



April 21, 2023

Via eTariff Filing

The Honorable Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary Federal Energy Regulatory Commission 888 First Street, NE Washington, DC 20426

Dear Secretary Bose:

The New England Power Pool Participants Committee¹ ("NEPOOL") and ISO New England Inc. ("ISO-NE", and together with NEPOOL, the "Filing Parties") hereby submit this transmittal letter, together with a revised list of NEPOOL Participants from the Second Restated NEPOOL Agreement, in order to terminate (i) the NEPOOL Participant status of NTE Connecticut, LLC ("NTE CT")², and (ii) the Market Participant Service Agreement ("MPSA") between ISO-NE and NTE CT,³ each as a result of the failure by NTE CT to pay when and as due the amounts invoiced to it under the Billing Policy. Given the breadth of its Payment Defaults and its unresponsiveness regarding those defaults, the Filing Parties can no longer reasonably expect that NTE CT will cure its Payment Defaults.

I. BACKGROUND

Pursuant to Section 16.1(c) of the Restated NEPOOL Agreement and Section 3.2 of the MPSA, a Participant has the obligation to make timely payment of all amounts due under the Second

¹ Capitalized terms used but not defined in this filing are intended to have the same meaning 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. Transmission, Markets and Services Tariff ("ISO-NE Tariff", and together, the "Documents").

² NTE CT became a NEPOOL Participant effective October 1, 2016. *See New England Power Pool*, Docket No. ER16-2721-000, (Oct. 31, 2016) (unpublished letter order). NTE CT became a Market Participant also on Oct. 1, 2016. During the term of its membership, NTE CT has been a Provisional Member and a member of the Generation Sector. NTE CT does not currently qualify for the Generation Sector and is again a Provisional Member.

³ The MPSA between NTE CT and ISO-NE is reported by ISO-NE in its EQR filings as MPSA No. 127402.

Restated NEPOOL Agreement, Participants Agreement, and the ISO-NE Tariff. The ISO-NE Billing Policy, Exhibit ID to the ISO-NE Tariff ("Billing Policy"), defines the procedures used in administering charges and payments due under the Documents.

In the event that a Participant fails to pay the amount it owes when due (a "Payment Default"), the Billing Policy outlines the consequences to the defaulting Participant of the Payment Default, the actions that may be taken by ISO-NE to recover amounts due, and how ISO-NE will make up for any resulting shortfall of funds.⁴ If a Payment Default is not cured by 10:00 a.m. Eastern Time on the Business Day immediately following the Business Day when such payment was originally due, ISO-NE must notify each member and alternate on the Participants Committee, members of the Budget and Finance Subcommittee, each Participant's billing contact, and each of the New England governors and utility regulatory agencies of the identity of defaulting Participant, whether the defaulting Participant has a registered load asset, and the actions it plans to take or has taken in response to such Payment Default.⁵ If the Payment Default is not cured by 8:30 a.m. Eastern Time of the second Business Day after the date when such payment was originally due, the defaulting Participant will be suspended from the New England Markets⁶ and a notice of such suspension sent to each Participants Committee member and alternate, to the energy regulatory agencies in each of the New England states and to the Commission.⁷ In the case of NTE CT, all of these steps were followed.

In addition, if a Payment Default continues for at least five days, NEPOOL may initiate a proceeding before the Commission to terminate the defaulting Participant's status as a NEPOOL member.⁸ By delegation of authority, the Participants Committee has authorized the Chair of the Membership Subcommittee to initiate such membership termination proceedings with the Commission.⁹

Pursuant to the Financial Assurance Policy contained in Section I of the Tariff¹⁰ and the MPSA, ISO-NE has the broad authority to ask the Commission to terminate an entity's status as a

⁵ *Id.* at § 3.7.

⁶ *Id*.

⁷ See ISO-NE Information Policy, Attachment D to the ISO-NE Tariff, at § 2.3.

⁸ Restated NEPOOL Agreement § 16.1(d).

⁹ See Protocol for the Initiation of Membership Termination approved by the Participants Committee April 6, 2001 (the "Termination Protocol") at 1, Attachment 3 to this filing.

¹⁰ See Financial Assurance Policy, Exhibit IA to Section I of the ISO-NE Tariff ("FAP"), at § II.A.1(b) (termination after review of financial disclosures made as part of minimum capitalization requirement); § II.A.5 (termination after failure to submit certificate or in the event that ISO-NE determines certificate criteria no longer apply); § § II.C(3) (termination after failure to meet conditions, including posting of additional Financial Assurance); § V.C.3 (termination of Non-Participant Transmission Customers after failure to meet conditions); § V.D.3 (termination after failure to report Material Adverse Change or to meet conditions imposed as a result of a Material Adverse Change); and § XI.F (termination following a Financial Assurance Default).

⁴ Billing Policy at §§ 3.3 and 3.4.

Market Participant. Specifically with regard to the MPSA, ISO-NE may terminate upon any material default,¹¹ which includes default of the Market Participant's obligations to abide by the terms of the ISO New England Operating Documents and to make timely payment of all amounts due thereunder.¹²

II. INVOLUNTARY TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP: NTE CT

NTE CT is currently in default of its obligations under the Billing Policy ("Billing Defaults") and the Financial Assurance Policy ("FA Default" and together with the Billing Defaults, the "Defaults"). Since March 2022,¹³ NTE has had 13 payment defaults. Similarly, during that same period of time, NTE CT has failed to maintain the required level of additional financial assurance under the Financial Assurance Policy. NTE CT was suspended from the New England Markets as a result of a Billing Default.¹⁴ Were it not suspended as a result of a Billing Default, NTE CT would have been suspended as a result of its subsequent FA Default. During the time of its suspension, NTE CT has failed to take action to cure the Defaults. The unpaid amounts billed to NTE CT have been covered first by the available additional financial assurance provided previously by NTE CT ("NTE CT FA"), and once the NTE CT FA was fully depleted, by the Late Payment Account maintained under the Billing Policy.¹⁵

NTE CT has been provided with multiple notices of its Defaults, as well as notice of the plans, absent a request from NTE CT to terminate its membership, to submit this filing. Both ISO-NE and NEPOOL have attempted to contact NTE CT regarding the Defaults without response. In light of all of the foregoing, and specifically given the length of time that NTE CT has failed to pay and its ongoing unresponsiveness, it is clear that NTE CT cannot reasonably be expected to cure its Defaults or to otherwise fully discharge its NEPOOL or ISO-NE payment or financial assurance obligations.

Given that NTE CT has clearly and materially defaulted on its obligations, NEPOOL and ISO-NE agreed to proceed with termination proceedings pursuant to, respectively, Section 16.1(d) of the Second Restated NEPOOL Agreement and Section 2.2 of the MPSA. Accordingly, pursuant to the Termination Protocol (*see* Attachment 3), the ISO-NE Vice President & Chief Financial and Compliance Officer recommended to the Chair of the Membership Subcommittee that termination proceedings be initiated against NTE CT (*see* Attachment 2). The Membership Subcommittee Chairman has directed counsel for the Subcommittee to initiate the termination of the Participant status of NTE CT.

¹⁵ *See* Billing Policy § 3.3(e).

¹¹ See MPSA, Attachment A to the ISO-NE Tariff, at § 2.2.

¹² *Id.* at § 3.2.

¹³ NTE CT initially triggered an FA Default and Billing Default as a result of the termination of its Capacity Supply Obligation ("CSO") in January 2022, as summarized in prior filings with the Commission (Docket No. ER22-355-001) and pleadings in the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit (Case No. 22-1011). The basis for the termination recommendation and this filing to involuntarily terminate NTE's status as a NEPOOL and ISO New England Market Participant are the Defaults that occurred and remain uncured following final resolution of the CSO termination.

¹⁴ See Notice of Market Participant Suspension, ISO New England Inc. (filed Feb. 11, 2022).

III. REQUESTED EFFECTIVE DATE

Filing Parties respectfully request consideration of the involuntary termination of NTE CT so as to permit the termination of NTE CT's NEPOOL and Market Participant status to become effective as of June 22, 2023 (which is more than 60 days from the date of this filing). If the NTE CT termination is accepted for filing by the Commission as requested, NTE CT will be excused from any further obligations to pay Pool charges and relieved of any further Pool obligations and responsibilities incurred, from and after June 22, 2023 (but not those incurred before the effective date).

The NEPOOL Participants Committee further requests that the eTariff record effective date be set at June 22, 2023.¹⁶ ISO-NE will reflect the termination of the MPSA in its EQR filing for the second quarter of 2023.

IV. ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING INFORMATION

In addition to this transmittal letter, this filing includes the following materials:

- The list of NEPOOL Participants from the Second Restated NEPOOL Agreement, which has been marked to show the removal of NTE CT from the list of NEPOOL Participants (Attachment 1);
- Letter from Robert Ludlow, ISO-NE Vice President & Chief Financial and Compliance Officer, to Sarah Bresolin, Membership Subcommittee Chair, recommending termination of NTE CT (Attachment 2);
- Termination Protocol as adopted by the Participants Committee (Attachment 3); and
- A list of governors and utility regulatory agencies in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont to which a copy of this filing has been sent (Attachment 4).

The materials filed herewith do not change the NEPOOL Agreement or MPSA as previously filed with the Commission, other than to terminate the Participant status of NTE CT in NEPOOL and to terminate NTE CT's Market Participant status. Therefore, no comparisons of the transactions and revenues or cost data are submitted.

¹⁶ The Commission has relieved NEPOOL of the requirement to file changes to the NEPOOL Agreement in tariff format. *ISO New England, Inc. and New England Power Pool*, 95 FERC ¶ 61,384 at 62,441-42 (2001). Accordingly, the NEPOOL Agreement has not been filed formally as an eTariff pursuant to Order No. 714. However, proposed changes to the NEPOOL Agreement are still required to be filed with the Commission with enough information provided to permit the Commission to view the proposed changes in the context of the composite Agreement, *Id.* at 62,442. As a matter of administrative efficiency and convenience, these materials, including Attachment 1 included herewith marked to show the removal of NTE CT from the list of NEPOOL Participants, were submitted using the Commission's eTariff system. A composite list of NEPOOL Participants is posted on the NEPOOL website at: <u>https://nepool.com/library/operative-documents/</u>. A composite copy of the Second Restated NEPOOL Agreement is also posted at: <u>https://nepool.com/library/operative-documents/</u>.

An electronic copy of this filing has been furnished to all the members and alternates of the Participants Committee, which represent all of the electric utilities rendering or receiving service under the ISO-NE Tariff, as well as each of the independent power producers, power marketers, power brokers, load aggregators, customer-owned utility systems, merchant transmission providers, developers, and end users that are currently Participants in the Pool. This transmittal letter and the accompanying materials have also been sent to the governors and electric utility regulatory agencies for the six New England states which comprise the New England Control Area, to the New England Conference of Public Utilities Commissioners, Inc., and to the Executive Director of the New England States Committee on Electricity.

Correspondence and communications regarding this filing should be addressed as follows:

Patrick M. Gerity, Esq. Counsel, NEPOOL Participants Committee Day Pitney LLP 242 Trumbull Street Hartford, CT 06103-1212 Tel: 860-275-0533 E-mail: pmgerity@daypitney.com

Respectfully submitted,

NEPOOL PARTICIPANTS COMMITTEE

Assistant General Counsel - Corporate ISO New England Inc. One Sullivan Road Holyoke, MA 01040-2841 Tel: 413-540-4479 E-mail: jrecht@iso-ne.com

ISO NEW ENGLAND INC.

Jennifer M. Recht, Esq.

By: <u>/s/ Patrick M. Gerity</u> Patrick M. Gerity Its Attorney By: <u>/s/ Jennifer M. Recht</u> Jennifer M. Recht

Its Attorney

Attachments

cc: <u>kec.notices@nteenergy.com</u> NEPOOL Participants Committee Members and Alternates Governors, Utility Regulatory Agencies and others identified on Attachment 4

Participant Name	Effective Date of Membership if after 6/30/2000
NRG Curtailment Solutions, Inc.	6/1/2010
NRG Kiosk LLC (d/b/a Power Kiosk)	4/1/2022
NRG Power Marketing LLC	
NS Power Energy Marketing Incorporated	6/1/2019
NSTAR Electric Company	
NTE Connecticut, LLC	10/1/2016
Number Nine Wind Farm LLC	9/1/2010
Nylon Corporation of America, Inc.	10/1/2017
Ocean State BTM LLC	4/1/2021
Octopus Energy LLC	4/1/2022
Old Middleboro Road Solar, LLC	8/1/2022
Ontario Power Generation Energy Trading, Inc.	5/1/2011
Ontario Power Generation Inc.	2/1/2006
Oxford Energy Center, LLC	10/1/2021
Pacific Summit Energy, LLC	3/1/2014
Palm Energy LLC	2/1/2021
Palmco Power MA, LLC d/b/a Indra Energy	3/1/2012
Paper Birch Energy, LLC	6/1/2020
Pascoag Utility District	
Pawtucket Power Holding Company	6/1/2007
Paxton Municipal Light Department	
Peabody Municipal Light Plant	
Peninsula Power, LLC	1/1/2015
Pioneer Hydro Electric Co., Inc.	11/1/2013
Pixelle Energy Services LLC	6/1/2010
Plainfield Renewable Energy, LLC	5/1/2009
Plant-E Corp.	10/1/2014
Power Ledger Pty Ltd	7/1/2020
Power Supply Services, LLC	10/1/2013
PowerOptions, Inc.	
Princeton Municipal Light Department	8/1/2007
Protor Energy, LLC	5/1/2021
Provider Power Mass, LLC	5/1/2013
PSEG Energy Resources & Trade LLC	11/1/2000
Public Service Company of New Hampshire	
Putnam Hydropower, Inc.	3/1/2010



Robert C. Ludlow VP & Chief Financial and Compliance Officer

April 4, 2023

Sarah Bresolin Silver Director, Government & Regulatory Affairs ENGIE North America Inc. <u>sarah.bresolin@engie.com</u>

VIA E- MAIL

Dear Sarah:

Pursuant to Section 16.1(d) of the Second Restated NEPOOL Agreement and the termination protocol adopted by the Participants Committee Meeting at its April 6, 2001 meeting, ISO New England ("ISO-NE") is recommending that NEPOOL initiate Termination Proceedings for NTE Connecticut, LLC. (ISO-NE customer ID number 127402). The recommendation is due to a longstanding Financial Assurance Default under the ISO-NE Financial Assurance Policy and longstanding payment defaults under the ISO-NE Billing Policy.

NTE Connecticut, LLC has remained suspended since March 4, 2022 as a result of the longstanding Financial Assurance Default. NTE Connecticut, LLC has had 12 Payment Defaults since April 2022. Despite notice of these defaults, NTE Connecticut, LLC has not cured the defaults. The frequency and duration of these defaults described above meet the termination criteria for Level II Defaults under the Termination Protocol.

Accordingly, in accordance with the termination protocol, ISO-NE recommends that NEPOOL initiate Termination Proceedings for NTE Connecticut, LLC. Please feel free to contact me at 413-535-4014 should you have any questions regarding the above information.

Sincerely,

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Robert Ludlow Vice President, Chief Financial and Compliance Officer

cc: Pat Gerity, NEPOOL Counsel, pmgerity@daypitney.com

PROTOCOL FOR THE INITIATION OF MEMBERSHIP TERMINATION PROCEEDINGS

Without limiting any of the rights or remedies of the New England Power Pool ("NEPOOL") or ISO New England Inc. (the "ISO") available under the Second Restated New England Power Pool Agreement (the "NEPOOL Agreement"), the ISO New England Inc. Transmission, Markets and Services Tariff ("ISO Tariff")(including without limitation the ISO New England Financial Assurance Policy for Market Participants ("Financial Assurance Policy") and the ISO New England Billing Policy ("Billing Policy") that are exhibits thereto), and the Participants Agreement¹ (together with the NEPOOL Agreement and the ISO Tariff, the "Documents"), this termination protocol outlines the criteria and process by which the Chair of the Membership Subcommittee may approve on behalf of the NEPOOL Participants Committee the initiation of proceedings before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (the "Commission") to terminate the status of a Participant as a member of NEPOOL in accordance with Sections 16.1(c) and 16.1(d) of the NEPOOL Agreement.

Each Participant is obligated to pay when due in accordance with the Documents and the System Rules, including without limitation the Billing Policy, all amounts invoiced to it by NEPOOL, or by the ISO on its own behalf and on behalf of NEPOOL. In addition, each Participant is required to comply with the requirements of the Financial Assurance Policy. These Policies are enforced and managed by the ISO, with the exception of termination of membership issues, which are specifically reserved to the NEPOOL Participants.

Should a Participant fail to pay when due all amounts invoiced to it by NEPOOL, or by the ISO on behalf of NEPOOL (a "Payment Default"), or fail to comply with the Financial Assurance Policy ("Financial Assurance Default"), or fail to perform any other obligation under the NEPOOL Agreement or the ISO Tariff ("Other Default") and such failure continues for at least ten (10) days, NEPOOL may then initiate termination proceedings before the Commission to terminate such Participant's status as a NEPOOL Participant.² By delegation of authority, the Participants Committee has charged the Membership Subcommittee with the responsibility to address issues related to, and to approve if appropriate, the termination of a Participant, subject to appeal to the Participants Committee.³ The Participants Committee has determined that the decision to initiate termination proceedings in certain situations against a defaulting Participant can be delegated to and approved by the Chair of the Membership Subcommittee, as set forth below.

¹ Capitalized terms used but not defined in this filing are intended to have the meanings given to such terms in the NEPOOL Agreement, the Participants Agreement, or the ISO Tariff.

² NEPOOL Agreement § 16.2(d).

³ Minutes of the NEPOOL Executive Committee, predecessor to the NEPOOL Participants Committee, at 2036 (Nov. 7, 1997).

I. PAYMENT AND/OR FINANCIAL ASSURANCE DEFAULT

If a Payment Default or Financial Assurance Default (either separately or together referred to for the purposes of this Section 1 as a "Default") continues for at least ten (10) days (as contemplated by Section 16.1(d) of the NEPOOL Agreement), and if either the Chief Financial Officer, Chief Executive Officer, or Chair of the Board of Directors of the ISO recommends in writing⁴ to the Chair of the Membership Subcommittee that termination proceedings be commenced against such Participant for such Default (with a copy of such recommendation also being sent to Pool counsel, the members of the Membership Subcommittee, and the Participants Committee member and alternate of such Participant), the Chair, or in his or her absence the Acting Chair, of the Membership Subcommittee, to the extent practicable, shall within two (2) business days of the receipt of such recommendation and without further input from the Membership Subcommittee or the Participants Committee, approve the initiation of termination proceedings and shall direct Pool counsel to file such materials with the Commission as are appropriate to cause the termination of the membership of such Participant if such Participant has:

- (i) Two (2) or more Level 1 Defaults; or
- (ii) One (1) or more Level 2 Defaults.

A. DEFAULT LEVELS

Level 1 (any one of the following):

- **Magnitude:** \$15,000 \$50,000 (Payment Default);
- **Duration:** 10 24 days (either Payment Default or Financial Assurance Default); or
- **Frequency:** 3 or more Payment Defaults, Financial Assurance Defaults or any combination thereof within any twelve-month period

Level 2 (any one of the following):

- **Magnitude:** \$50,001 or more (Payment Default);
- **Duration:** 25 or more days (either Payment Default or Financial Assurance Default); or
- **Frequency:** 5 or more Payment Defaults, Financial Assurance Defaults or any combination thereof within any twelve-month period.

For purposes of calculating the number of times that a Financial Assurance Default occurs, an existing Financial Assurance Default shall be deemed to be

⁴ The recommendation of the ISO shall include the basis for such recommendation, including without limitation an indication of the number of Level 1 and/or Level 2 Defaults, as defined herein, of such Participant.

another, new Financial Assurance Default on the first day of each calendar month. Moreover, for purposes of calculating the number of times that a Payment Default or a Financial Assurance Default occurs, a Payment Default or Financial Assurance Default that is subsequently cured will be included in such calculation.

The Chair of the Membership Subcommittee shall refer to the full Membership Subcommittee for its consideration any recommendation to terminate a Participant where such Participant does not have either (i) at least two (2) Level 1 Defaults or (ii) at least (1) Level 2 Default, as those Defaults are defined above.

II. OTHER DEFAULT

Should (i) the criteria set forth in Section I above not support the approval by the Chair of the Membership Subcommittee of the initiation of termination proceedings, or (ii) a Participant fail to perform any obligation under the Documents which is an Other Default, the Membership Subcommittee, upon notice of such Other Default, shall consider the issues raised by such Other Default and approve the initiation of termination proceedings or take such other action as may be appropriate.

III. MISCELLANEOUS

Nothing set forth herein shall limit the ability of the Membership Subcommittee or the Participants Committee to terminate or suspend service to a Participant or to take any other action with respect to a Participant's default under the Documents.

Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Membership Subcommittee or the Participants Committee retains the ability to suspend service to, or commence termination proceedings against, any Participant in the event of any single Payment Default or Financial Assurance Default, regardless of whether such default constitutes a Level 1 or Level 2 Default.

The Secretary of the Participants Committee or NEPOOL Counsel shall, upon the filing with the Commission of the materials necessary to commence termination proceedings against a defaulting Participant, notify the utility regulatory authorities in each state in New England in which such defaulting Participant does business of the pending termination proceeding against such defaulting Participant and the possibility of suspension of service to such Participant.

In the event of conflict between the provisions of this Protocol and the Documents, the provisions of the Documents shall govern.

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New England Governors and Utility Regulatory and Related Agencies

Connecticut

The Honorable Ned Lamont State Capitol 210 Capitol Ave. Hartford, CT 06106

Maine

The Honorable Janet T. Mills One State House Station Rm. 236 Augusta, ME 04333-0001

Massachusetts

The Honorable Maura Healey Office of the Governor Rm. 360 State House Boston, MA 02133

New Hampshire

The Honorable Christopher T. Sununu State House 107 North Main Street Concord, NH 03301

Rhode Island

The Honorable Daniel J. McKee 82 Smith Street Providence, RI 02903

Vermont

The Honorable Philip B. Scott 109 State Street, Pavilion Montpelier, VT 05609

April 21, 2023

Connecticut Public Utilities Regulatory Authority 10 Franklin Square New Britain, CT 06051-2605

Maine Public Utilities Commission 18 State House Station 242 State Street Augusta, ME 04333-0018

Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities One South Station Boston, MA 02110

New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission 21 South Fruit Street Suite 10 Concord, NH 03301-2429

Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission 89 Jefferson Boulevard Warwick, RI 02888

Vermont Public Utility Commission 112 State Street, Drawer 20 Montpelier, VT 05620-2701

New England Governors and Utility Regulatory and Related Agencies

<u>April 21, 2023</u>

Margaret Cheney, Co-President Anthony Z. Roisman, Co-President New England Conference of Public Utilities Commissioners, Inc. c/o The Vermont Public Utility Commission 112 State Street, Drawer 20 Montpelier, VT 05620-2701 Margaret.Cheney@vermont.gov Anthony.Roisman@vermont.gov

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Heather Hunt Executive Director New England States Committee on Electricity HeatherHunt@NESCOE.com