocation would, in my view, presumably result in unjust and unreasonable rates.<sup>79</sup>

NSTAR was directed to make a compliance filing submitting the TSA in tariff-record format. Challenges, if any, to the *Park City Wind Order* are due on or before July 18. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Eric Runge (617-345-4735; <a href="mailto:ekrunge@daypitney.com">ekrunge@daypitney.com</a>).

# Versant Power MPD OATT Order 676-J Compliance Filing Part I (ER22-1142)

On March 2, 2022, in response to the requirements of *Order 676-J*, Versant Power filed revisions to Section 4 of the Versant OATT for the Maine Public District ("MPD OATT") to incorporate the new cybersecurity and PFV standards contained in NAESB WEQ Version 003.3 Standards ("Versant MPD OATT Order 676-J Part I Changes"). <sup>41</sup> A placeholder effective date was submitted. Comments on this filing were due on or before March 23, 2022; none were filed. This matter is pending before the FERC. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Eric Runge (617-345-4735; <a href="mailto:ekrunge@daypitney.com">ekrunge@daypitney.com</a>).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>76</sup> The Project, if selected by the Maine Public Utility Commission ("MPUC") in its request for proposals ("RFP") for renewable energy generation and transmission projects ("Northern Maine RFP"), would be a transmission line to connect renewable energy generation projects in northern Maine to the New England transmission system in southern Maine.

The conditions proposed by MOPA included: (i) a demonstration that the MPUC's competitive bidding process will be "sufficiently open, transparent and robust to constrain rates"; (ii) that the rates assessed to the Maine utilities actually reflect the results of the competitive bidding process; (iii) some assurance that the cost of excess capacity on the transmission line is not paid for by Maine customers; and (iv) MPL will bear the full market risk of the project, including the potential for under-recovery of the line's costs if the line is not fully used.

<sup>78</sup> NSTAR Elec. Co. and Park City Wind LLC, 179 FERC ¶ 61,200 (June 17, 2022) ("Park City Wind Order").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>79</sup> *Id.*, Christie concurrence at P 1.

# • IA Termination: CL&P / Sterling Property (ER21-2860)

As previously reported, the FERC rejected the notice of termination filed by CL&P of a 2002 Interconnection Agreement ("IA") governing interconnection service to what CL&P characterized as a since-decommissioned 26 MW waste-tire fueled generator located in Sterling, Connecticut (the "Facility"). In rejecting the notice, the FERC found that CL&P had "not provided adequate justification demonstrating that the Facility has been decommissioned in order to terminate the Interconnection Agreement." However, the FERC noted that its determination did not indicate that Sterling retains any interconnection rights under the IA, stating that there had been no interconnection rights associated with the facility since ISO-NE deemed the Facility retired in 2017.

Requests for Rehearing and/or Clarification Denied by Operation of Law; Sterling IA Allegheny Order. On January 10, 2022, the FERC issued a "Notice of Denial of Rehearings by Operation of Law and Providing for Further Consideration". Be The Notice confirmed that the 60-day period during which a petition for review of the Sterling IA Order can be filed with an appropriate federal court was triggered when the FERC did not act on CL&P's and Brookfield's requests for rehearing of the Sterling IA Order. The Notice also indicated that the FERC would address, as is its right, the rehearing requests in a future order, and may modify or set aside its orders, in whole or in part, "in such manner as it shall deem proper." On March 24, 2022, the FERC issued that order, modifying the discussion in the Sterling IA Order and continuing to reach the same result.

Request for Clarification and/or Reh'g of Sterling IA Allegheny Order. On April 25, 2022, Sterling requested clarification and/or rehearing of the Sterling IA Allegheny Order. On May 10, 2022, Eversource answered Sterling's request for clarification and/or rehearing of the Sterling IA Allegheny Order. On May 26, the FERC issued a "Notice of Denial of Rehearing by Operation of Law" on Sterling's April 25 request. Absent an appeal to a federal court which then results in direction to the FERC on further action in this matter, this proceeding is concluded. If you have any questions, please contact Pat Gerity (pmgerity@daypitney.com; 860-275-0533).

#### Versant Power MPD OATT Order 676-I Compliance Filing (ER21-2498)

On March 7, 2022, the FERC conditionally accepted Versant Power's proposed revisions to Section 4 of the Versant Power Open Access Transmission Tariff for Maine Public District (the "MPD OATT") to incorporate by reference certain of the revisions required by *Order 676-I*, including waiver of certain of those standards that are not applicable to MPD and/or the MPD OATT.<sup>86</sup> In accepting the filing, the FERC directed Versant to revise the MPD OATT to include a citation to the FEC order originally granting the waiver requests to be continued by the *Versant Order 676-I Compliance Filing Order I*. Versant submitted that compliance filing on April 1, 2022. Comments on that filing were due on or before April 22, 2022; none were filed. This matter is pending before the FERC. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Pat Gerity (pmgerity@daypitney.com; 860-275-0533).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>80</sup> The Connecticut Light and Power Co., 177 FERC ¶ 61,083 (Nov. 8, 2021) ("Sterling IA Order").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>81</sup> *Id*. at P 23.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>82</sup> The Conn. Light & Power Co., 178 FERC ¶ 62,015 (Jan. 10, 2022).

<sup>83</sup> CL&P and Brookfield each requested rehearing and/or clarification of the Sterling IA Order on Dec. 8, 2021.

<sup>84</sup> The Conn. Light and Power Co., 178 FERC ¶ 61,206 (Mar. 24, 2022) ("Sterling IA Allegheny Order").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>85</sup> The Conn. Light and Power Co., 179 FERC ¶ 62,110 (May 26, 2022) (notice of denial by operation of law of rehearing of the Sterling IA Allegheny Order).

<sup>86</sup> Versant Power, 178 FERC ¶ 61,159 (Mar. 7, 2022) ("Versant Order 676-I Compliance Filing Order I").

• Orders 864/864-A (Public Util. Trans. ADIT Rate Changes): New England Compliance Filings (various)
In accordance with Order 864<sup>87</sup> and Order 864-A, <sup>88</sup> and extensions of time granted, New England's transmission-owning public utilities submitted their Order 864 compliance filings, with specific dockets and filing dates identified in the following table. The FERC has addressed a number of the compliance filings, with some yet to be acted on, and others submitting further compliance filings (generally to reflect a January 27, 2020 effective date). The Order 864 compliance proceedings that remain open are as follows:

Docket(s)	Transmission Provider	Date of Last Filing	Date Accepted
ER21-1130	New England TOs (RNS)	Feb 18, 2022	Pending
ER20-2572			
ER20-2429	Central Maine Power ("CMP") (LNS)	May 6, 2022	Pending
ER21-1702	CMP (Schedule 1 Appendix A Implem. Rule)	Feb 28, 2022	Pending
ER21-1654	CL&P (LNS)	Feb 28, 2022	Pending
ER21-1295	Eversource (CL&P, PSNH, NSTAR) (LNS; Schedule 21-ES)	Feb 23, 2022	Pending
ER21-1154	FG&E (LNS)	Feb 23, 2022	Pending
ER21-1694	Green Mountain Power	Feb 18, 2022	Pending
ER20-1089	New England Elec. Trans. Corp.	Feb 18, 2022	Accepted Jun 7, 2022
ER20-1087	New England Hydro Trans. Corp.	Feb 18, 2022	Accepted Jun 7, 2022
ER20-1088	New England Hydro Trans. Elec. Co.	Feb 18, 2022	Accepted Jun 7, 2022
ER21-1241	NEP (LNS)	Feb 28, 2022	Pending
ER20-2551	NEP (Schedule 21-NEP and TSA-NEP-22 Compliance	Jul 30, 2020	Pending
	Revisions)		
ER20-2219	NEP (Tariff No. 1)	Jun 29, 2020	Pending
ER20-2553	NEP (MECO/Nantucket LSA)	Jul 30, 2020	Pending
ER21-1293	NSTAR (LNS)	Feb 23, 2022	Pending
ER22-1850	UI	May 10, 2022	Pending
ER21-1709	VTransco (LNS)	Feb 22, 2022	Pending
ER20-2594	VTransco (1991 VTA)	Feb 25, 2022	Accepted Jun 7, 2022
ER20-2133	Versant Power	Nov 22, 2021	Conditionally, Feb
-001, -002			28, 2022

Since the last Report, Order 864-related activity included:

• *ER20-2429 (UI)*. On May 10, 2022, UI submitted further *Order 864* compliance filing changes, with changes to Schedule 21-UI including revisions to its rate base adjustment mechanism, Attachment D amortization

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>87</sup> Public Util. Trans. Rate Changes to Address Accumulated Deferred Income Taxes, Order No. 864, 169 FERC ¶ 61,139 (Nov. 21, 2019), reh'g denied and clarification granted in part, 171 FERC ¶ 61,033 (Apr. 16, 2020) ("Order 864"). Order 864 requires all public utility transmission providers with transmission rates under an OATT, a transmission owner tariff, or a rate schedule to revise those rates to account for changes caused by the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act ("2017 Tax Law"). Specifically, for transmission formula rates, Order 864 requires public utilities (i) to deduct excess Accumulated Deferred Income Taxes ("ADIT") from or add deficient ADIT to their rate bases and adjust their income tax allowances by amortized excess or deficient ADIT; and (ii) to incorporate a new permanent worksheet into their transmission formula rates that will annually track ADIT information ("ADIT Worksheet"). The ADIT Worksheet must contain the following five specific categories of information: (i) how any ADIT accounts were re-measured and the excess or deficient ADIT contained therein ("Category 1 Information"); (ii) is the accounting for any excess or deficient amounts in Accounts 254 (Other Regulatory Liabilities) and 182.3 (Other Regulatory Assets) ("Category 2 Information"); (iii) whether the excess or deficient ADIT is protected (and thus subject to the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act's normalization requirements) or unprotected ("Category 3 Information"); (iv) the accounts to which the excess or deficient ADIT are amortized ("Category 4 Information"); and (v) the amortization period of the excess or deficient ADIT being returned or recovered through the rates ("Category 5 Information"). In addition, the FERC stated that it expects public utilities to identify each specific source of the excess and deficient ADIT, classify the excess or deficient ADIT as protected or unprotected, and list the proposed amortization period associated with each classification or source.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>88</sup> Public Util. Trans. Rate Changes to Address Accumulated Deferred Income Taxes, 171 FERC ¶ 61,033, Order No. 864-A (Apr. 16, 2020) ("Order 864-A").

of excess or deficient ADIT, and a new permanent worksheet (Attachment M) that will be used to annually track information related to excess or deficient ADIT.

- ♦ *ER20-2429 (CMP LNS)*. On May 6, 2022, CMP further supplemented its March and April 2022 compliance filings with a PDF version of the Blank Permanent ADIT Worksheet and Permanent Remeasurement Worksheet and Worksheet Supporting Unprotected Plant and Non Plant (Excess) Deficient Balances in the eTariff record. No comments on CMP's May 6, 2022 compliance filing were submitted and that filing, as supplemented, is pending before the FERC.
- ♦ ER20-1089 (New England Elec. Trans. Corp.); ER20-1087 (New England Hydro Trans. Corp.); ER20-1088 (New England Hydro Trans. Elec. Co.); and ER20-2594 (VTransco (1991 VTA)): On June 7, the FERC accepted the Order 864 compliance filings by New England Electric Transmission, New England Hydro Transmission Corporation, New England Hydro Transmission Electric Company, 89 and Versant Transco (its 1991 VTA). 90

# XII. Misc. - Administrative & Rulemaking Proceedings

#### New England Gas-Electric Forum (AD22-9)

On May 19, 2022, the FERC announced that it will hold a forum, on September 8, 2022 in Burlington, VT, to discuss and achieve a greater understanding among stakeholders in defining the electric and natural gas system challenges in the New England Region.

# • NOI: Dynamic Line Ratings (AD22-5)

On February 17, 2022, the FERC issued a notice of inquiry ("NOI")<sup>91</sup> seeking comments on (i) whether and how the required use of dynamic line ratings ("DLR") is needed to ensure just and reasonable wholesale rates; (ii) whether the lack of DLR requirements renders current wholesale rates unjust and unreasonable; (iii) potential criteria for DLR requirements; (iv) the benefits, costs, and challenges of implementing DLRs; (v) the nature of potential DLR requirements; and (vi) potential timeframes for implementing DLR requirements. This NOI represents the first step in the FERC's effort to gather more information about the costs and benefits, and potentially mandating the use, of DLRs. A more <u>detailed summary</u> was provided to the Transmission Committee and is posted on the Transmission Committee's <u>webpage</u>.

Initial comments were due *April 25, 2022* and filed by: <u>ISO-NE</u>; <u>DC Energy</u>; <u>Eversource</u>; <u>Clean Energy Parties</u>; <u>Potomac Economics</u>; <u>CT DEEP</u>; <u>NERC</u>; <u>US DOE</u>; <u>CAISO</u>; <u>MISO</u>; <u>NYISO</u>; <u>Org of MISO States</u>; <u>PJM</u>, <u>SPP</u>; <u>SPP MMU</u>; <u>AEP</u>; <u>AIliant</u>; <u>APPA</u>; <u>APS</u>; <u>AZ PUC</u>; <u>Clean Energy Entities</u>; <u>Dayton Power</u>; <u>EEI</u>; <u>ELCON</u>; <u>Entergy</u>; <u>IN Util. Reg. Comm.</u>; <u>ITC</u>; <u>LA DPW</u>; <u>MISO TOS</u>; <u>NRECA</u>; <u>NYISO TOS</u>; <u>PPL</u>; <u>R Street Institute</u>; <u>Southern Co.</u>; <u>TAPS</u>; <u>Tri-State</u>; <u>Electricity Canada</u>; <u>Electric Grid Monitoring</u>; <u>Line Vision</u>; <u>Idaho Power</u>.

Reply comments were due on or before *May 25, 2022*<sup>92</sup> and were filed by: <u>AEP</u>, <u>Clean Energy Entities</u>, <u>93 EEI</u>, <u>Joint Consumer Advocates</u>, <u>MISO TOs</u>, and the <u>R Street Institute</u>. This matter is pending before the FERC.

# Improving Generating Units Winter Readiness (AD22-4)

On April 27-28, 2022, the FERC convened a joint technical conference with NERC and its Regional Entities to discuss how to improve the winter-readiness of generating units, including best practices, lessons learned and increased use of the NERC Guidelines, as recommended in the Joint February 2021 Cold Weather Outages

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>89</sup> New England Elec. Transmission Corp., New England Hydro Transmission Elec. Co., New England Hydro Transmission Corp., Docket Nos. ER20-1087-002; ER20-1088-002; ER20-1089-002 (June 7, 2022) (unpublished letter order).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>90</sup> Vermont Transco, LLC, Docket No. ER20-2594-002 (June 7, 2022) (unpublished letter order).

<sup>91</sup> Implementation of Dynamic Line Ratings, 178 FERC ¶ 61,110 (Feb. 17, 2022) ("Dynamic Line Ratings NOI").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>92</sup> The *Dynamic Line Ratings NOI* was published in the Fed. Reg. on Feb. 24, 2022 (Vol. 87, No. 37) pp. 10,349-10,354.

<sup>93</sup> The "Clean Energy Entities" are the Working for Advanced Transmission Technologies Coalition ("WATT"), ACPA, AEE, and SEIA.

Report.<sup>94</sup> Panels included discussion of (i) cold weather preparedness plans; (ii) planning, engineering and technologies for cold weather preparedness; (iii) implementing cold weather preparedness plans for reliable operations; and (iv) communications, coordination, training, and education for cold weather operations. Speaker materials have been posted in eLibrary.

# Joint Federal-State Task Force on Electric Transmission (AD21-15)

On June 17, 2021, the FERC established a Joint Federal-State Task Force on Electric Transmission ("Transmission Task Force").<sup>95</sup> The Transmission Task Force is comprised of all FERC Commissioners as well as representatives from 10 state commissions (two from each NARUC region). State commission representatives will serve one-year terms from the date of appointment by FERC and in no event will serve on the Task Force for more than three consecutive terms. The Transmission Task Force will convene multiple formal meetings annually, with FERC issuing orders fixing the time and place and agenda for each meeting, and the meetings will be open to the public for listening and observing and on the record. The Transmission Task Force will focus on "topics related to efficiently and fairly planning and paying for transmission, including transmission to facilitate generator interconnection, that provides benefits from a federal and state perspective." New England is represented by Commissioners Riley Allen (VT PUC) and Matt Nelson (Chair, MA DPU).

#### Public Meetings.

- ♦ Nov 10, 2021. The first Joint Federal-State Task Force meeting, which focused on incorporating state perspectives into regional transmission planning, was convened on November 10, 2021. A transcript of this meeting is posted in eLibrary. Comments on the issues discussed at that meeting were filed by: AEP, LA PSC, MI PSC, PJM, and Public Citizen.
- Feb 16, 2022. A second meeting was held February 16, 2022 in Washington, DC. The agenda included a discussion, for purposes of transmission planning and cost allocation, specific categories and types of transmission benefits that transmission providers should consider and cost allocation principles, methodologies, and decision processes. A transcript of this meeting is posted in eLibrary. Post-meeting comments addressing issues raised during the February 16 meeting and identified in the agenda issued February 2, 2022 were due on or before April 1, 2022 and were filed by AZ PSC, NJ PBU, NARUC, ND PSC, OH PUC Office of the Federal Energy Advocate, VA State Corp. Comm., Americans for a Clean Energy Grid, ITC, PJM, and Sunflower Electric.
- ◆ May 6, 2022. A third meeting was held virtually on May 16, 2022. Discussion addressed (i) the generator interconnection queue processes and current backlog; and (ii) cost allocation for generator interconnection-related network upgrades, including participant funding. A transcript of this meeting was posted in eLibrary on May 18, 2022. The FERC invited post-meeting comments addressing issues raised during and in the agenda for the May 6 meeting. Those comments were due on June 1, 2022 and were filed by: AEP, Ameren, Clean Energy Coalition, EEI, Invenergy Transmission, MISO, Old Dominion Electric Cooperative, Omaha Power District, PJM, and Xcel Energy.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>94</sup> See The February 2021 Cold Weather Outages in Texas and the South Central United States - FERC, NERC and Regional Entity Staff Report at pp 18, 192 (Nov. 16, 2021), <a href="https://www.ferc.gov/news-events/news/final-report-february-2021-freeze-underscores-winterization-recommendations">https://www.ferc.gov/news-events/news/final-report-february-2021-freeze-underscores-winterization-recommendations</a>.

<sup>95</sup> Joint Federal-State Task Force on Electric Transmission, 175 FERC ¶ 61,224 (June 18, 2021).

Topics that the Task Force may consider include: (i) identifying barriers that inhibit planning and development of optimal transmission necessary to achieve federal and state policy goals, as well as potential solutions to those barriers; (ii) exploring potential bases for one or more states to use FERC-jurisdictional transmission planning processes to advance their policy goals, including multi-state goals; (iii) exploring opportunities for states to voluntarily coordinate in order to identify, plan, and develop regional transmission solutions; (iv) reviewing FERC rules and regulations regarding planning and cost allocation of transmission projects and potentially identifying recommendations for reforms; (v) examining barriers to the efficient and expeditious interconnection of new resources through the FERC-jurisdictional interconnection processes, as well as potential solutions to those barriers; and (vi) discussing mechanisms to ensure that transmission investment is cost effective, including approaches to enhance transparency and improve oversight of transmission investment including, potentially, through enhanced federal-state coordination.

♦ July 20, 2022. A fourth meeting will be held in San Diego, CA, on July 20, 2022. Suggestions for agenda items for the fourth JFSTF meeting were filed by: <u>ACORE</u>, <u>AEP</u>, <u>Large Public Power Council</u>, <u>NRDC</u>, and <u>Orsted</u>.

• Climate Change, Extreme Weather, and Electric Sys. Reliability: Jun 1-2 Technical Conference (AD21-13)

On June 1-2, 2021, FERC staff convened a technical conference to discuss issues surrounding the threat to electric system reliability posed by climate change and extreme weather events. This technical conference addressed (i) concerns that, because extreme weather events are increasing in frequency, intensity, geographic expanse, and duration, the number and severity of weather-induced events in the electric power industry may also increase; and (ii) specific challenges posed to electric system reliability by climate change and extreme weather, which may vary by region. The FERC sought to understand the near, medium and long-term challenges facing the regions of the country; how decision makers in the regions are evaluating and addressing those challenges; and whether further FERC action is needed to help achieve an electric system that can withstand, respond to, and recover from extreme weather events. Pre-technical conference comments were due on or before April 15, 2021 and were filed by, among others, ISO-NE, AEE, Dominion, EDF, Eversource, Exelon, LS Power, National Grid, PSEG, Vistra, APPA, Capital Power, EEI, NARUC, NEI, NERC, NRECA, and the R Street Institute.

Speaker materials were posted in eLibrary on June 3, 2021; transcripts of the June 1-2 days, July 22, 2021.

Post-technical conference comments were filed by: <u>CAISO</u>; <u>MISO</u>; <u>NYISO</u>; <u>PJM</u>; <u>AEP</u>; <u>City of New Orleans</u>; <u>City of New York</u>; <u>Columbia Law School's Sabin Center for Climate Change Law</u>; <u>EDF and Sabin Center for Climate Change Law</u>; <u>EEI</u>; <u>EPSA</u>; <u>Eversource</u>; <u>Exelon</u>, <u>Jupiter Intelligence</u>; <u>Louisville Gas and Electric Company and Kentucky Utilities Company</u>; <u>MI PSC</u>; <u>NRDC</u>, <u>Sierra Club</u>, <u>Sustainable FERC Project</u>, <u>and UCS</u>; <u>Old Dominion Electric Cooperative</u> ("ODEC"); <u>NERC</u>; and <u>C. Wright</u>. On October 14, 2022, <u>Entergy</u> answered the comments submitted by City of New Orleans.

Since the last Report, and as described below, the FERC issued an *Extreme Weather Vulnerability Assessments NOPR* (see RM22-16 below). The NOPR proposed to require transmission providers to submit one-time informational reports describing their current or planned policies and processes for conducting extreme weather vulnerability assessments. Reporting on this proceeding will conclude with this Report.

Modernizing Electricity Market Design - Resource Adequacy (AD21-10)

ISO/RTO Reports. On April 21, 2022, the FERC issued an order<sup>97</sup> directing each independent system operator ("ISO") and regional transmission organization ("RTO"), including ISO-NE, to submit on or before October 17, 2022 a report that describes: (1) current system needs given changing resource mixes and load profiles; (2) how it expects its system needs to change over the next five and 10 years; (3) whether and how it plans to reform its energy and ancillary services ("EAS") markets to meet expected system needs over the next five and 10 years; and (4) information about any other reforms, including capacity market reforms and any other resource adequacy reforms that would help it meet changes in system needs. Public comments in response to the RTO/ISO reports may be submitted within 60 days following the filing of the reports. The FERC will review the reports and comments to determine whether further action is appropriate.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>97</sup> Modernizing Wholesale Electricity Market Design, 179 FERC ¶ 61,029 (Apr. 21, 2022) ("Order Directing Reports").

**2021 Technical Conferences**. The *Order Directing Reports* follows a series of staff-led technical conferences, convened in 2021 and summarized in previous Reports, addressing ISO/RTO resource adequacy<sup>98</sup> and energy and ancillary services markets.<sup>99</sup>

# Increasing Market and Planning Efficiency Through Improved Software Tech Conf (Jun 21-23, 2022) (AD10-12)

On February 24, 2022, the FERC announced that it will hold its 13<sup>th</sup> annual technical conference addressing increasing Real-Time and Day-Ahead market efficiency through improved software from June 21-23. A detailed agenda with the list of and times for the selected speakers was published on the FERC's website<sup>100</sup> and in eLibrary on May 27, 2022. In its May 27 supplemental notice of this technical conference, the FERC stated that it will accept comments following the conference, with a deadline of July 29, 2022.

#### NOPR: Extreme Weather Vulnerability Assessments (RM22-16; AD21-13)

On June 16, 2022, the FERC issued a notice<sup>101</sup> proposing to require transmission providers to submit one-time informational reports describing their current or planned policies and processes for conducting extreme weather vulnerability assessments<sup>102</sup> (how they establish a scope for their extreme weather vulnerability assessments, develop inputs, identify vulnerabilities and determine exposure to extreme weather hazards, estimate the costs of impacts, and develop mitigation measures to address extreme weather risks). Initial comments are due [60 days after the date of publication in the *Federal Register*].

# NOPR: Interconnection Reforms (RM22-14)

On June 16, 2022, the FERC issued a notice of proposed rulemaking ("NOPR"), <sup>103</sup> more than 400 pages long, that proposes reforms to the *pro forma* Large Generator Interconnection Procedures ("LGIP"), *pro forma* Small Generator Interconnection Procedures ("SGIP"), *pro forma* Large Generator Interconnection Agreement ("LGIA"), and *pro forma* Small Generator Interconnection Agreement ("SGIA") to address interconnection queue backlogs, improve certainty, and prevent undue discrimination for new technologies. Initial comments and reply

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>98</sup> The FERC held two staff-led technical conferences addressing resource adequacy, one on Mar. 23, 2021 (with post-conference comments focused on PJM-specific issues) and the other on May 25, 2021 (focused on the wholesale markets administered by ISO-NE). Following the Mar. 23 conference, more than 45 sets of initial comments were filed, including by: AEE, Calpine, Cogentrix, Dominion, Exelon, FirstLight, LS Power, NESCOE, NEPGA, NRG, PSEG, Shell, Vistra, CT DEEP, EEI, EPSA, and NRECA/APPA. Reply comments were filed by the American Clean Power Association ("ACPA"), AEP, EPSA, Exelon, Joint Consumer Advocates, LS Power, Old Dominion Electric Cooperative ("ODEC"), PJM Power Providers ("P3"), Public Interest Organizations ("PIOS"), and the Retail Electric Supply Association ("RESA"). Following the May 25 conference, comments were filed by: AEE, Calpine, CT Parties, Dominion, Eversource, MMWEC, NESCOE, NEPGA, NextEra, NRG, Public Interest Orgs, Vistra, AEMA, EPSA, RENEW.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>99</sup> The FERC held two staff-led technical conferences addressing ISO/RTO EAS markets, one on Sept. 14, 2021; the second on Oct. 12, 2021. Transcripts of both technical conferences are posted in eLibrary. In advance of the EAS technical conferences, FERC staff issued on Sept. 7, 2021 a White Paper entitled "Energy and Ancillary Services Market Reforms to Address Changing System Needs" summarizing recent EAS markets reforms as well as reforms then under consideration. Initial comments on the topics discussed during the EAS technical conferences were filed by: ISO-NE, Appian Way Energy Partners, Constellation, Dominion, Envir. Defense Fund, FirstLight, LS Power, CAISO, MISO, NYISO, PJM, SPP MMU, ACPA, Clean Energy Organizations, EEI, Energy Trading Institute, EPRI, EPSA, Middle River Power, National Hydropower Assoc., NYSERDA, PJM Providers Group, and Public Citizen. Reply comments were filed by EPRI, NERC and its Regional Entities and Vistra.

<sup>100</sup> https://www.ferc.gov/industries-data/electric/power-sales-and-markets/increasing-efficiency-through-improved-software.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>101</sup> One-Time Informational Reports on Extreme Weather Vulnerability Assessments; Climate Change, Extreme Weather, and Elec. Sys. Rel., 179 FERC ¶ 61,196 (June 16, 2022) ("Extreme Weather Vulnerability Assessments NOPR").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>102</sup> "Extreme weather vulnerability assessments" are proposed to be defined as "analyses that identify where and under what conditions jurisdictional transmission assets and operations are at risk from the impacts of extreme weather events, how those risks will manifest themselves, and what the consequences will be for system operations".

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>103</sup> Improvements to Generator Interconnection Procedures and Agreements, 179 FERC ¶ 61,194 (June 16, 2022) ("Interconnection Reforms NOPR").

comments are due [100 days (late September) and 130 days (late October), respectively, after the date of publication in the *Federal Register*].

The proposed reforms fall into three main categories: (1) reforms to implement a first-ready, first-served cluster study process; (2) reforms to increase the speed of interconnection queue processing; and (3) reforms to incorporate technological advancements to the interconnection process. Within each of these categories, the FERC proposes a wide array of reforms, and requests comment.

# To implement the **first-ready, first-served cluster study process**, the FERC proposes to:

- Require transmission providers offer an alternative option for an informational interconnection study that would not require a project enter the interconnection queue;
- Make cluster studies the required interconnection study method under the pro forma LGIP;
- Allocate the shared costs of the cluster studies so that 90% of the applicable study costs are
  allocated to interconnection customers on a pro rate basis based on the requested MWs included
  in the applicable cluster, and 10% of the applicable study costs are allocated to interconnection
  customers on a per capita basis based on the number of interconnection requests in the
  applicable cluster;
- Require transmission providers to allocate network upgrade costs to interconnection customers
  within a cluster using a proportional impact method, in which the transmission provider will
  determine the degree to which each generating facility in the cluster contributes to the need for a
  specific network upgrade;
- ♦ Allow interconnection customers in an earlier-in-time cluster to share the costs of network upgrades with interconnection customers who will significantly benefit from those upgrades but would not share the cost of the network upgrades solely by virtue of being in a later cluster;
- Increase study deposits based on the size of the generating facility from \$35,000 to \$250,000;
- Require more stringent site control requirements, and proposes to require an interconnection customer to demonstrate 100% site control for a proposed generating facility when they submit the interconnection request;<sup>104</sup>
- Implement a commercial readiness framework whereby interconnection customers must show demonstrable milestones towards commercial readiness in order to enter the cluster, such as an executed term sheet, reasonable evidence the project was selected in a resource plan, or a provisional LGIA;<sup>105</sup>
- ♦ Impose withdrawal penalties when the interconnection customer withdraws from the interconnection queue.¹06

#### To increase the speed of the interconnection queue process, the FERC proposes to:

Eliminate the "reasonable efforts" standard for transmission providers completing
interconnection studies and instead impose firm study deadlines and establish penalties that
would apply when transmission providers fail to meet these deadlines. The penalty imposed
would be \$500 per day that the study is late and would be distributed to interconnection
customers on a pro rata basis;

The FERC proposes to limit the option to provide a financial deposit in lieu of site control and would only allow this option when regulatory limitations prohibit the interconnection customer from obtaining site control. In such instances, the interconnection customer would submit a deposit of \$10,000 per MW, subject to a floor of \$500,000 and a ceiling of \$2 million.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>105</sup> *Id.* at P 128.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>106</sup> The proposed withdrawal penalty will increase as the interconnection customer moves through the interconnection queue and proposes a chart demonstrating the possible penalties at P 144.

- Add an entirely pro forma affected system study process to address the current lack of uniformity in the study of affected systems, which results in late-stage withdrawals, re-studies and increased costs to remaining interconnection customers;
- Establish two new *pro forma* agreements, a *pro forma* Affected System Study Agreement (new Appendix 15) and a *pro forma* Affected Systems Facilities Construction Agreement (new Appendix 16):
- Implement an optional resource solicitation study that can be performed by entities required to conduct a resource plan or solicitation. Under this proposed study process, a resource planning agency (such as a state agency or load-serving entity implementing a state mandate) would facilitate a study to group together interconnection requests associated with the qualifying resource solicitation process, and the resources vying for selection in a qualifying state resource solicitation process would be studied together for the purposes of informational interconnection studies.

#### Finally, as **technological advances to the interconnection process**, the FERC proposes to:

- Require transmission providers to allow more than one resource to co-locate on a shared site behind a single point of interconnection and share a single interconnection request;
- Change the way in which transmission providers assess an addition of a generating facility to an
  interconnection request, requiring that transmission providers evaluate a proposed addition as
  long as the addition does not change the requested interconnection service level;
- Enable customers with unused interconnection capacity share that surplus capacity with other resources as long as the original interconnection customer executes an LGIA or requests filing of an unexecuted LGIA;
- Require transmission providers, at the request of the interconnection customer to use operating
  assumptions for interconnection studies that reflect the proposed operation of an electric storage
  resource or co-located storage resource; and
- Require transmission providers to evaluate grid-enhancing solutions and file an annual informational report on their use of grid-enhancing technologies.

The FERC proposes to require compliance within 180 days of a final rule in this proceeding. Compliance would require transmission providers to file updates to their *pro forma* LGIA, LGIP, SGIA and SGIP, as applicable. If you have any questions concerning the *Interconnection Reforms NOPR*, please contact Margaret Czepiel (202-218-3906; mczepiel@daypitney.com) or Eric Runge (617-345-4735; ekrunge@daypitney.com).

# NOPR: Transmission System Planning Performance Requirements for Extreme Weather (RM22-10)

On June 16, 2022, the FERC issued a notice<sup>107</sup> proposing to require that NERC modify Reliability Standard TPL-001-5.1 (Transmission System Planning Performance Requirements) within one year of the effective date of a final rule in this proceeding to address reliability concerns pertaining to transmission system planning for extreme heat and cold weather events that impact the reliable operations of the Bulk-Power System. Specifically, the FERC proposed modifications to TPL-001-5.1 to require: (i) development of benchmark planning cases; (ii) planning for extreme heat and cold events using steady state and transient stability analyses expanded to cover a range of extreme weather scenarios; and (iii) corrective action plans that include mitigation for any instances where performance requirements for extreme heat and cold events are not met. Initial comments are due [60 days after the date of publication in the *Federal Register*].

 $<sup>^{107}</sup>$  Transmission System Planning Performance Requirements for Extreme Weather, 179 FERC ¶ 61,195 (June 16, 2022) ("Extreme Weather Transmission System Planning NOPR").

## NOI: Rate Recovery, Reporting, and Accounting Treatment of Industry Association Dues and Certain Civic, Political, and Related Expenses (RM22-5)

On December 16, 2021, the FERC issued a notice of inquiry<sup>108</sup> seeking comments on (i) the rate recovery, reporting, and accounting treatment of industry association dues and certain civic, political, and related expenses; (ii) the ratemaking implications of potential accounting and reporting changes; (iii) whether additional transparency or guidance is needed with respect to defining donations for charitable, social, or community welfare purposes; and (iv) a framework for guidance should the FERC determine action is necessary to further define the recoverability of industry association dues charged to utilities and/or utilities' expenses from civic, political, and related activities. Initial comments were due February 22, 2022 and were filed by AGA, APPA, EEI, EPRI, Harvard Electricity Law Institute, INGA, Joint RTO Commenters, <sup>109</sup> MA AG, National Grid, NEI, Nexamp, NRECA, Public Citizen, Public Interest Organizations, Ratepayers, Sunova, and UCS. Reply comments were due on or before March 23, 2022 and were filed by, among others: DTE, MA AG, NECOS, AGA, EEI, INGA, Joint Consumer Advocates, and WIRES. Since the last Report, Joint RTO Commenters replied to NECOS' discussion and characterization of the Initial Joint RTO Comments and a question of First Amendment constitutional law. This matter is pending before the FERC.

## NOPR: Internal Network Security Monitoring for High and Medium Impact BES Cyber Systems (RM22-3)

On January 20, 2022, the FERC issued a NOPR<sup>110</sup> proposing to direct NERC to develop and submit for FERC approval new or modified Reliability Standards that require internal network security monitoring ("INSM")<sup>111</sup> within a trusted Critical Infrastructure Protection networked environment for high and medium impact Bulk Electric System ("BES") Cyber Systems. The FERC stated that "including INSM requirements in the CIP Reliability Standards would ensure that responsible entities maintain visibility over communications between networked devices within a trust zone (i.e., within an ESP), not simply monitor communications at the network perimeter access point(s), i.e., at the boundary of an ESP as required by the current CIP requirements. In the event of a compromised ESP, improving visibility within a network would increase the probability of early detection of malicious activities and would allow for quicker mitigation and recovery from an attack."<sup>112</sup>

Comments on the *Internal Network Security Monitoring NOPR* were due on or before March 28, 2022. <sup>113</sup> Comments were filed by: the IRC, NERC, EEI, EPSA, TAPS, Bonneville Power Admin., Consumers Energy, Cynalytica, CA Department of Water Resources, Electricity Canada, Entergy, Idaho Power, Juniper Networks, ITC, Microsoft, North American Generator Forum, Nozomi Networks, Operational Technology Cybersecurity Coalition, the US Bureau of Reclamation, and T. Conway. This matter is pending before the FERC.

#### NOI: Reactive Power Capability Compensation (RM22-2)

On November 18, 2021, the FERC issued a notice of inquiry<sup>114</sup> seeking comments on reactive power capability compensation and market design. Specifically, the FERC seeks comments on whether (i) the AEP

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>108</sup> Rate Recovery, Reporting, and Accounting Treatment of Industry Association Dues and Certain Civic, Political, and Related Expenses, 177 FERC ¶ 61,180 (Dec. 16, 2021) ("Dues & Expenses NOI").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>109</sup> "Joint RTO Commenters" are PJM Interconnection, L.L.C. ("PJM"), California Independent System Operator Corp. ("CAISO"), Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc. ("MISO"), and Southwest Power Pool ("SPP").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>110</sup> Internal Network Security Monitoring for High and Medium Impact Bulk Electric System Cyber Systems, 178 FERC ¶ 61,038 (Jan. 20, 2022) ("Internal Network Security Monitoring NOPR").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>111</sup> INSM is a subset of network security monitoring that is applied within a "trust zone," such as an Electronic Security Perimeter ("ESP"), and is designed to address situations where vendors or individuals with authorized access are considered secure and trustworthy but could still introduce a cybersecurity risk to a high or medium impact BES Cyber System.

<sup>112</sup> Id. at P 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>113</sup> The *Internal Network Security Monitoring NOPR* was published in the *Fed. Reg.* on Jan. 27, 2022 (Vol. 87, No. 18) pp. 4,173-4,180.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>114</sup> Rate Recovery, Reporting, and Accounting Treatment of Industry Association Dues and Certain Civic, Political, and Related Expenses, 177 FERC ¶ 61,180 (Dec. 16, 2021) ("Dues & Expenses NOI").

Methodology remains a just and reasonable approach to determining reactive power revenue requirements in all circumstances; (ii) other potential alternative methodologies not based on the costs of the particular resource(s) at issue in a given proceeding should be considered or better used to develop reactive power capability revenue requirements; and (iii) resources interconnected to a distribution system and participating in wholesale markets are technically capable of providing reactive power to the transmission system in such a way that they should be eligible for reactive power capability compensation through transmission rates. Initial comments were due February 21; Reply Comments, March 23, 2022. Initial comments were filed by over 35 parties. Reply comments were filed by: Ameren, Clean Energy Coalition, DE Shaw, EDF, EEI, EPSA, Joint Customers, MISO TOS, PJM IMM, PSEG, Vistra, and N. Bhushan. This matter is pending before the FERC.

## • Transmission NOPR (RM21-17)

Following its ANOPR process,<sup>116</sup> the FERC issued on April 21, 2022 a NOPR<sup>117</sup> that would require public utility transmission providers to:

- (i) conduct long-term regional transmission planning on a sufficiently forward-looking basis to meet transmission needs driven by changes in the resource mix and demand;
- (ii) more fully consider dynamic line ratings and advanced power flow control devices in regional transmission planning processes;
- (iii) seek the agreement of relevant state entities within the transmission planning region regarding the cost allocation method or methods that will apply to transmission facilities selected in the regional transmission plan for purposes of cost allocation through long-term regional transmission planning;
- (iv) adopt enhanced transparency requirements for local transmission planning processes and improve coordination between regional and local transmission planning with the aim of identifying potential opportunities to "right-size" replacement transmission facilities; and
- (v) revise their existing interregional transmission coordination procedures to reflect the long-term regional transmission planning reforms proposed in this NOPR.

In addition, the *Transmission NOPR* would not permit public utility transmission providers to take advantage of the construction-work-in-progress ("CWIP") incentive for regional transmission facilities selected for purposes of cost allocation through long-term regional transmission planning and would permit the exercise of federal rights of first refusal ("ROFR") for transmission facilities selected in a regional transmission plan for purposes of cost allocation, conditioned on the incumbent transmission provider with the federal ROFR for such regional transmission facilities establishing joint ownership of the transmission facilities. While the ANOPR sought comment on reforms related to cost allocation for interconnection-related network upgrades, interconnection

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>115</sup> "Joint Customers" are Old Dominion Electric Cooperative ("ODEC"), Northern Virginia Electric Cooperative, Inc. ("NOVEC"), and Dominion Energy Services, Inc. on behalf of Virginia Electric and Power Company d/b/a Dominion Energy Virginia ("Dominion").

Interconnection, 176 FERC ¶ 61,024 (July 15, 2021) ("Transmission Planning & Allocation/Generation Interconnection ANOPR"). The FERC convened a tech. conf. on Nov. 15, 2021, to examine in detail the issues and potential reforms described in the ANOPR. Speaker materials and a transcript of the tech. conf. are posted in FERC's eLibrary. Pre-technical conference comments were submitted by over 175 parties, including by: NEPOOL, ISO-NE, AEE, Anbaric, Avangrid, BP, CPV, Dominion, EDF, EDP, Enel, EPSA, Eversource, Exelon, LS Power, MA AG, MMWEC, National Grid, NECOS, NESCOE, NextEra, NRDC, Orsted, Shell, UCS, VELCO, Vistra, Potomac Economics, ACORE, ACPA/ESA, APPA, EEI, ELCON, Industrial Customer Orgs, LPPC, MA DOER, NARUC, NASUCA, NASEO, NERC, NRECA, SEIA, State Agencies, TAPS, WIRES, Harvard Electric Law Initiative; NYU Institute for Policy Integrity, New England for Offshore Wind Coalition, and the R Street Institute. ANOPR reply comments and post-technical conference comments were filed by over 100 parties, including: by: CT AG, Acadia Center/CLF, CT AG, Dominion, Enel, Eversource, LS Power, MA AG, MMWEC, NESCOE, NextEra, Shell, UCS, Vistra, ACPA/ESA, AEE, APPA, EEI, ELCON, Environmental and Renewable Energy Advocates, EPSA, Harvard ELI, NRECA, Potomac Economics, and SEIA. Supplemental reply comments were filed by WIRES, and a group of former military leaders and former Department of Defense officials, and ACPA/AEE/SEIA.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>117</sup> Building for the Future Through Electric Regional Transmission Planning and Cost Allocation and Generator Interconnection, 179 FERC ¶ 61,028 (Apr. 21, 2022) ("Transmission NOPR").

queue processes, interregional transmission coordination and planning, and oversight of transmission planning and costs, the *Transmission NOPR* does not propose broad or comprehensive reforms directly related to these topics. The FERC indicated that it would continue to review the record developed to date and expects to address possible inadequacies through subsequent proceedings that propose reforms, as warranted, related to these topics.

A number of the elements of the *Transmission NOPR*, if adopted as part of a final rule, would result in some significant changes to how the region's transmission needs are identified, solutions are evaluated and selected, and costs recovered and allocated. A more fulsome high-level summary from NEPOOL Counsel of the *Transmission NOPR* was distributed to, and was reviewed with, the Transmission Committee, which will recommend whether NEPOOL should submit comments on the *Transmission NOPR*.

**Comment Dates Extended.** Following a number of requests for extensions of time, comments on the *Transmission NOPR* are due **August 17, 2022**; reply comment **September 19, 2022**. Thus far, the <u>Clean Energy Coalition</u> and <u>Large Public Power Council</u> have submitted comments.

If you have any questions concerning the *Transmission NOPR*, please contact Eric Runge (617-345-4735; <a href="mailto:ekrunge@daypitney.com">ekrunge@daypitney.com</a>) or Margaret Czepiel (202-218-3906; <a href="mailto:mczepiel@daypitney.com">mczepiel@daypitney.com</a>).

## • NOI: Removing the DR Opt-Out in ISO/RTO Markets (RM21-14)

On March 18, 2021, the FERC issued a NOI<sup>118</sup> seeking comments on whether to revise its Demand Response ("DR") Opt-Out regulations established in Orders 719 and 719-A. Those regulations require an ISO/RTO not to accept bids from an aggregator of retail customers ("ARC") that aggregates DR of the customers of utilities that distributed more than 4 million MWh in the previous fiscal year, where the relevant electric retail regulatory authority prohibits such customers' DR to be bid into ISO/RTO markets by an ARC. The FERC now seek information to help it examine the potential costs/burdens and benefits, both quantitative and qualitative, of removing the DR Opt-Out, as well as other changes relating to DR since the FERC issued Orders 719 and 719-A. The FERC is not seeking comment on the Small Utility Opt-In. Comments on the NOI, following an extension, were due on or before July 23, 2021 and were filed by nearly 30 parties, including by AEE, Voltus, AEMA, APPA/NRECA, EEI, and NARUC. Reply comments were due on or before August 23, 2021, and were filed by AEP, Armada Power, Entergy, Southern Pioneer Electric, Voltus, State Commissions from LA/MS, MI, MO, NC, APPA/NRECA, Assoc. of Bus. Advocating Tariff Equity ("ABATE"), and PIOs. On March 28, 2022, the Mississippi PSC moved to lodge its Protest and Response filed in a recent Complaint proceeding initiated and subsequently withdrawn by Voltus (EL21-12), to ensure its pleading is a part of the record of this proceeding. On March 29, 2022, the U.S. House Sustainable Energy and Environment Coalition ("SEEC") Power Sector Task Force urged the FERC to proceed to a NOPR that would eliminate the demand response Opt-Out. This matter remains pending before the FERC.

## NOPR: Cybersecurity Incentives (RM21-3)

On December 17, 2020, the FERC issued a NOPR<sup>119</sup> proposing to establish rules for incentive-based rate treatment for voluntary cybersecurity investments by a public utility for or in connection with the transmission or sale of electric energy subject to FERC jurisdiction, and rates or practices affecting or pertaining to such rates for the purpose of ensuring the reliability of the BPS.

Comments on the *Cyber security Incentives NOPR* were due on or before April 6, 2021. Comments were filed by: <u>NECPUC</u>, <u>APPA</u>, <u>EEI</u>, <u>EPSA</u>, <u>LPPC</u>, <u>NERC</u>, <u>NRECA</u>, <u>TAPS</u>, <u>Accenture</u>, <u>aDolus Inc. et al.</u>, <sup>120</sup> <u>Alliant</u>, <u>Anterix</u>, <u>Bureau of Reclamation</u>, <u>CA Dept of Water Resources State Water Project/CPUC</u>, <u>George Cotter</u>, <u>FRS</u>, <u>Hitachi ABB Power Grids</u>, <u>IECA</u>, <u>ITC</u>, <u>Joint Consumer Advocates</u>, <u>MI PUC</u>, <u>Org of MISO States</u>, <u>MISO TOS</u>, <u>PJM TOS</u>, and <u>Public</u>

Participation of Aggregators of Retail Demand Response Customers in Markets Operated by Regional Transmission Organizations and Independent System Operators, 174 FERC  $\P$  61,198 (March 18, 2021) ("DR Aggregator NOI").

<sup>119</sup> Cybersecurity Incentives, 173 FERC ¶ 61,240 (Dec. 17, 2020) ("Cybersecurity Incentives NOPR").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>120</sup> These joint comments were filed by aDolus Inc., Fortress Information Security, GMO GlobalSign Inc., Ion Channel, ReFirm Labs and Reliable Energy Analytics LLC.

<u>Citizen</u>. Reply comments were due May 6, 2021<sup>121</sup> and were filed by <u>APPA/TAPS</u>, <u>EEI</u>, <u>SEIA</u>, California Public Utilities Commission and California Department of Water Resources ("<u>CA PUC/DWR</u>"), and the Office of the Ohio Federal Energy Advocate ("<u>Ohio FEA</u>"). This matter remains pending before the FERC.

## • Order 881: Managing Transmission Line Ratings (RM20-16)

On December 16, 2021, the FERC issued its final rule, *Order 881*, on Managing Transmission Line Ratings. <sup>122</sup> In *Order 881*, the FERC reforms both the *pro forma* OATT and its regulations to improve the accuracy and transparency of transmission line ratings. Specifically, *Order 881* requires:

- (vi) transmission providers to implement ambient-adjusted ratings on the transmission lines over which they provide transmission service;
- (vii) ISO/RTOSs to establish and implement the systems and procedures necessary to allow transmission owners to electronically update transmission line ratings at least hourly;
- (viii) transmission owners to share transmission line ratings and transmission line rating methodologies with their respective transmission provider(s) and, in ISO/RTOs, with their respective market monitor(s); and
- (ix) transmission providers to maintain a database of transmission owners' transmission line ratings and transmission line rating methodologies on the transmission provider's Open Access Same-Time Information System ("OASIS") site or other password-protected website.

Order 881 became effective March 14, 2022. 123

**Requests for rehearing and/or clarification**. Requests for rehearing and/or clarification of *Order 881* were filed by ATC, EEI, ITC Holdings, MISO IMM, and the MISO TOs on January 18, 2022, but may be deemed denied by operation of law. On February 18, 2022, the FERC issued a "Notice of Denial of Rehearings by Operation of Law and Providing for Further Consideration". The Notice confirmed that the 60-day period during which a petition for review of *Order 881* can be filed with an appropriate federal court was triggered when the FERC did not act on the requests for rehearing of *Order 881*. The Notice also indicated that the FERC would address, as is its right, the rehearing requests in a future order, and may modify or set aside its orders, in whole or in part, "in such manner as it shall deem proper."

The FERC issued that order on May 19, 2022 ("Order 881-A"),<sup>125</sup> modifying the discussion in Order 881, granting clarification in part, and continuing to reach the same result as in Order 881. Specifically, the FERC:

- (i) continued to find that requiring transmission providers to apply the ambient-adjusted ratings ("AAR")<sup>126</sup> requirements set forth in pro forma OATT Attachment M to all transmission lines on which they provide transmission service, subject to certain exceptions, is just and reasonable;
- (ii) clarified two aspects of the AAR requirements related to transmission providers' transmission protection relay settings ((1) if a transmission provider establishes higher transmission line ratings,

<sup>121</sup> The Cybersecurity Incentives NOPR was published in the Fed. Reg. on Feb. 5, 2021 (Vol. 86, No. 23) pp. 8,309-8,325.

<sup>122</sup> Managing Transmission Line Ratings, Order No. 881, 177 FERC ¶ 61,179 (Dec. 16, 2021) ("Order 881").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>123</sup> Order 881 was published in the Fed. Reg. on Jan. 13, 2022 (Vol. 87, No. 9) pp. 2,244-2,307.

 $<sup>^{124}</sup>$  Managing Transmission Line Ratings, 178 FERC ¶ 62,104 (Feb. 18, 2022) ("Order 881 Notice of Denial of Rehearings by Operation of Law").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>125</sup> Managing Transmission Line Ratings, 179 FERC ¶ 61,125 (May 19, 2022) ("Order 881-A").

<sup>126</sup> An ambient-adjusted rating is defined as a transmission line rating that: (1) applies to a time period of not greater than one hour; (2) reflects an up-to-date forecast of ambient air temperature across the time period to which the rating applies; (3) reflects the absence of solar heating during nighttime periods where the local sunrise/sunset times used to determine daytime and nighttime periods are updated at least monthly, if not more frequently; and (4) is calculated at least each hour, if not more frequently. See 18 CFR 35.28(b)(12) (2021); Pro Forma OATT attach. M, AAR Definition.

it will have to evaluate or reevaluate its applicable protection systems for that facility and (2) in a majority of situations the relay setting should exceed AAR values);

- (iii) continued to require the use of AARs for a 10-day forward period;
- (iv) declined to clarify or grant rehearing on the issue of a transmission line rating "floor", which it declined to require in *Order 881*;
- (v) did not change its position with respect to the five-degree requirement, <sup>127</sup> the daytime/nighttime ratings requirement, <sup>128</sup> the seasonal line ratings annual update requirement, data storage and sharing requirements, or the proposed implementation schedule (AAR implementation on congested transmission lines within one year from the date of the compliance filing and, for all other transmission lines, implementation within two years from the date of the compliance filing);
- (vi) clarified that transmission providers have the discretion to post the required data to their OASIS site or an alternative password-protected website so long as users are able to access the data in a manner that is comparable to if it were posted to OASIS and subject to OASIS access requirements; and
- (vii) clarified that *Order 881* did not revise the FERC's existing CEII requirements (and that transmission line ratings and methodologies do not constitute CEII).

## NOPR: Electric Transmission Incentives Policy (RM20-10)

**Supplemental NOPR.** In light of comments already received in this proceeding, <sup>129</sup> the FERC issued on April 15, 2021 a *Supplemental NOPR* <sup>130</sup> to propose and seek comment on a revised incentive for transmitting and electric utilities that join Transmission Organizations ("Transmission Organization Incentive"). The Incentive would be reduced from 100 to 50 basis points and would be available only for three years. The FERC sought comment on whether voluntary participation should be a requirement, and if so, how "voluntary" should be determined. In addition, the FERC now proposes to require each utility that has received a Transmission Organization Incentive for three or more years to submit a compliance filing revising its tariff to remove the incentive from its transmission tariff. The *Supplemental NOPR* did not address the other proposals contained in the *March NOPR*. <sup>131</sup>

- ♦ A shift from risks and challenges to a *consumers" benefits test* that focuses on ensuring reliability and reducing the cost of delivered power by reducing transmission congestion.
- ROEs incentive for Economic Benefits. A 50-basis-point adder for transmission projects that meet an economic benefit-to-cost ratio in the top 75th percentile of transmission projects examined over a sample period and an additional 50-basis-point adder for transmission projects that demonstrate ex post cost savings that fall in the 90th percentile of transmission projects studied over the same sample period, as measured at the end of construction.
- **ROE for Reliability Benefits.** A 50-basis-point adder for transmission projects that can demonstrate potential reliability benefits by providing quantitative analysis, where possible, as well as qualitative analysis.
- ♦ **Abandoned Plant Incentive.** 100 percent of prudently incurred costs of transmission facilities selected in a regional transmission planning process that are cancelled or abandoned due to factors that are beyond the control of the applicant. Recovery from the date that the project is selected in the regional transmission planning process.
- ♦ Eliminate Transco Incentives.

 $<sup>^{127}</sup>$  The requirement that transmission providers implement AARs that update at least with every 5°F increment of temperature change, in order to meet the *pro forma* OATT Attachment M requirement that an AAR reflect an up-to-date forecast of ambient air temperature.

<sup>128</sup> The requirement that transmission providers incorporate solar heating into AARs by implementing separate AARs for daytime and nighttime periods, and to update the sunrise and sunset times used to calculate their AARs at least monthly, if not more frequently.

Over 80 sets of comments on the *March NOPR* were filed on or before the July 1, 2020 comment date, including comments by: Avangrid, EDF Renewables, EMCOS, Eversource, Exelon, LS Power, MMWEC/NHEC/CMEEC, National Grid, NESOCE, NextEra, UCS, CT PURA, and Potomac Economics. Reply comments were filed by AEP, ITC Holding, the N. California Transmission Agency, and WIRES.

 $<sup>^{130}</sup>$  Electric Transmission Incentives Policy Under Section 219 of the Federal Power Act, 175 FERC ¶ 61,035 (Apr. 15, 2021) ("Supplemental NOPR").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>131</sup> As previously reported, the *March NOPR* proposed revisions to the FERCs existing transmission incentives policy and corresponding regulations, including the following:

A more detailed summary of the NOPR was distributed to the Transmission Committee and discussed at the TC's March 25, 2020 meeting.

Comments on the *Supplemental NOPR* were due on or before June 25, 2021. Over 60 sets of comments were filed, including by the New England TOs, MMWEC/NHEC/CMMEC, NECOS, NESCOE, Potomac Economics, and CT PURA. Reply comments were due on or before July 26, 2021, with 28 sets of comments received, including by the <a href="New England TOs">NECOS</a>, <a href="NESCOE">NESCOE</a>, <a href="CT PURA/CT DEEP/MA AG">CT AG</a>, and <a href="Public Interest Groups.">Public Interest Groups.</a>. Reply comments were also posted from New England State Parties, <a href="133">133</a> Alliant/Consumers/DTE, AEP, Pacific Gas & Electric, Joint Consumer Advocates, and the American Clean Power Association ("ACPA").

**September 10, 2021 Workshop**. The FERC convened a workshop on September 10, 2021<sup>134</sup> to discuss certain performance-based ratemaking approaches, particularly shared savings, that may foster deployment of transmission technologies. The notice states that the workshop will explore: the maturity of the modeling approaches for various transmission technologies; the data needed to study the benefits/costs of such technologies; issues pertaining to access to or confidentiality of this data; the time horizons that should be considered for such studies; and other issues related to verifying forecasted benefits. The workshop also discussed whether and how to account for circumstances in which benefits do not materialize as anticipated and may explore other performance-based ratemaking approaches for transmission technologies seeking incentives under FPA section 219, particularly market-based incentives. The FERC issued an agenda for the workshop, which included the final workshop program and expected speakers, on August 23, 2021. The FERC supplemented that notice on September 9, 2021. On October 13, 2021, the FERC posted a transcript of the workshop in eLibrary.

**Notice Inviting Post-Workshop Comments.** On October 18, 2021, the FERC issued a notice inviting those interested to file post-workshop comments to address the issues raised during the workshop concerning incentives and shared savings. Comments were due on or before January 14, 2022 and were filed by APPA, CAISO, Clean Energy Parties, <sup>135</sup> EDF Renewables, EEI, the Industrial Energy Consumers of America ("IECA"), National Grid, PJM IMM, TAPS.

These matters are pending before the FERC. If you have any questions concerning these matters, please contact Eric Runge (617-345-4735; <a href="mailto:ekrunge@daypitney.com">ekrunge@daypitney.com</a>).

<sup>♦</sup> Transmission Organization Incentive. A 50-basis-point increase for transmitting utilities that turn over their wholesale facilities to a Transmission Organization and only for the first three years after transferring operational control of its facilities. The FERC seeks comment as to whether participation must be voluntary to receive the incentive, and if so, how the CFERC should determine whether the decision to join is voluntary.

<sup>♦</sup> *Transmission Technologies Incentives*. Eligible for both a stand-alone, 100-basis-point ROE incentive on the costs of the specified transmission technology project and specialized regulatory asset treatment. Pilot programs presumptively eligible (though rebuttable).

<sup>♦ 250-</sup>Basis-Point Cap. Total ROE incentives capped at 250 basis points in place of current "zone of reasonableness" limit.

Updated Date Reporting Processes. Information to be obtained on a project-by-project basis, information collection
expanded, updated reporting process.

<sup>132 &</sup>quot;Public Interest Groups" are NRDC, Sierra Club, Sustainable FERC Project, and Western Grid Group.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>133</sup> "New England State Parties" are CT PURA, CT DEEP and the MA AG.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>134</sup> Notice of Workshop, *Electric Transmission Incentives Policy Under Section 219 of the Federal Power Act*, Docket Nos. RM20-10 and AD19-19 (Apr. 15, 2021).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>135</sup> The "Clean Energy Parties" are: Working for Advanced Transmission Technologies ("WATT Coalition"), ACPA, AEE, American Council on Renewable Energy ("ACORE"), Natural Resources Defense Council ("NRDC"), and the Sustainable FERC Project.

## **XIII. FERC Enforcement Proceedings**

#### **Electric-Related Enforcement Actions**

#### PacifiCorp (IN21-6)

On April 15, 2021, in the FERC's first-ever Show Cause Order addressing alleged violations of NERC Reliability Standards, <sup>136</sup> the FERC directed PacifiCorp to show cause why it should not be found to have violated FPA section 215(b)(1) and section 39.2 of the FERC's regulations by failing to comply with Reliability Standard FAC 009-1 (Establish and Communicate Facility Ratings), Requirement R1, and the successor Reliability Standard FAC-008-3 (Facility Ratings), Requirement R6 (collectively, "FAC-009-1 R1"), which requires a transmission owner to establish and have facility ratings that are consistent with its Facility Ratings Methodology ("FRM"). An Enforcement investigation found that clearance measurements on a majority of PacifiCorp's transmission lines were incorrect under the National Electric Safety Code, which were used to calculate PacifiCorp's facility ratings, thus making PacifiCorp's facility ratings inconsistent with its FRM. Enforcement alleges that PacifiCorp was aware of incorrect clearances on its system since at least 2007 when FAC-009-1 R1 became mandatory, but failed to identify and remedy them in a timely manner, and PacifiCorp's violations began on August 31, 2009, when it implemented its FRM policy, and at least some of the violations continued until August 2017 when PacifiCorp completed remediation of all of its incorrect clearances to make them consistent with its FRM. Enforcement also pointed to the role of the violations in the Wood Hollow, Utah wildfire that lasted from June 23 to July 1, 2012. In light of these alleged violations, the FERC directed PacifiCorp to show cause why it should not be assessed civil penalties in the amount of \$42 million.

On July 16, 2021, PacifiCorp answered the PacifiCorp Show Cause Order, denying the alleged violations of FAC-009. Enforcement filed its reply on September 14, 2021. This matter remains pending before the FERC. (Should the FERC choose to pursue a civil penalty against PacifiCorp for the alleged violations, PacifiCorp has already exercised its right to adjudicate these allegations in federal district court.) If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Pat Gerity (860-275-0533; pmgerity@daypitney.com).

#### **Natural Gas-Related Enforcement Actions**

Rover Pipeline, LLC and Energy Transfer Partners, L.P. (CPCN Show Cause Order) (IN19-4)

On January 20, 2022, the FERC issued an order establishing a hearing to determine whether Rover Pipeline, LLC ("Rover") and its parent company Energy Transfer Partners, L.P. ("ETP" and collectively with Rover, "Respondents") violated section 157.5 of the FERC's regulations and to ascertain certain facts relevant for any application of the FERC's Penalty Guidelines. <sup>137</sup>

As previously reported, on March 18, 2021, the FERC issued a show cause order<sup>138</sup> in which it directed Rover Pipeline, LLC ("Rover") and Energy Transfer Partners, L.P. ("ETP" and together with Rover, "Respondents") to show cause why they should not be found to have violated Section 157.5 of the FERC's regulations by misleading the FERC in its Application for Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity ("CPCN") under NGA section 7(c).<sup>139</sup> The FERC directed Respondents to show cause why they should not be assessed civil penalties in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>136</sup> PacifiCorp, 175 FERC ¶ 61,039 (Apr. 15, 2021) ("PacifiCorp Show Cause Order").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>137</sup> Rover Pipeline, LLC, and Energy Transfer Partners, L.P., 178 FERC ¶ 61,028 (Jan. 20, 2022) ("Rover/ETP Hearings Order").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>138</sup> Rover Pipeline, LLC, and Energy Transfer Partners, L.P., 174 FERC ¶ 61,208 (Mar. 18, 2021) ("Rover/ETP CPCN Show Cause Order").

<sup>139</sup> Specifically, Rover stated that it was "committed to a solution that results in no adverse effects" to the Stoneman House, an 1843 farmstead located near Rover's largest proposed compressor station. In truth, the OE Staff Report alleges, Rover was simultaneously planning to purchase the house with the intent to demolish it, if necessary, to complete its pipeline. The OE Staff Report alleges that Rover purchased the house in May 2015 and demolished the house in May 2016. The OE Staff Report further finds that despite taking these actions during the year and a half that Rover's application was pending before the FERC, Rover did not notify the FERC that it purchased the Stoneman House, intended to destroy the Stoneman House, and did destroy the Stoneman House. The OE Staff Report therefore concludes

the amount of **\$20.16 million**. On April 5, 2021, the FERC extended by 60 days, to June 18, 2021, the deadline for Respondents' answer. On June 18, 2021, Rover and ETP answered the *Rover/ETP Show CPCN Cause Order*, asserting that the FERC should dismiss this matter and decline to initiate an enforcement action. On July 21, 2021, Enforcement Staff answered Rover/ETP's answer, stating the evidence supports a finding that Rover violated the FERC's Regulations and should be assessed the civil penalty identified in the *Rover/ETP Show Cause Order*. Rover answered the July 21 answer on September 15.

**Hearings**. As previously reported, ALJ Joel DeJesus will be the presiding judge for hearings in this matter. On March 8, 2022, Chief Judge Cintron issued an order extending the procedural time standards for this proceeding. Based on that order, the deadlines for the commencement of the hearing is now March 6, 2023 and the deadline to issue the initial decision is now June 20, 2023. A virtual prehearing conference was also held on March 8, a transcript of which is posted in eLibrary.

## Rover and ETP (Tuscarawas River HDD Show Cause Order) (IN17-4)

On December 16, 2021, the FERC issued a show cause order<sup>140</sup> in which it directed Rover and ETP (together, "Respondents") to show cause why they should not be found to have violated NGA section 7(e), FERC Regulations (18 C.F.R. § 157.20); and the FERC's Certificate Order,<sup>141</sup> by: (i) intentionally including diesel fuel and other toxic substances and unapproved additives in the drilling mud during its horizontal directional drilling ("HDD") operations under the Tuscarawas River in Stark County, Ohio, in connection with the Rover Pipeline Project;<sup>142</sup> (ii) failing to adequately monitor the right-of-way at the site of the Tuscarawas River HDD operation; and (iii) improperly disposing of inadvertently released drilling mud that was contaminated with diesel fuel and hydraulic oil. The FERC directed Respondents to show why they should not be assessed civil penalties in the amount of *\$40 million*.

On March 21, 2022, Respondents answered and denied the allegations in the *Rover/ETP CPCN Show Cause Order*. On April 20, 2022, OE Staff answered Respondents' March 21 answer. On May 13, Respondents submitted a surreply, reinforcing their position that "there is no factual or legal basis to hold either [Respondent] liable for the intentional wrongdoing of others that is alleged in the Staff Report." Also since the last Report, the FERC denied Respondents' request for rehearing of the FERC's January 21, 2022 designation notice. This matter is pending before the FERC.

#### BP (IN13-15)

On December 17, 2020, the FERC issued *Opinion 549-A*,<sup>144</sup> a 159-page decision addressing arguments raised on rehearing requested of *Opinion 549*.<sup>145</sup> *Opinion 549-A* modifies the discussion in *Opinion 549*, but

that Rover violated section 157.5's requirement for full, complete and forthright applications, through its misrepresentations and omissions, when it decided not to tell FERC that it had purchased the house and was considering demolishing it, and when Rover demolished it in May 2016 without notifying FERC.

 $<sup>^{140}</sup>$  Rover Pipeline, LLC, and Energy Transfer Partners, L.P., 177 FERC ¶ 61,182 (Dec. 16, 2021) ("Rover/ETP Tuscarawas River HDD Show Cause Order").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>141</sup> Rover Pipeline LLC, 158 FERC ¶ 61,109 (2017), order on clarification & reh'g, 161 FERC ¶ 61,244 (2017), Petition for Rev., Rover Pipeline LLC v. FERC, No. 18-1032 (D.C. Cir. Jan. 29, 2018) ("Certificate or Certificate Order").

The Rover Pipeline Project is an approximately 711 mile long interstate natural gas pipeline designed to transport gas from the Marcellus and Utica shale supply areas through West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Michigan to outlets in the Midwest and elsewhere.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>143</sup> Rover Pipeline, LLC, and Energy Transfer Partners, L.P., 179 FERC ¶ 61,090 (May 11, 2022) ("Designation Notice Rehearing Order"). The "Designation Notice" provided updated notice of designation of the staff of the FERC's Office of Enforcement ("OE") as non-decisional in deliberations by the FERC in this docket, with the exception of certain staff named in that notice.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>144</sup> BP America Inc. et al., Opinion No. 549-A, 173 FERC ¶ 61,239 (Dec. 17, 2020) ("BP Penalties Allegheny Order").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>145</sup> BP America Inc., Opinion No. 549, 156 FERC ¶ 61,031 (July 11, 2016) ("BP Penalties Order") (affirming Judge Cintron's Aug. 13, 2015 Initial Decision finding that BP America Inc., BP Corporation North America Inc., BP America Production Company, and BP Energy

reaches the same the result (ultimately requiring BP to pay a \$20.16 million civil penalty (roughly \$24.4 million with accrued interest) and disgorge \$207,169). Of note, Opinion 549-A denied BP's motion to dismiss this enforcement action as time barred (by the five-year statute of limitations set forth in 28 U.S.C. § 2462), finding BP waived any statute of limitations defense by failing to raise it earlier in this proceeding. Opinion 549-A revised Ordering Paragraph (C) to direct the disgorged profits to non-profits that disburse the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program of Texas funds, rather than to the Texas Department of Housing.

On December 29, 2020, BP filed a notice that it intends to appeal *Opinion 549-A* to the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals and paid the civil penalty amount on December 28, 2020, under protest and with full reservation of rights pending the outcome of judicial review of that Opinion. On January 19, BP filed a notice that it disgorged \$250,295 (\$207,169 principal plus interest), divided equally (\$83,431.67) among the following 3 entities identified in the "2016 Comprehensive Energy Assistance Program Subrecipient List": Dallas County Dept. of Health and Human Services (serving Dallas); El Paso Community Action, Project Bravo (Serving El Paso); and Panhandle Community Services (serving Armstrong and numerous other counties), again under protest and with full reservation of rights pending the outcome of judicial review of *Opinion 549/549-A*.

#### Total Gas & Power North America, Inc. et al. (IN12-17)

On April 28, 2016, the FERC issued a show cause order<sup>148</sup> in which it directed Total Gas & Power North America, Inc. ("TGPNA") and its West Desk traders and supervisors, Therese Tran f/k/a Nguyen ("Tran") and Aaron Hall (collectively, "Respondents") to show cause why Respondents should not be found to have violated NGA Section 4A and the FERC's Anti-Manipulation Rule through a scheme to manipulate the price of natural gas at four locations in the southwest United States between June 2009 and June 2012.<sup>149</sup>

The FERC also directed TGPNA to show cause why it should not be required to disgorge unjust profits of \$9.18 million, plus interest; TGPNA, Tran and Hall to show cause why they should not be assessed civil penalties (TGPNA - \$213.6 million; Hall - \$1 million (jointly and severally with TGPNA); and Tran - \$2 million (jointly and severally with TGPNA)). In addition, the FERC directed TGPNA's parent company, Total, S.A. ("Total"), and TGPNA's affiliate, Total Gas & Power, Ltd. ("TGPL"), to show cause why they should not be held liable for TGPNA's, Hall's, and Tran's conduct, and be held jointly and severally liable for their disgorgement and civil penalties based on Total's and TGPL's significant control and authority over TGPNA's daily operations. Respondents filed their answer on July 12, 2016. OE Staff replied to Respondents' answer on September 23, 2016. Respondents answered OE's September 23 answer on January 17, 2017, and OE Staff responded to that answer on January 27, 2017.

*Hearing Procedures*. On July 15, 2021, the FERC issued and order establishing hearing procedures to determine whether Respondents violated the FERC's Anti-Manipulation Rule, and to ascertain certain facts relevant for any application of the FERC's Penalty Guidelines.<sup>150</sup> On July 27, Chief Judge Cintron designated Judge

Company (collectively, "BP") violated Section 1c.1 of the FERC's regulations ("Anti-Manipulation Rule") and NGA Section 4A (*BP America Inc.et al*, 152 FERC ¶ 63,016 (Aug. 13, 2015) ("*BP Initial Decision*")).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>146</sup> BP Penalties Allegheny Order at P 1.

<sup>147</sup> Id. at P 319.

 $<sup>^{148}</sup>$  Total Gas & Power North America, Inc., 155 FERC ¶ 61,105 (Apr. 28, 2016) ("TGPNA Show Cause Order").

The allegations giving rise to the Total Show Cause Order were laid out in a September 21, 2015 FERC Staff Notice of Alleged Violations which summarized OE's case against the Respondents. Staff determined that the Respondents violated NGA section 4A and the Commission's Anti-Manipulation Rule by devising and executing a scheme to manipulate the price of natural gas in the southwest United States between June 2009 and June 2012. Specifically, Staff alleged that the scheme involved making largely uneconomic trades for physical natural gas during bid-week designed to move indexed market prices in a way that benefited the company's related positions. Staff alleged that the West Desk implemented the bid-week scheme on at least 38 occasions during the period of interest, and that Tran and Hall each implemented the scheme and supervised and directed other traders in implementing the scheme.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>150</sup> Total Gas & Power North America, Inc. et al., 176 FERC ¶ 61,026 (July 15, 2021).

Suzanne Krolikowski as the Presiding ALJ and established an extended Track III Schedule<sup>151</sup> for the proceeding. Judge Krolikowski scheduled and convened on August 26, 2021 a prehearing conference. Judge Krolikowski issued an order confirming her rulings from the August 26 prehearing conference and establishing a procedural schedule that calls for, among other dates, pre-hearing briefs by July 25, 2022, hearings (estimated to take 2-3 weeks) to begin on August 15, 2022, and an initial decision on January 9, 2023. In light of the settlement judge procedures undertaken, Chief Judge Cintron extended the hearing commencement and initial decision deadlines to September 26, 2022, and February 20, 2023, respectively.

Respondents requested reconsideration or in the alternative permission to file an interlocutory appeal of Judge Krolikowski's March 24 order confirming his bench rulings ("Reconsideration Motion"). OE Staff opposed the Motion. On April 25, finding Respondents had not raised any new arguments that would merit reconsideration of his prior rulings, nor had Respondents identified any "exceptional circumstances" requiring interlocutory appeal, Judge Krolikowski denied Respondents' Reconsideration Motion. Respondents May 2, 2022 interlocutory appeal was denied on May 9, 2022. 152

Since the last Report, procedural activity in this proceeding has included continued litigation over subpoena requests and the rights of certain entities to intervene as parties to this proceeding, issuance by the Chief ALJ and Presiding Judge of revised procedural schedules (extending the Track III procedural time standards for this proceeding, with the deadlines for the commencement of the hearing and for issuing the initial decision (November 15, 2022 and April 27, 2023, respectively), as well as the intermediate deadlines, extended by roughly seven weeks.

## XIV. Natural Gas Proceedings

For further information on any of the natural gas proceedings, please contact Joe Fagan (202-218-3901; <a href="mailto:jfagan@daypitney.com">jfagan@daypitney.com</a>).

#### **New England Pipeline Proceedings**

The following New England pipeline projects are currently under construction or before the FERC:

## • Iroquois ExC Project (CP20-48)

- 125,000 Dth/d of incremental firm transportation service to ConEd and KeySpan by building and operating new natural gas compression and cooling facilities at the sites of four existing Iroquois compressor stations in Connecticut (Brookfield and Milford) and New York (Athens and Dover).
- Three-year construction project; service request by November 1, 2023.
- On March 25, 2022, after procedural developments summarized in previous Reports, the FERC issued to Iroquois a certificate of public convenience and necessity, authorizing it to construct and operate the proposed facilities. The certificate was conditioned on: (i) Iroquois' completion of construction of the proposed facilities and making them available for service within *three years* of the date of the; (ii) Iroquois' compliance with all applicable FERC regulations under the NGA; (iii) Iroquois' compliance with the environmental conditions listed in the appendix to the order; and (iv) Iroquois' filing written statements affirming that it has executed firm service agreements for volumes and service terms equivalent to those in its precedent agreements, prior to commencing construction. The March 25, 2022 order also approved, as modified, Iroquois' proposed incremental recourse rate and incremental

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>151</sup> The hearing in this proceeding will be convened within 55 weeks (Aug. 15, 2022) and the initial decision issued within 76 weeks (January 9, 2023) of the issuance of the Chief Judge's order.

<sup>152</sup> Notice of Determination by the Chairman, Total Gas & Power North America, Inc. et al., Docket No. IN12-17 (May 9, 2022).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>153</sup> Iroquois Gas Transmission Sys., L.P., 178 FERC ¶ 61,200 (2022) (Iroquois Certificate Order).

fuel retention percentages as the initial rates for transportation on the Enhancement by Compression Project.

- On April 18, 2022, Iroquois accepted the certificate issued in the *Iroquois Certificate Order*.
- On June 17, 2022, in accordance with the *Iroquois Certificate Order*, Iroquois submitted its Implementation Plan, documenting how it will comply with the FERC's Certificate conditions.
- ▶ The Project is targeted for a 4<sup>th</sup> quarter, 2023 in-service date.

#### **Non-New England Pipeline Proceedings**

The following pipeline projects could affect ongoing pipeline proceedings in New England and elsewhere:

#### Northern Access Project (CP15-115)

- The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation ("NY DEC") and the Sierra Club requested rehearing of the *Northern Access Certificate Rehearing Order* on August 14 and September 5, 2018, respectively. On August 29, National Fuel Gas Supply Corporation and Empire Pipeline ("Applicants") answered the NY DEC's August 14 rehearing request and request for stay. On April 2, 2019, the FERC denied the NY DEC and Sierra Club requests for rehearing. Those orders have been challenged on appeal to the US Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit (19-1610).
- As previously reported, the August 6, 2018 Northern Access Certificate Rehearing Order dismissed or denied the requests for rehearing of the Northern Access Certificate Order. Further, in an interesting twist, the FERC found that a December 5, 2017 "Renewed Motion for Expedited Action" filed by National Fuel Gas Supply Corporation and Empire Pipeline, Inc. (the "Companies"), in which the Companies asserted a separate basis for their claim that the NY DEC waived its authority under section 401 of the Clean Water Act ("CWA") to issue or deny a water quality certification for the Northern Access Project, served as a motion requesting a waiver determination by the FERC, and proceeded to find that the NY DEC was obligated to act on the application within one year, failed to do so, and so waived its authority under section 401 of the CWA.
- The FERC authorized the Companies to construct and operate pipeline, compression, and ancillary facilities in McKean County, Pennsylvania, and Allegany, Cattaraugus, Erie, and Niagara Counties, New York ("Northern Access Project") in an order issued February 3, 2017. The Allegheny Defense Project and Sierra Club (collectively, "Allegheny") requested rehearing of the Northern Access Certificate Order.
- Despite the FERC's Northern Access Certificate Order, the project remained halted pending the outcome of National Fuel's fight with the NY DEC's April denial of a Clean Water Act permit. NY DEC found National Fuel's application for a water quality certification under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, as well as for stream and wetlands disturbance permits, failed to comply with water regulations aimed at protecting wetlands and wildlife and that the pipeline failed to explore construction alternatives. National Fuel appealed the NY DEC's decision to the 2nd Circuit on the grounds that the denial was improper.<sup>158</sup> On February 2, 2019, the 2nd Circuit vacated the decision of the NY DEC and remanded the case with instructions for the NY DEC to more clearly articulate its basis

 $<sup>^{154}</sup>$  Nat'l Fuel Gas Supply Corp. and Empire Pipeline, Inc., 167 FERC ¶ 61,007 (Apr. 2, 2019).

 $<sup>^{155}</sup>$  Nat'l Fuel Gas Supply Corp. and Empire Pipeline, Inc., 164 FERC  $\P$  61,084 (Aug. 6, 2018) ("Northern Access Rehearing & Waiver Determination Order"), reh'g denied, 167 FERC  $\P$  61,007 (Apr. 2, 2019).

The DC Circuit has indicated that project applicants who believe that a state certifying agency has waived its authority under CWA section 401 to act on an application for a water quality certification must present evidence of waiver to the FERC. *Millennium Pipeline Co., L.L.C. v. Seggos*, 860 F.3d 696, 701 (D.C. Cir. 2017).

 $<sup>^{157}</sup>$  Nat'l Fuel Gas Supply Corp., 158 FERC  $\P$  61,145 (2017) ("Northern Access Certificate Order"), reh'g denied, 164 FERC  $\P$  61,084 (Aug 6, 2018) ("Northern Access Certificate Rehearing Order").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>158</sup> Nat'l Fuel Gas Supply Corp. v. NYSDEC et al. (2d Cir., Case No. 17-1164).

for the denial and how that basis is connected to information in the existing administrative record. The matter is again before the NY DEC.

- On November 26, 2018, the Applicants filed a request at FERC for a 3-year extension of time, until February 3, 2022, to complete construction and to place the certificated facilities into service. The Applicants cited the fact that they "do not anticipate commencement of Project construction until early 2021 due to New York's continued legal actions and to time lines required for procurement of necessary pipe and compressor facility materials." The extension request was granted on January 31, 2019.
- On August 8, 2019, the NY DEC again denied Applicants request for a Water Quality Certification, and as directed by the Second Circuit, 159 provided a "more clearly articulate[d] basis for denial."
- On August 27, 2019, Applicants requested an additional order finding on additional grounds that the NY DEC waived its authority over the Northern Access 2016 Project under Section 401 of the CWA, even if the NY DEC and Sierra Club prevail in their currently pending court petitions challenging the basis for the Commission's Waiver Order.<sup>160</sup>
- On October 16, 2020, Applicants requested, due to ongoing legal and regulatory delays, an additional 2-year extension of time, until December 1, 2024, to complete construction of the Project and enter service. More than 50 sets of comments on the requested extension were filed and on December 1, 2020, the FERC dismissed, without prejudice, Applicants' request for an extension of time, <sup>161</sup> finding the request premature. The FERC reiterated its encouragement that pipeline applicants requesting extensions "file their requests no more than 120 days before the deadline to complete construction", so that the FERC has the relevant information available to determine whether good cause exists to grant an extension of time and whether the FERC's prior findings remain valid.<sup>162</sup>
- On January 28, 2022, Applicants again requested an additional extension of time, this time until December 31, 2024, to complete construction of the Project and enter service. Comments on that request were due on or before February 16, 2022. Many individual comments and protests were received. The NY DEC filed comments opposing the extension request. On March 3, 2022, National Fuel answered the NY DEC protest. The FERC requested additional environmental information on May 4, 2022 and National Fuel provided that information on May 9, 2022. The request for an extension of time remains pending before the FERC.

## XV. State Proceedings & Federal Legislative Proceedings

#### New England States' Vision Statement

In October 2020, the six New England states released their "<u>Vision Statement</u>", outlining their vision for "a clean, affordable, and reliable 21st century regional electric grid" and committing to engage in a collaborative and open process, supported by NESCOE, intended to advance the principles discussed in the Vision Statement. As part of that effort, the following series of online technical forums to discuss the issues presented in the Vision Statement were held:

Jan 13, 2021 Wholesale Market Reform

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>159</sup> Summary Order, *Nat'l Fuel Gas Supply Corp. v. N.Y. State Dep't of Envtl. Conservation*, Case 17-1164 (2d. Cir., issued Feb. 5, 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>160</sup> See Sierra Club v. FERC, No. 19-01618 (2d Cir. filed May 30, 2019); NYSDEC v. FERC, No. 19-1610 (2d. Cir., filed May 28, 2019) (consolidated).

 $<sup>^{161}</sup>$  National Fuel Gas Supply Corp. and Empire Pipeline, Inc., 173 FERC  $\P$  61,197 (Dec. 1, 2020).

<sup>162</sup> Id. at P 10.

Jan 25, 2021 Wholesale Market Reform

Feb 2, 2021 Transmission Planning

Feb 25, 2021 Governance Reform

Mar 18, 2021 Equity and Environmental Justice

Written comments on the topics and discussions addressed in the on the equity and environmental justice topics and discussions were, following an extension, due by May 13, 2021. Comments submitted are posted on <a href="MewEnglandEnergyVision.com">NewEnglandEnergyVision.com</a>. Recordings of the technical forums, as well as draft notices, agendas, and additional information on these sessions, are also available on the New England States' Vision Statement website (<a href="https://newenglandenergyvision.com/">https://newenglandenergyvision.com/</a>).

**Report to the Governors**. On June 29, 2021, the NESCOE Managers published their Progress Report to the New England Governors Regarding "Advancing the New England Energy Vision". The Report was further discussed at the August 5, 2021 Participants Committee meeting. View Report <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a>.

**ISO-NE Board Response.** On September 23, 2021, the ISO-NE Board responded to the New England States' Vision Statement and Advancing the Vision Report. A copy of that response was included with the materials for the October 7, 2021 Participants Committee meeting and is posted on the ISO-NE website <a href="here">here</a>.

#### **XVI. Federal Courts**

The following are matters of interest, including petitions for review of FERC decisions in NEPOOL-related proceedings, that are currently pending before the federal courts (unless otherwise noted, the cases are before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit ("DC Circuit")). An "\*\*" following the Case No. indicates that NEPOOL has intervened or is a litigant in the appeal. The remaining matters are appeals as to which NEPOOL has no organizational interest but that may be of interest to Participants. For further information on any of these proceedings, please contact Pat Gerity (860-275-0533; pmgerity@daypitney.com).

2nd Revised Narragansett LSA Orders (22-1108)
 Underlying FERC Proceeding: ER22-707<sup>163</sup>

Petitioner: Green Development Status: Initial Submission Scheduled

On June 15, 2022, Green Development petitioned the DC Circuit for review of the FERC's 2<sup>nd</sup> Revised Narragansett LSA Orders.<sup>164</sup> On June 17, 2022, the Court directed Green Development to file a Docketing Statement, Statement of Issues, any Procedural Motions, and the underlying decisions from which the appeal arises by July 18, 2022. Appearances must also be filed by July 18, 2022. Dispositive motions, if any, and a Certified Index to the Record must be filed by August 1, 2022.

<sup>163</sup> ISO New England Inc. and New England Power Co. d/b/a National Grid, 178 FERC ¶ 61,115 (Feb. 18, 2022) ("2nd Rev Narragansett LSA Order"). ISO New England Inc. and New England Power Co. d/b/a National Grid, 179 FERC ¶ 62,035 (Apr. 18, 2022) (notice of denial of rehearing by operation of law and providing for further consideration). Together, these orders referred to as the "2nd Revised Narragansett LSA Orders".

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Revised Narragansett LSA is a Local Service Agreement ("LSA") among New England Power, The Narragansett Electric Company ("Narragansett") and ISO-NE. The LSA reflects the construction of the new Iron Mine Hill Road Substation and related transmission modifications, and the assessment to Narragansett of a Direct Assignment Facilities Charge ("DAF Charge") associated with the facilities. The Iron Mine Hill Road Substation, a new 115 kV/34.5 kV substation (including modifications necessary to loop Narragansett's existing 115 kV H17 transmission line through the new substation) will connect to a new 34.5 kV distribution feeder, which will serve as the point of interconnection for several distributed generation projects being developed by Green Development, LLC ("Green Development"), located in North Smithfield, Rhode Island.

NTE CT Petition for Review of Killingly CSO Termination Orders (22-1027)
 Underlying FERC Proceeding: ER22-355<sup>165</sup>

Petitioner: NTE CT Status: Case Dismissed

On May 10, 2022, the DC Circuit granted ISO-NE's motion and dismissed NTE CT's petition for review of the FERC's orders accepting the termination of the Killingly Energy Center's CSO. In its *per curiam* order dismissing the case, the DC Circuit stated that NTE CT lack standing to challenge those orders, having not disputed that "it has defaulted on its financial assurance obligations under the []Tariff, nor []that this default provides a separate basis for terminating Killingly's [CSOs]." NTE had "not demonstrated a relationship between the challenged FERC orders and the ultimate relief sought."

CSC Request for Regulatory Asset Recovery of Previously-Incurred CIP IROL Costs (21-1275)
 Underlying FERC Proceeding: ER21-2334<sup>166</sup>

**Petitioner: CSC** 

**Status: Case Dismissed** 

On December 30, 2021, CSC petitioned the DC Circuit Court of Appeals for review of the FERC's orders denying it authorization to establish a regulatory asset that would include all CIP-IROL Costs prudently incurred between January 1, 2016 and May 31, 2021 and to recover those costs under Schedule 17 over a five-year period. On May 17, 2022, however, CSC moved to dismiss its case. On May 31, 2022, the FERC granted CSC's unopposed motion and dismissed the case, issuing that day its mandate to the FERC.

Mystic ROE (21-1198; 21-1222, 21-1223, 21-1224, 22-1001, 22-1008, 22-1026) (consolidated)
 Underlying FERC Proceeding: EL18-1639-010, -011,<sup>167</sup> -013<sup>168</sup>
 Petitioners: Mystic, CT Parties,<sup>169</sup> MA AG, ENECOS

Status: Briefing Underway

As previously reported, this case was initiated when, on October 8, 2021, Mystic petitioned the DC Circuit Court of Appeals for review of the FERC's orders setting the base ROE for the Mystic COS Agreement at 9.33%. The *Mystic ROE Order* and subsequent FERC orders addressing the Mystic ROE issues have all also been appealed by various parties and consolidated under 21-1198. Docketing Statements and Statements of Issues to be Raised, and the Underlying Decision from which the various appeals arise have been filed as new dockets have been opened and then consolidated with 21-1198. As previously reported, the Certified Index to the Record was due, and filed by the FERC, on February 22, 2022. On March 10, 2022, MMWEC and NHEC filed a notice of intent to participate in support of FERC in Case Nos. 21-1198, 22-1008, and 22-1026 and in support of Petitioners in the remaining consolidated cases, and filed a statement of issues. On March 17, 2022, CT Parties moved to intervene, and those interventions were granted on May 4, 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>165</sup> ISO New England Inc., 178 FERC ¶ 61,001 (Jan. 3, 2022) ("Killingly CSO Termination Order") (order accepting CSO termination); ISO New England Inc., 178 FERC ¶ 62,082 (Feb. 11, 2022) (notice denying reh'g by operation of law and providing for further consideration); ISO New England Inc., 178 FERC ¶ 61,130 (Feb. 23, 2022) (order addressing arguments raised on reh'g, sustaining results of Killingly CSO Termination Order). Together, these orders referred to as the "Killingly CSO Termination Orders".

 $<sup>^{166}</sup>$  Cross-Sound Cable Co., LLC, 176 FERC  $\P$  61,073 (Aug. 31, 2021) ("August 31 Order"); Cross-Sound Cable Co., LLC, 177 FERC  $\P$  62,064 (Nov. 1, 2021) (Notice of Denial By Operation of Law of Rehearings of August 31 Order).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>167</sup> Constellation Mystic Power, LLC, 176 FERC ¶ 61,019 (July 15, 2021) ("Mystic ROE Order"); Constellation Mystic Power, LLC, 176 FERC ¶ 62,127 (Sep. 13, 2021) ("September 13 Notice") (Notice of Denial By Operation of Law of Rehearings of Mystic ROE Order).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>168</sup> Constellation Mystic Power, LLC, 178 FERC ¶ 61,116 (Feb. 18, 2022) ("Mystic ROE Second Allegheny Order"); Constellation Mystic Power, LLC, 178 FERC ¶ 62,028 (Jan. 18, 2022) ("January 18 Notice") (Notice of Denial By Operation of Law of Rehearings of Mystic ROE Second Allegheny Order).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>169</sup> In this appeal, "CT Parties" are the Connecticut Public Utilities Regulatory Authority ("CT PURA"), Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection ("CT DEEP"), and the Connecticut Office of Consumer Counsel ("CT OCC").

Since the last Report, the Court established a briefing schedule that calls for the following: Mystic and State and Municipal Petitioners' Opening Briefs (August 3, 2022); Joint Brief for Intervenors in Support of Petitioners (August 17, 2022); Respondent's Brief (October 31, 2022); Briefs in support of Respondents (November 14, 2022); Reply Briefs (December 29, 2022); Joint Appendix (January 12, 2023); and Final Briefs (January 19, 2023). A date for oral argument and the composition of the merits panel will be provided at a later time.

Mystic 8/9 Cost of Service Agreement (20-1343; 20-1361, 20-1362; 20-1365, 20-1368; 21-1067; 21-1070)(consolidated)

**Underlying FERC Proceeding: EL18-1639**<sup>170</sup>

Petitioners: Mystic (20-1343), NESCOE (20-1361, 21-1067), MA AG (20-1362), CT Parties (20-1365, 20-1368, 21-1070)

Status: Oral Argument Held May 5, 2022; Awaiting Decision

Mystic, NESCOE, MA AG, and CT Parties have separately petitioned the DC Circuit Court of Appeals for review of the FERC's orders addressing the COS Agreement among Mystic, ExGen and ISO-NE.<sup>171</sup> The cases have been consolidated into Case No. 20-1343. On February 17 and 24, 2021, the Court consolidated with 20-1343 the most recent appeals in cases 21-1067 (NESCOE) and 21-1070 (CT Parties), respectively. On March 25, 2021, the Court issued an order returning this case to its active docket. On March 26, 2021, the Court granted the interventions by MMWEC/NHEC, NESCOE, and ENECOS. Briefing was completed on February 24, 2022. Oral argument was held on May 5, 2022 before Judges Srinivasan, Henderson and Rao.

Since oral argument, on a related jurisdictional matter, the FERC moved for leave to issue its *May 2, 2022 Order* (described in Section II, ER22-1192 above). The FPA otherwise prevents the FERC, while an appeal is pending, from altering its findings or orders. In the *May 2, 2022 Order*, the FERC agreed with Mystic that, in light of changed circumstances (the spin transaction pursuant to which Exelon Corporation is no longer a Mystic Affiliate), it would be inappropriate to continue basing Mystic's capital structure on that of Exelon and set that part of the filing for hearing. Accordingly, to the extent the *May 2, 2022 Order* constitutes a modification or vacatur of the capital structure ruling in the initial orders in this proceeding, the FERC sought leave to nonetheless issue the order. The FERC's motion was granted on June 10, 2022. This case remains pending before Judges Srinivasan, Henderson and Rao.

CASPR (20-1333, 21-1031) (consolidated)\*\*
 Underlying FERC Proceeding: ER18-619<sup>173</sup>
 Petitioners: Sierra Club, NRDC, RENEW Northeast, and CLF Status: Being Held in Abeyance (until July 22, 2022)

On August 31, 2020, the Sierra Club, NRDC, RENEW Northeast, and CLF petitioned the DC Circuit Court of Appeals for review of the FERC's order accepting ISO-NE's CASPR revisions (which, under *Allegheny*, is ripe for review). On October 2, 2020, appearances, docketing statements, a statement of issues to be raised, and a statement of intent to utilize deferred joint appendix were filed. On October 19, 2020, the FERC moved to dismiss the case for a lack of jurisdiction (arguing that Petitioners missed their opportunity to timely file their Petition for review in 2018, and filing within 60 days of *Allegheny* did not make their Petition timely). Alternatively, the FERC asked that the case be held in abeyance for 60 days pending issuance of a further FERC order on this matter. On October 29, Petitioners opposed the FERC's motion. On November 5, 2020, the FERC filed a reply, indicated that an order on rehearing would be issued imminently and suggested that, if the Court declines to dismiss the petition, it should be held in abeyance until the Commission issues an order on rehearing. As noted above, the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>170</sup> July 2018 Order; July 2018 Rehearing Order; Dec 2018 Order; Dec 2018 Rehearing Order; Jul 17 Compliance Order.

 $<sup>^{171}</sup>$  The COS Agreement is to provide compensation for the continued operation of the Mystic 8 & 9 units from June 1, 2022 through May 31, 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>172</sup> See Constellation Mystic Power, LLC, 179 FERC ¶ 61,081, PP 24-25 (May 2, 2022).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>173</sup> ISO New England Inc., 162 FERC ¶ 61,205 (Mar. 9, 2018) ("CASPR Order").

FERC issued the *CASPR Allegheny Order* on November 19, modifying the discussion in the *CASPR Order*, but reaching the same the result. The Sierra Club, NRDC and CLF also requested rehearing of the November 19 order.

On January 12, 2021, the Court dismissed as moot the FERC's October 19 motion to hold this proceeding in abeyance and ordered that the motion to dismiss be referred to the merits panel (Judges Pillard, Katsas and Walker) and addressed by the parties in their briefs. On January 25 and 26, 2021, CT Parties and MMWEC and NHEC filed statements of issues and notices that they intend to participate in support of Petitioners. On January 27, 2021, the Court ordered the parties to submit by February 26, 2021, proposed formats for the briefing of these cases. On March 24, 2021, the Court granted NEPOOL's intervention and established a briefing schedule that, as explained just below, has since been superseded.

On April 7, 2021, the Court granted Petitioners' motion to hold this matter in abeyance, pending further order of the Court. The parties were directed to file motions to govern future proceedings in these cases on or before October 22, 2021. On October 22, 2021, Petitioners Sierra Club, NRDC, Renew Northeast, Inc., and CLF moved the Court to hold this matter in abeyance until June 1, 2022. On October 25, 2021, the Court granted Petitioners' second motion to hold this matter in abeyance. The parties were directed to file motions to govern future proceedings in these cases on or before *July 22, 2022*.

Opinion 531-A Compliance Filing Undo (20-1329)
 Underlying FERC Proceeding: ER15-414<sup>174</sup>
 Potitionars: TOs' (CMB et al.)

Petitioners: TOs' (CMP et al.)
Status: Being Held in Abeyance

On August 28, 2020, the TOs<sup>175</sup> petitioned the DC Circuit Court of Appeals for review of the FERC's October 6, 2017 order rejecting the TOs' filing that sought to reinstate their transmission rates to those in place prior to the FERC's orders later vacated by the DC Circuit's Emera Maine<sup>176</sup> decision. On September 22, 2020, the FERC submitted an unopposed motion to hold this proceeding in abeyance for four months to allow for the Commission to "a future order on petitioners' request for rehearing of the order challenged in this appeal, and the rate proceeding in which the challenged order was issued remains ongoing before the Commission." On October 2, 2020, the Court granted the FERC's motion, and directed the parties to file motions to govern future proceedings in this case by February 2, 2021. On January 25, 2021, the FERC requested that the Court continue to hold this petition for review in abeyance for an additional three months, with parties to file motions to govern future proceedings at the end of that period. The FERC requested continued abeyance because of its intention to issue a future order on petitioners' request for rehearing of the order challenged in this appeal, and the rate proceeding in which the challenged order was issued remains ongoing before the FERC. Petitioners consented to the requested abeyance. On February 11, 2021, the Court issued an order that that this case remain in abeyance pending further order of the court. On April 21, 2021, the FERC filed an unopposed motion for continued abeyance of this case because the Commission intends to issue a future order on Petitioners' request for rehearing of the challenged Order Rejecting Compliance Filing, and because the remand proceeding in which the challenged order was issued remains ongoing.

On May 4, 2021, the Court ordered that this case remain in abeyance pending further order of the Court, directing the FERC to file a status report by September 1, 2021 and at 120-day intervals thereafter. The parties were directed to file motions to govern future proceedings in this case within 30 days of the completion of agency proceedings. Since the last Report, on April 14, 2022, the FERC submitted a status report indicating that the proceedings before the Commission remain ongoing and that this appeal should continue to remain in abeyance.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>174</sup> ISO New England Inc., 161 FERC ¶ 61,031 (Oct. 6, 2017) ("Order Rejecting Filing").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>175</sup> The "TOs" are CMP; Eversource Energy Service Co., on behalf of its affiliates CL&P, NSTAR and PSNH; National Grid; New Hampshire Transmission; UI; Unitil and Fitchburg; VTransco; and Versant Power.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>176</sup> Emera Maine v. FERC, 854 F.3d 9 (D.C. Cir. 2017) ("Emera Maine").

ISO-NE's Inventoried Energy Program ("IEP") Proposal (19-1224\*\*\*; 19-1247; 19-1252; 19-1253)(consolidated); Underlying FERC Proceeding: ER19-1428<sup>177</sup>
Petitioners: ENECOS (Belmont et al.) (19-1224); MA AG (19-1247); NH PUC/NH OCA (19-1252); Sierra Club/UCS (19-1253)

Status: Court Issues Decision Leaving Intact the IEP Except for the Inclusion of Nuclear, Biomass, Coal and Hydroelectric Generators.

On June 17, 2022, the DC Circuit issued a decision<sup>178</sup> leaving intact the FERC's June 2020 *IEP Remand Order*<sup>179</sup> *except* for the inclusion of nuclear, biomass, coal, and hydroelectric generators in ISO-NE's IEP, the inclusion of which the Court found arbitrary and capricious (because those resources were unlikely to change their behavior in response to the IEP payments). Because the Court believed "there is not substantial doubt that FERC would have adopted IEP if it had not included these resources in the first place [and] IEP can function sensibly without them", the Court found that it had the authority to sever this portion from the overall program and therefore vacated that portion of IEP from the remainder of the IEP. The Court upheld the remainder of the IEP and remanded the matter to the FERC for further proceedings consistent with its opinion.

#### **Other Federal Court Activity of Interest**

• Order 872 (20-72788,\* 21-70113; 20-73375, 21-70113) (consol.) (9<sup>th</sup> Cir.)

**Underlying FERC Proceeding: RM19-15**<sup>180</sup>

Petitioners: SEIA et al.

Status: Oral Argument Held March 8, 2022; Awaiting Decision

On September 17, 2020, SEIA petitioned the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals for review of *Order 872*. <sup>181</sup> Briefing is complete and oral argument was held March 8, 2022 before Judges Nguyen, Miller and Bumatay. This matter is pending before the Court.

Opinion 569/569-A: FERC's Base ROE Methodology (16-1325, 20-1182, 20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1248, 20-1251, 20-1267, 20-1513) (consol.)

Underlying FERC Proceeding: EL14-12; EL15-45<sup>182</sup>

Petitioners: MISO TOs, Transource Energy, Dec 23 Petitioners et al.

Status: Oral Argument Held Nov 18, 2021; Awaiting Decision

The MISO TOs, Transource and "Dec 23 Petitioners", <sup>183</sup> among others, have appealed *Opinion 569/569-A*. The MISO TOs' case has been consolidated with previous appeals that had been held in abeyance, with the lead case number assigned as 16-1325. Following completion of briefing, oral argument was held on November 18, 2021 before Judges Srinivasan, Katsas and Walker. This matter is pending before the Court.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>177</sup> 162 FERC ¶ 61,127 (Feb. 15, 2018) ("Order 841"); 167 FERC ¶ 61,154 (May 16, 2019) ("Order 841-A").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>178</sup> Belmont Mun. Light Dept., et al., v. FERC, 2022 WL 2182810 (June 17, 2022).

 $<sup>^{179}</sup>$  ISO New England Inc., 171 FERC  $\P$  61,235 (June 18, 2020) ("IEP Remand Order").

 $<sup>^{180}</sup>$  Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Co., LLC, 159 FERC ¶ 62,181 (Feb. 3, 2017); Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Co., LLC, 161 FERC ¶ 61,250 (Dec. 6, 2017).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>181</sup> Order 872 approved pricing and eligibility revisions to the FERC's long-standing regulations implementing sections 201 and 210 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 ("PURPA"), including: state flexibility in setting QF rates; a decrease (to 5 MW) to the threshold for a rebuttable presumption of access to nondiscriminatory, competitive markets; updates to the "One-Mile Rule"; clarifications to when a QF establishes its entitlement to a purchase obligation; and provision for certification challenges.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>182</sup> Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Co., LLC, 159 FERC ¶ 62,181 (Feb. 3, 2017); Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Co., LLC, 161 FERC ¶ 61,250 (Dec. 6, 2017).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>183</sup> "Dec 23 Petitioners" are: Assoc. of Bus. Advocating Tariff Equity; Coalition of MISO Transmission Customers: IL Industrial Energy Consumers; IN Industrial Energy Consumers, Inc.; MN Large Industrial Group; WI Industrial Energy Group; AMP; Cooperative Energy; Hoosier Energy Rural Elec. Coop.; MS Public Service Comm.; MO Public Service Comm.; MO Joint Municipal Electric Utility Comm.; Organization of MISO States, Inc.; Southwestern Elec. Coop., Inc.; and Wabash Valley Power Assoc.

Algonquin Atlantic Bridge Project Briefing Order (21-1115\*, 21-1138, 21-1153, 21-1155) (consol.);
 Underlying FERC Proceeding: CP16-9-012<sup>184</sup>

Petitioners: LS Power, Algonquin, INGA

Status: Case Being Held in Abeyance Pending Disposition of Motions to Transfer First Circuit Cases to the DC Circuit

On May 3, 2021, Algonquin petitioned the DC Circuit Court of Appeals for review of the *Briefing Order* and the *April 19 Notice of Denial of Rehearings by Operation of Law*. Appearances, docketing statements and a statement of issues were due and filed June 4, 2021. Also on June 4, 2021, the FERC filed an unopposed motion to hold this proceeding in temporary abeyance, until August 2, 2021, including the fling of the certified index to the record, because "the May 3 petition for review no longer reflects the [FERC]'s latest determination in this matter." The Court granted the first abeyance motion. On November 15, 2021, the Court granted a third abeyance motion by the FERC, directing the parties to file motions to govern future proceedings by January 31, 2022. On January 31, 2022, Algonquin and INGA asked the Court to extend the abeyance by an additional 120 days (to May 31, 2022). On February 15, 2022, the Court issued an order extending the abeyance and directing the Petitioners to file motions to govern future proceedings by May 31, 2022. On May 31, 2022, Petitioners asked the Court to continue to hold this proceeding in abeyance pending the First Circuit's disposition of Algonquin's pending motions to transfer that Court's cases 20-1458 and 22-1201 (which also challenge the FERC's authorization of the "Atlantic Bridge Project").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>184</sup> Briefing Order; April 19 Notice of Denial of Rehearings by Operation of Law.

## **INDEX**

# Status Report of Current Regulatory and Legal Proceedings as of June 17, 2022

## I. Complaints/Section 206 Proceedings

206 Investigation: ISO-NE Tariff Schedule 25 and Section I.3.10	(EL21-94)	2
Base ROE Complaints I-IV	(EL11-66, EL13-33;	
	EL14-86; EL16-64)	4
NECEC/Avangrid Complaint Against NextEra/Seabrook	(EL21-6)	3
NextEra Energy Seabrook Declar. Order Petition: NECEC Elective Upgrade Costs Dispute .	(EL21-3)	4
NMISA Complaint Against PTO AC (Reciprocal TOUT Discount)	(EL22-31)	2
RENEW/ACPA Resource Capac. Accreditation & Operating Reserve Designat'n Complaint		
II. Rate, ICR, FCA, Cost Recovery Filings		
FCA16 Results Filing	(ER22-1417)	7
Mystic 8/9 Cost of Service Agreement	•	
Mystic COS Agreement Updates to Reflect Constellation Spin Transaction		
Orders 864/864-A (Public Util. Trans. ADIT Rate Changes): New England Compliance Filing		
III. Market Rule and Information Policy Changes, Interpretations and Waiver Requests		
MOPR Elimination Filing	(FR22-1528)	10
New England's Order 2222 Compliance Filing		
	(=::== 555)	0
IV. OATT Amendments/Coordination Agreements		
206 Investigation: ISO-NE Tariff Schedule 25 and Section I.3.10		
Attachment F Corrections & Updates		
Order 676-J Compliance Filing Part I (CSC-Schedule 18-Attachment Z)	•	
Order 676-J Compliance Filing Part I (ISO-NE-Schedule 24)		
Order 676-J Compliance Filing Part I (TOs-Schedule 20/21-Common)	(ER22-1161)	12
V. Financial Assurance/Billing Policy Amendments		
No Activity to Report		
VI. Schedule 20/21/22/23 Updates		
Schedule 21-NEP: 2nd Revised Narragansett LSA	(ER22-707)	12
Schedule 21-NEP: Revised RI LSAs Compliance Filing	(ER22-1918)	12
Schedule 21-VP: Bangor Hydro/Maine Public Service Merger-Related Costs Recovery		
Schedule 21-VP: 2020 Annual Update Settlement Agreement	(ER15-1434-005)	13
Schedule 21-VP: 2021 Annual Update Settlement Agreement		
VII. NEPOOL Agreement/Participants Agreement Amend	lments	
No Activity to Report		
VIII. Regional Reports		
Capital Projects Report - 2021 Q4	(ER22-1041)	15
Capital Projects Report - 2022 Q1		
IMM 2021 Annual Markets Report		
IMM Quarterly Markets Reports – Winter 2022	(ZZ22-4)	16
Interconnection Study Metrics Processing Time Exceedance Report Q1 2022		

ISO-NE 2021 FERC Form 714	(not docketed)	17
ISO-NE FERC Form 3-Q (2021/Q4)	(not docketed)	17
Opinion 531-A Local Refund Report: FG&E	(EL11-66)	14
Opinions 531-A/531-B Local Refund Reports	(EL11-66)	15
Opinions 531-A/531-B Regional Refund Reports		
Voltus Petition for a FERC Technical Conference on Order 2222	(RM18-9)	16
IX. Membership Filings		
April 2022 Membership Filing	(ER22-1531)	18
June 2022 Membership Filing	(ER22-1991)	17
May 2022 Membership Filing	(ER22-1738)	17
Suspension Notice – Howard Wind, LLC		
Suspension Notice – Manchester Methane, LLC		
Suspension Notice – Pilot Power Group, LLC	(not docketed)	18
X. Misc ERO Rules, Filings; Reliability Stando	ards	
CIP Standards Development: Info. Filings on Virtualization and		
Cloud Computing Services Projects		
NOI: Virtualization and Cloud Computing Services in BES Operations	· ·	
NPCC Bylaws Changes		
Order 873 - Retirement of Rel. Standard Reqs. (Standards Efficiency Review)		
Revised Reliability Standard (CIP-014 Compliance Section)		
Rules of Procedure Changes (CMEP Risk-Based Approach Enhancements)		
Rules of Procedure Changes (Reliability Standards Development Revisions)	(RR21-8)	21
XI. Misc. Regional Interest		
203 Application: Howard Wind / Greenbacker Wind		
203 Application: Pixelle / Spectrum	, ,	
203 Application: PPL/Narragansett		
203 Application: Stonepeak / JERA Americas	·	
CL&P Att. F App. D Depreciation Rate Change		
IA Termination: CL&P/Sterling Property		
IAS: NEP / Narragansett		
LGIA: CL&P / EIP Investment (New Britain, CT Fuel Cell)	•	
Maine Power Link Application for Negotiated Rate Authority	,	
Orders 864/864-A (Public Util. Trans. ADIT Rate Changes): New England Compliance		
Related Facilities Agreement: NSTAR / Ocean State Power		
TSA: NSTAR/Park City Wind	•	
Versant Power MPD OATT <i>Order 676-J</i> Compliance Filing Part I		
versallt Fower WFD OATT Order 070-3 Compliance Filling Fatt1	(LNZZ-1142)	23
XII. Misc: Administrative & Rulemaking Proceed	dings	
Climate Change, Extreme Weather, and Electric Sys. Reliability (Jun 1-2 tech conf)		
Improving Generating Units Winter Readiness	, ,	
Increasing Market and Planning Efficiency Through Improved Software Tech Conf		
Joint Federal-State Task Force on Electric Transmission		
Modernizing Electricity Mkt Design - Resource Adequacy		
New England Gas-Electric Forum	(AD22-9)	26
NOI: Industry Association Dues & Expenses Rate Recovery, Reporting, and	(DM22.5)	22
Accounting Treatment		
NOI: Dynamic Line Ratings		
NULL REACTIVE POWER CADADUITY COMPENSATION	(KIVI//-/)	٧)

NOI: Removing the DR Opt-Out in ISO/RTO Markets	(RM21-14)	34
NOPR: Cybersecurity Incentives	(RM21-3)	34
NOPR: Electric Transmission Incentives Policy	(RM20-10)	36
NOPR: Extreme Weather Vulnerability Assessments	(RM22-16; AD21-13)	29
NOPR: Interconnection Reforms	(RM22-14)	
NOPR: Internal Network Security Monitoring	(RM22-3)	32
NOPR: Transmission Planning and Allocation and Generator Interconnection	(RM21-17)	33
NOPR: Transmission System Planning Performance Requirements for Extreme Weather	(RM22-10)	31
Order 881: Managing Transmission Line Ratings	(RM20-16)	35
XIII. FERC Enforcement Proceedings		
BP Initial Decision	(IN13-15)	38
PacifiCorp	(IN21-6)	38
Rover Pipeline, LLC and Energy Transfer Partners, L.P. (CPCN Show Cause Order)	(IN19-4)	38
Rover and ETP (Tuscarawas River HDD Show Cause Order) (IN17-4)	(IN17-4)	39
Total Gas & Power North America, Inc	(IN12-17)	38
XIV. Natural Gas Proceedings		
New England Pipeline Proceedings		
Iroquois ExC Project	(CP20-48)	41
Non-New England Pipeline Proceedings		
Northern Access Project	(CP15-115)	42
XV. State Proceedings & Federal Legislative Proceed	lings	
New England States' Vision Statement / On-Line Technical Forums		43
XVI. Federal Courts		
2nd Revised Narragansett LSA Orders	22-1108(DC Cir.)	44
Algonquin Atlantic Bridge Project Briefing Order	21-1115 (DC Cir.)	49
CASPR	20-1333(DC Cir.)	46
CSC Request for Regulatory Asset Recovery of Previously-Incurred CIP IROL Costs	21-1275(DC Cir.)	45
ISO-NE's Inventoried Energy Program (IEP) Proposal	19-1224(DC Cir.)	48
Mystic 8/9 Cost of Service Agreement	20-1343(DC Cir.)	46
Mystic ROE	` ,	
NTE CT Petition for Review of Killingly CSO Termination Orders	, ,	
Opinion 531-A Compliance Filing Undo	•	
Opinion 569/569-A: FERC's Base ROE Methodology		
Order 872	20-72788 (9th Cir )	48