EXECUTIVE SUMMARY Status Report of Current Regulatory and Legal Proceedings as of May 3, 2023

The following activity, as more fully described in the attached litigation report, has occurred since the report dated April 5, 2023 ("last Report") was circulated. New matters/proceedings since the last Report are preceded by an asterisk '*'. Page numbers precede the matter description.

		I. Co	omplaints/Sec	ction 206 Proceedings				
	4	NextEra/Avangrid/NECEC Seabrook Complaint (EL21-6) and Seabrook Declaratory Order (EL21-3)	Apr 3 Apr 4	FERC issues Seabrook Dispute Allegheny Order NextEra petitions DC Circuit for review of Seabrook Dispute Order				
II. Rate, ICR, FCA, Cost Recovery Filings								
*	8	BHD Regulatory Asset-Establishment & Recovery Through Rates (ER23-1598)	Apr 7 May 3	Versant request approval for establishment and recovery through th ISO-NE Tariff of a \$15 million regulatory asset MPUC moves to intervene out-of-time and protest				
	8	FCA17 Results Filing (ER23-1435)	Apr 7 Apr 21-May 3 May 3	National Grid intervenes Over 70 individual citizens file anti-fossil fuel comments; comment deadline <i>May 5, 2023</i> No Coal No Gas submits comments				
	9	Add'l Cost Recovery Due to Dec 24 General Threshold Energy Mitigation: Dynegy (ER23-1261)	Apr 14	Dynegy answers Apr 4 ME OPA and joint MA AG/CT OCC protests				
-	10	Mystic 8/9 COSA (ER18-1639)						
*	10	(-024) Mystic Request for Rehearing of Mystic I Order on Remand	Apr 27	Mystic requests rehearing of Mystic I Order on Remand				
*	10	(-023) Revised COSA	Apr 27	Mystic submits 30-day compliance filing; comment deadline <i>May 18, 2023</i>				
	10	(-021) First CapEx Info. Filing Settlement Agreement	Apr 14	Mystic and State Settling Parties submit reply comments				
*	12	30-Day Compliance Filing per Order on ENECOS Mystic COSA Complaint (ER23-1735)	Apr 27	Mystic submits 30-day compliance filing; comment deadline <i>May 18, 2023</i>				
-	12	Trans. Rate Annual (2022/23) Update/Info Filing (ER09-1532)	Apr 14	Eversource answers Mar 31 RENEW answer				
		III. Market Rule and Informa	ation Policy C	hanges, Interpretations and Waiver Requests				
*	13	B IEP Parameter Updates (ER23-1588)	Apr 7 Apr 10-27	ISO-NE and NEPOOL file Updates Calpine, Constellation, Eversource, National Grid, Public Systems, M/ DPU file doc-less motions to intervene only				
			Apr 28	Indicated Suppliers support Updates; Consumer Advocates, Sierra Club/CLF/UCS protest Updates				
	16	IEP Remand (ER19-1428-006)	Apr 24	FERC accepts ISO-NE's proposed Tariff Revisions (but not the alternative changes proposed by Brookfield), eff. May 30, 2019				

May 3, 2023 Report			MAY 4, 2023 MEETING, AGENDA ITEM #8				
14	New England's Order 2222 Compliance Filing (ER22-983)	Apr 11	FERC accepts NEPOOL request to extend 60-day compliance filing deadline to <i>May 9, 2023</i>				
		Apr 14	MA AG answers Mar 31 New England Public Utils. request for reh'g				
		Apr 17	Advanced Energy United answers Mar 31 ISO-NE rehearing request				
		May 1	FERC issues Order 2222 Compliance Allegheny Order				
		May 2	ISO-NE answers AEU Apr 17 answer				
IV. OATT Amendments / TOAs / Coordination Agreements							
* 16	<i>Order 676-J</i> Compliance Filings Part II (ER23-1771; ER23-1774; ER23- 1782; ER23-1785)	May 1	Revisions filed to incorporate the remainder of the NAESB WEQ v. 003.3 standards into Tariff Schedule 24 (by ISO-NE/NEPOOL-ER23- 1771); Schedule 18-Attachment Z (by ISO-NE/CSC-ER23-1774); MPD OATT (by Versant Power-ER23-1782); and Schedules 20A-Common and 21-Common (by the PTOs/Schedule 20A Service Providers-ER23- 1785); comment deadline <i>May 22, 2022</i>				
* 16	CNRIS Time-Out Rules Removal (ER23-1581)	Apr 11-27 Apr 27	Constellation, RI Energy, National Grid, Glenvale intervene <u>AEU</u> and <u>RENEW</u> filed comments supporting Rules removal				
	V. Financial Assurance/Billing Policy Amendments						

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V. Financial Assurance/Billing Policy Amendments

No Activities to Report

	VI. Schedule 20/21/22/23 Changes & Agreements						
	17	Schedule 21-NEP: NEP/Dichotomy Collins Hydro SGIA (ER23-888)	Apr 14	NEP submits deficiency letter response; comment deadline <i>May 5, 2023</i>			
	18	Schedule 21-VP: Revised 2021 Annual Update Settlement Agreement (ER20-2119-002)	May 1	FERC approves Revised 2021 Annual Update Settlement Agreement			
	18	Schedule 21-VP: Revised 2020 Annual Update Settlement Agreement (ER15-1434-006)	May 1	FERC approves Revised 2020 Annual Update Settlement Agreement			
*	18	Schedule 21-VEC and 20-VEC: Annual Informational Filing (ER10-1181)	Apr 28	VEC submits its annual update to its Schedule 21-VEC and 20-VEC formula rates covering the Jul 1, 2023 – Jun 30, 2024 period			

VII. NEPOOL Agreement/Participants Agreement Amendments

No Activities to Report

	VIII. Regional Reports					
* 18	RTO/ISO Common Performance Metrics (AD19-16)	Apr 24	ISO-NE files FERC Form 922 for 2019-2022			
* 19	LFTR Implementation Quarterly Status Reports (ER07-476)	Apr 14	ISO-NE files its 58th quarterly report			
* 19	ISO-NE 2022 FERC Form 582 (not docketed)	Apr 20	ISO-NE submits 2022 annual report of total MWh of transmission service (approx. 1.25 million MWhs) (roughly 1.1 million MWh more than 2021)			
* 19	ISO-NE 2022 Q4 FERC Form 3Q (not docketed)	Apr 14	ISO-NE submits its 2022 Q4 FERC Form 3Q			

NEPOOL PARTICIPANTS COMMITTEE

	IX. Membership Filings							
* 19	May 2023 Membership Filing (ER23-1768)	Apr 28	New Members: Carbon Solutions Group, PPL TransLink, Second Foundation US Trading Terminations: EnPowered, Invenia, Uniper, WATTIFI; Name Changes: RWE Clean Energy Wholesale Services; RWE Clean Energy Asset Holdings; RWE Clean Energy Solutions; and SYSO Inc.; comment deadline May 19, 2023					
* 19	Membership - NTE CT Involuntary Termination (ER23-1689)	Apr 21	NEPOOL and ISO-NE request the involuntary termination of the Participant status of NTE Connecticut, LLC, effective Jun 22, 2023; comments due by May 12, 2023					
19	Mar 2023 Membership Filing (ER23-1197)	Apr 27	FERC accepts (i) the membership of Calpine Community Energy; (ii) the termination of the Participant status of Clean Choice Energy; InBalance; and Stored Solar J&WE and (iii) the name change of Interstate Gas Supply, LLC (f/k/a Interstate Gas Supply, Inc.)					
* 20	Suspension Notice – Rivercrest Power-SOUTH (not docketed)	Apr 14	ISO-NE files notice of Apr 12 suspension of Rivercrest Power-SOUTH from the New England Markets					
	X. Misc	ERO Rules, F	ilings; Reliability Standards					
20	Revised Reliability Standard: PRC- 002-4 (RD23-4)	Apr 14	FERC approves PRC-002-4 (Disturbance Monitoring and Reporting Requirements)					
20	NERC Report on Evaluation of Physical Reliability Standard (CIP- 014) (RD23-3)	Apr 14	NERC files evaluation report; comment deadline <i>May 15, 2023</i>					
21	Revised Rel. Standards: EOP-011-3 and EOP-012-1 (RD23-1)	Apr 20	FERC issues Cold Weather Standards Allegheny Order					
	XI. Misc of Regional Interest							
* 24	203 Application: Energy Harbor / Vistra (EC23-74)	Apr 17 Apr 18-24	Energy Harbor and Vistra seek FERC authorization to become indirect subsidiaries of Vistra Vision; comment deadline <i>June 16, 2023</i> PJM IMM, NOPEC, Public Citizen intervene					
24	203 Application: Saddleback / CPV (EC23-52)	Apr 6	CPV acquires Saddleback, with Spruce Mountain Wind becoming a Related Person to CPV Towantic					
25	203 Application: Salem Harbor / Castleton Commodities (EC23-50)	Apr 25	Castleton Commodities acquires 88.4% of the units of Salem Harbor Holdco, making CCI and Salem Harbor Related Persons					
25	203 Application: Agilitas Companies / AB CarVal Funds (EC23-30)	Apr 6	AB Carval Funds notifies FERC that the transaction authorized by the FERC was consummated on Mar 29, 2023					
* 25	D&E Agreement: NSTAR / Vineyard Wind (ER23-1665)	Apr 20	NSTAR files amended D&E Agreement; comment deadline <i>May 11, 2023</i>					
* 25	NSTAR / Commonwealth Wind D&E Agreement (ER23-1607)	Apr 11	NSTAR files D&E Agreement with Commonwealth Wind					
* 26	NSTAR / Ocean State Power RFA Termination (ER23-1606)	Apr 11	NSTAR files to terminate, as unnecessary, the RFA between itself and Ocean State Power					
* 26	LGIA: RIE / ISO-NE / Various Entities (ER23-1748, ER23-1741, ER23- 1767)	Apr 28	RIE and ISO-NE file three revised LGIAs to reflect RIE as the new Interconnecting Transmission Owner; comment deadline <i>May 19,</i> 2023					
27	National Grid/ GRH SGIA (ER23-1152)	Apr 20	FERC accepts SGIA, eff. Jan 30, 2023					

May 3, 2	2023 Report		NEPOOL PARTICIPANTS COMMITTEE MAY 4, 2023 MEETING, AGENDA ITEM #8	
27	LSAs: RI Energy/ISO-NE/BIPCO (ER23-1000; ER23-1003)	May 1	ISO-NE and RI Energy file (i) response to Mar 31, 2023 deficiency letter issued in ER23-1003 and (ii) compliance filing directed in order accepting LSA in ER23-1003; comment deadline <i>May 22, 2023</i>	
	XII. Misc.	- Administra	tive & Rulemaking Proceedings	
29	Second New England Winter Gas- Electric Forum (AD22-9)	Apr 13	FERC issues supplement notice of a 2 nd New England Winter Gas- Electric Forum to be held <i>June 20, 2023</i> in Portland, Maine; panelist self-nominations due <i>May 19, 2023</i>	
29	Transmission Planning & Cost Management Tech. Conf. (AD22-8)	Apr 18, 24	PJM IMM and the ITC Companies file reply comments	
30	Joint Federal-State Task Force on Electric Transmission (AD21-15)	Apr 18 Apr 24 Apr 19	PJM IMM files comments ITC Companies file reply comments FERC issues notice that 7 th JFSTF meeting will be held Sunday, Jul 16, 2023 in Austin, TX	
32	<i>Order 893</i> : Incentives for Advanced Cybersecurity Investment (RM22-19)	Apr 21	FERC issues Order 893, eff. Jul 3, 2023	
32	NOPR: Interconnection Reforms (RM22-14)	Apr 26	Senator J. Barrasso, a ranking member of the Senate's Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, asks for FERC responses to a series of questions	
35	NOPR: Transmission Siting (RM22-7)	Apr 17-18	Comments filed by American Chemistry Council, Arizona Game and Fish Department, ELCON, Land Trust Alliance, and Nansemond Indian Nation; comment deadline May 17, 2023	

)	(III. FERC E	nforcement Proceedings
		No A	Activity to Report
		XIV. Na	tural Gas Proceedings
		No A	Activity to Report
	XV. State Pr	oceedings &	& Federal Legislative Proceedings
40	Maine - NECEC Transmission LLC et al. v. Bureau of Parks and Lands et al. (BCD-21-416)	Apr 20	Jury rules 9-0 that developers had completed enough work in good faith before the passage of the ballot question to have a constitutiona right to proceed with construction of the NECEC Project
		XVI.	Federal Courts
* 40	Seabrook Dispute Order (23-1094)	Apr 4 Apr 6 Apr 17	NextEra files Petition for Review Clerk issues order directing filing of initial submissions Avangrid and NECEC Transmission file motion to intervene
41	Mystic II (ROE & True-Up) (21-1198 et al.) (consol.)	Apr 24	Constellation proposes continued abeyance for an additional 90 days
44	Algonquin Atlantic Bridge Project Orders (22-1146, 22-1147) (consol.)	Apr 20	Oral argument held before Judges Srinivasan, Millett and Tatel

MEMORANDUM

TO:NEPOOL Participants Committee Members and AlternatesFROM:Patrick M. Gerity, NEPOOL CounselDATE:May 3, 2023RE: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"),¹ state regulatory commissions, and the Federal Courts and legislatures through May 3, 2023. If you have questions, please contact us.

I. Complaints/Section 206 Proceedings

• RENEW Network Upgrades O&M Cost Allocation Complaint (EL23-16)

The December 13, 2022 complaint by RENEW Northeast, Inc. ("RENEW") against ISO-NE and the Participating Transmission Owners ("PTOs"), which seeks changes to the ISO-NE Tariff (Schedules 11 and 21) that would eliminate the direct assignment of Network Upgrade Operations and Maintenance ("O&M") costs to Interconnection Customers,² is pending before the FERC. As previously reported, the proposed revisions to Schedule 11 of the Tariff were voted by the Transmission Committee at its October 26, 2021 meeting, and were discussed at the Participants Committee November 3, 2021 meeting. RENEW asked the FERC to issue an order granting the Complaint by April 14, 2023 (approximately 60 days prior to the June 15, 2023 deadline for the NE PTOs to publish a draft of the Annual Update to the data used in the transmission formula rate).

Following a request by the PTO AC for a 20-day extension of time to submit comments, supported by NEPOOL, the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office ("MA AG") and NESCOE, and granted by the FERC on December 22, 2022, comments were due on or before January 23, 2023. On January 19, 2023, <u>ISO-NE</u> moved to dismiss itself as a party or, in the alternative, answer the Complaint ("ISO-NE Jan 19 Motion"). On January 23, responses, comments and protests were filed by the <u>PTO AC</u>, <u>NEPOOL</u>, <u>AEU/Clean Energy Council</u>, <u>CPV Towantic</u>, <u>Glenvale</u>, <u>MA AG</u>, <u>NECOS</u>, <u>NEPGA</u>, and <u>NESCOE</u>. Doc-less interventions only were filed by Calpine, CMMEC, EMI, Eversource, Narragansett ("RI Energy"), National Grid, New Leaf Energy, NextEra, NRG, Versant, CT DEEP, MA DPU, the American Clean Power Association ("ACPA"), Solar Energy Industries Association ("SEIA"), and Public Citizen.

Since the last Report, <u>RENEW</u> answered <u>ISO-NE's Jan 19 Motion</u>. On February 7, 2023, <u>RENEW</u>, the <u>PTO</u> <u>AC</u>, and <u>National Grid</u> filed answers to the January 23 protests/comments. On February 16, 2023, ISO-NE answered RENEW's February 7 answer. On February 22, 2023, <u>CPV Towantic</u>, <u>Glenvale</u>, and the <u>MA AG</u> filed answers to the February 7 answers. This matter is pending before the FERC. If you have questions on this proceeding, please contact Eric Runge (617-345-4735; <u>ekrunge@daypitney.com</u>) or Margaret Czepiel (202-218-3906; <u>mczepiel@daypitney.com</u>).

¹ 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").

² RENEW also requested (i) that it be considered an Interested Party or afforded adequate opportunity to participate and access transmission rate information under the PTOs' Formula Rate Protocols and (ii) the PTOs be directed to provide greater transparency regarding O&M costs in the interconnection process.

• 206 Proceeding: FTR Collateral Show Cause Order (EL22-63)

On July 28, 2022, the FERC instituted a Section 206 proceeding finding that the existing tariffs of certain ISO/RTOs, including the ISO-NE Tariff, appear to be unjust and unreasonable.³ The FERC found that ISO-NE's Tariff appears to be unjust and unreasonable in the absence of volumetric minimum collateral requirements for FTR Market Participants ("volumetric FTR collateral requirements"). Accordingly, ISO-NE was directed, on or before October 26, 2022, to either: (1) show cause as to why the Tariff remains just and reasonable and not unduly discriminatory or preferential; or (2) explain what changes to the Tariff it believes would remedy the identified concerns if the FERC were to determine that the Tariff has in fact become unjust and unreasonable or unduly discriminatory or preferential.⁴ As noted below, ISO-NE answered by explaining why it believes its existing Tariff provisions to be just and reasonable and changes not necessary.

By way of background, the *FTR Collateral Show Cause Order* follows PJM's *Green Hat* experience,⁵ a 2019 request by the Energy Trading Institute requesting a FERC-convened technical conference to consider a potential rulemaking to improve ISO/RTO credit practices,⁶ and a two-day technical conference in February 2021 that discussed principles and best practices for credit risk management in organized wholesale electric markets.⁷ In the *FTR Collateral Show Cause Order*, the FERC stated that, although the record developed through the technical conference highlighted numerous different approaches to managing credit risk, "we believe that two specific practices may be particularly critical to effectively managing credit risk for FTRs: the use of a mark-to-auction mechanism and a volumetric minimum collateral requirement for FTRs."⁸ ISO-NE currently employs a mark-to-auction mechanism but not volumetric FTR collateral requirements.

The FERC issued on July 28, 2022, a notice of this proceeding and of the refund effective date, August 3, 2022.⁹ Those interested in participating in this proceeding were required to intervene on or before August 18, 2022. Doc-less interventions were filed by NEPOOL, Calpine, DC Energy, NRG, the Maine Public Utilities Commission ("MPUC"), Electric Power Supply Association ("EPSA"), PJM, SPP, Public Citizen, and Financial Marketers Coalition¹⁰ (out-of-time).

⁴ *Id.* at P 31.

⁵ See GreenHat Energy, LLC, 175 FERC ¶ 61,138 (2021) (order to show cause) (GreenHat Show Cause Order); GreenHat Energy, LLC, 177 FERC ¶ 61,073 (2021) (order assessing civil penalties). In June 2018, GreenHat Energy LLC ("GreenHat") defaulted on its obligations to PJM after amassing one of the largest FTR portfolios in the PJM region. At the time of its default, GreenHat had only \$559,447 on deposit as collateral with PJM and no other material assets. However, over the subsequent three-year period ending in May 2021, this FTR portfolio incurred approximately \$179 million in losses, which were borne by non-defaulting market participants in PJM.

⁶ Energy Trading Institute Request for Technical Conference and Petition for Rulemaking to Update Credit and Risk Management Rules and Procedures in the Organized Markets, *Credit Reforms in Organized Wholesale Electric Markets*, Docket No. AD20-6-000 (Dec. 16, 2019).

⁷ See Supp. Notice of Tech. Conf., RTO/ISO Credit Principles and Practices, Docket No. AD21-6, et al. (Feb. 10, 2021).

⁸ The FERC explained that (i) the mark-to-auction mechanism mitigates the risk of default by updating collateral requirements to reflect the most recent valuation of the FTR position and (ii) volumetric FTR collateral requirements ensure that a market participant is required to post a minimum amount of collateral to cover potential defaults, even when the market participant has offsetting positions. With respect to volumetric FTR collateral requirements, the FERC expressed a concern that netting of FTRs with negative collateral requirements against FTRs with positive collateral requirements can lead to insufficient collateral for a portfolio's risk should future congestion be significantly different than historical congestion. Without explicit \$/MWh volumetric FTR collateral requirements, the FERC is "concerned that market participants may be able to minimize their collateral requirements without a corresponding reduction in risk". The ISO-NE Financial Assurance Policy allows for some limited offsetting. *See* FAP § VI (allowing for netting of FTRs with the same or opposite path, same contract month and type). *FTR Collateral Show Cause Order* at PP 28-29.

⁹ The Notice was published in the Fed. Reg. on Aug 3, 2022 (Vol. 87, No. 148) p. 47,409.

¹⁰ "Financial Marketers Coalition" identified themselves in their doc-less intervention as "financial market participants participating in the various ISO/RTO markets, including those operated by CAISO, SPP, NYISO and ISO-NE. Many of the Coalition members participate in these ISO/RTOs' FTR markets."

³ CAISO, ISO-NE, NYISO, and SPP, 180 FERC ¶ 61,049 (July 28, 2022) ("FTR Collateral Show Cause Order").

ISO-NE Response. On October 26, 2022, ISO-NE submitted its answer in response to the *FTR Collateral Show Cause Order*. In its Answer, ISO-NE explained how the FTR financial assurance calculations contained in the Financial Assurance Policy ("FAP") remain just and reasonable, adequately accounting for FTR risk in the absence of a more sophisticated risk management solution such as a clearing solution. ISO-NE asked that, should the FERC not agree and proceed to require volumetric FTR collateral requirements, that it be permitted to follow the Participants Processes to propose revisions to the FAP consistent with any such order. Comments on ISO-NE's response were due on or before November 25, 2022; none were filed. This matter remains pending before the FERC.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Paul Belval (860-275-0381; <u>pnbelval@daypitney.com</u>).

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

Still pending before the FERC is the FERC-instituted FPA Section 206 proceeding under which the FERC is considering whether Schedule 25 and Tariff § I.3.10 may be unjust and unreasonable.¹¹ As previously reported, 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.¹²

The FERC directed ISO-NE to: (1) show cause as to why Schedule 25 and Tariff § I.3.10 remain just and reasonable or (2) explain what changes to Schedule 25 and/or Tariff § 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 is 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, 2021¹³ and included 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.

ISO-NE Answer. On November 8, 2021, ISO-NE submitted its answer explaining why Schedule 25 and Tariff § I.3.10 remain just and reasonable. ISO-NE called for the FERC to "assist Affected Parties and 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 <u>NEPOOL</u>, <u>NECEC/Avangrid</u>, <u>NEPGA</u>, <u>NextEra</u>. On January 20, 2022, <u>NextEra</u> answered the NECEC/Avangrid comments. On January 28, 2022, <u>NECEC</u> answered NextEra's January 20 answer and <u>ISO-NE</u> answered NECEC's January 7 comments.

¹¹ 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) ("Sep 7 Order").

¹² *Id.* at P 20.

¹³ The *Notice* was published in the *Fed. Reg.* on Sep. 14, 2021 (Vol. 86, No. 175) p. 51,140.

As noted, this matter remains pending before the FERC. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Eric Runge (617-345-4735; <u>ekrunge@daypitney.com</u>).

NextEra / Avangrid/NECEC Dispute - ("Seabrook Complaint") (EL21-6)¹⁴ and ("Seabrook Declaratory Order Petition") (EL21-3)¹⁵

As previously reported, the FERC issued, on February 1, 2023, a single order addressing these two proceedings.¹⁶ In the Seabrook Dispute Order, the FERC (i) both denied and granted in part the Seabrook Complaint; (ii) dismissed the Seabrook Declaratory Order Petition; and (iii) directed Seabrook to replace the Seabrook Station breaker pursuant to its obligations under the Seabrook LGIA and Good Utility Practice. Specifically, the FERC denied the Seabrook Complaint in part because it found that Avangrid had "not shown that Seabrook is obligated to replace the breaker due to Seabrook failing to meet certain open access obligations or because Seabrook has failed to comply with Schedule 25 of the ISO-NE Tariff".¹⁷ However, the FERC found that, "under Seabrook's LGIA, Seabrook may not refuse to replace the breaker because it is needed for reliable operation of Seabrook Station and required by Good Utility Practice" and thus, given the specific facts and circumstances in the record, granted the Seabrook Complaint in part.¹⁸ With respect to cost issues, the FERC agreed with Avangrid that, in this case, Seabrook should not recover opportunity costs (e.g. lost profits, lost revenues, and foregone Pay for Performance ("PFP") bonuses) or legal costs.¹⁹ In dismissing the Declaratory Order Petition, the FERC noted that the issues raised in the Petition were addressed in the Seabrook Dispute Order, that additional findings were unnecessary, and thus exercised its discretion to not take action on, and to dismiss, the Petition.²⁰ The breaker replacement is currently expected to take place during the Fall 2024 refueling outage and the commercial operation date for the NECEC Project is December 2024.²¹ Seabrook plans to file an agreement governing installation at the earlier of 30 days prior to delivery of the breaker or 120 days prior to the start of the Fall 2024 outage.²² The FERC noted its expectation that such an agreement would resolve whatever remaining issues exist between the parties to allow replacement of the breaker to move forward during the 2024 outage, or if not, an unexecuted agreement would be filed.²³

¹⁷ *Id*. at P 74.

¹⁸ Id.

²⁰ *Id.* at P 112.

²³ Id. at P 88.

¹⁴ On Oct. 13, 2020, NECEC and Avangrid Inc. (together, "Avangrid") filed a complaint 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 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 (the "Seabrook Complaint").

¹⁵ On Oct. 5, 2020, NextEra Energy Seabrook, LLC ("Seabrook") filed a Petition for a Declaratory Order seeking clarity on the scope of Seabrook's "FERC-jurisdictional regulatory obligations with respect to the project ("NECEC Elective Upgrade"), and to resolve its dispute with NECEC" (the "Seabrook Declaratory Order Petition" or "Petition"). Please see prior Reports for additional procedural details related to these proceedings.

¹⁶ NextEra Energy Seabrook, LLC and NECEC Transmission LLC and Avangrid, Inc. v. NextEra Energy Resources, LLC and NextEra Energy Seabrook, LLC, 182 FERC ¶ 61,044 (Feb. 1, 2023) ("Seabrook Dispute Order"), reh'g denied by operation of law, NextEra Energy Seabrook, LLC et al., 183 FERC ¶ 62,001 (Apr. 3, 2023) ("Seabrook Dispute Allegheny Order").

¹⁹ *Id.* at P 100. The FERC noted that Avangrid has agreed to pay for the direct costs of the engineering, procurement and construction of the Seabrook breaker replacement. The FERC further noted that it did not address arguments over consequential damages in light of the fact that both Seabrook and Avangrid both asserted that consequential damages were no longer a live issue.

²¹ A&R E&P Agreement Between NextEra Energy Seabrook and NECEC Transmission at 2, NextEra Energy Seabrook, LLC, Docket No. ER22-2807-000 (filed Sep. 7, 2022).

²² Amended E&P Agreement, Art. VI, Docket No. ER22-2807-000 (filed Sept. 7, 2022).

Denied By Operation of Law: NextEra Request for Rehearing, Avangrid Request for Clarification. As previously reported, NextEra requested rehearing of the *Seabrook Dispute Order* on the basis that, among other things, the FERC lacked authority to require Seabrook to replace its generation breaker and to rule that Seabrook cannot recover all its costs; Avangrid similarly sought clarification of the basis for FERC's jurisdiction. On April 3, 2023, the FERC issued a "Notice of Denial of Rehearing by Operation of Law and Providing for Further Consideration".²⁴ That Notice confirmed that the 60-day period during which a petition for review of the *Seabrook Dispute Order* can be filed with an appropriate federal court was triggered when the FERC did not act on NextEra's request for rehearing of the *Seabrook Dispute Order*. The Notice also indicated that the FERC would address, as is its right, the rehearing request in a future order, and may modify or set aside its order, in whole or in part, "in such manner as it shall deem proper." The FERC also did not act on Avangrid's request for clarification which, like NextEra's request for rehearing, can be deemed denied by operation of law. The *Seabrook Dispute Order* has been appealed to the DC Circuit (*see* Section XVI below), with further developments to be reported in that Section.

If you have any questions concerning these matters, please contact Eric Runge (617-345-4735; <u>ekrunge@daypitney.com</u>).

• 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,²⁵ set the TOs' Base ROE at 10.57% (reduced from 11.14%), capped the TOs' total ROE (Base ROE <u>plus</u> transmission incentive adders) at 11.74%, and required implementation effective as of October 16, 2014 (the date of Opinion 531-A).²⁶ However, the FERC's orders were challenged, and in *Emera Maine*,²⁷ 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)²⁸ and third (EL14-86)²⁹ ROE complaint proceedings were consolidated for purposes of hearing and

²⁶ Coakley Mass. Att'y Gen. v. Bangor Hydro-Elec. Co., 147 FERC ¶ 61,234 (2014) ("Opinion 531"), order on paper hearing, 149 FERC ¶ 61,032 (2014) ("Opinion 531-A"), order on reh'g, 150 FERC ¶ 61,165 (2015) ("Opinion 531-B").

²⁷ 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).

²⁸ 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%.

²⁹ 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 pre-incentives Base ROE of 11.14%, and a reduction in the Combined ROE, relief as yet not afforded through the prior ROE proceedings.

²⁴ NextEra Energy Seabrook, LLC et al., 183 FERC ¶ 62,001 (Apr. 3, 2023) ("Seabrook Dispute Allegheny Order").

²⁵ The TOs' 11.14% pre-existing Base ROE was established in *Opinion 489. Bangor Hydro-Elec. Co.*, Opinion No. 489, 117 FERC ¶ 61,129 (2006), *order on reh'g*, 122 FERC ¶ 61,265 (2008), *order granting clarif.*, 124 FERC ¶ 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*")).

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.³⁰ 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 proceeding³¹ also went to hearing before an Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), Judge Glazer, who issued his initial decision on March 27, 2017.³² 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.³³ 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.

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.³⁴ 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*³⁵ (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.³⁶

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

³² Belmont Mun. Light Dept. v. Central Me. Power Co., 162 FERC ¶ 63,026 (Mar. 27, 2018) ("Base ROE Complaint IV Initial Decision").

³³ *Id.* at P 2.; Finding of Fact (B).

³⁴ Coakley v. Bangor Hydro-Elec. Co., 165 FERC ¶ 61,030 (Oct. 18, 2018) ("Order Directing Briefs" or "Coakley").

³⁵ 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*.

³⁰ Environment Northeast v. Bangor Hydro-Elec. Co. and Mass. Att'y Gen. v. Bangor Hydro-Elec. Co, 154 FERC ¶ 63,024 (Mar. 22, 2016) ("2012/14 ROE Initial Decision").

³¹ 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.

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%.³⁷ 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 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 Customers³⁸ 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*³⁹ 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; <u>ekrunge@daypitney.com</u>) or Joe Fagan (202-218-3901; <u>jfagan@daypitney.com</u>).

³⁷ Id. at P 59.

³⁸ For purposes of the motion seeking clarification, "Customers" are CT PURA, MA AG and EMCOS.

³⁹ 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).

II. Rate, ICR, FCA, Cost Recovery Filings

• BHD Regulatory Asset - Establishment & Recovery Through Rates (ER23-1598)

On April 7, 2023, Versant Power requested authorization to (i) establish a regulatory asset for the Bangor Hydro District ("BHD") totaling \$15,622,081 in capitalized regulatory overhead costs (identified in a recent FERC audit as incorrectly allocated as construction costs) as of January 1, 2024, and amortize this asset over a period of 16 years on a straight-line basis beginning January 1, 2024, subject to FERC approval; and (ii) recover as an expense in transmission rates under the ISO-NE OATT a return of the unamortized balance of the regulatory asset effective January 1, 2026 and continuing for 16 years. Comments on Versant's request were due on or before April 28, 2023. On May 3, the Maine Public Utilities Commission ("MPUC") moved to intervene out-of-time and protest. In its protest, the MPUC and requests that Versant be required to refund retail customers for the improper collection of "Allocation of Overhead Costs to Construction Work in Progress" and to provide additional detail regarding the amounts included. This matter is pending before the FERC. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Pat Gerity (860-275-0533; pmgerity@daypitney.com).

• FCA17 Results Filing (ER23-1435)

On March 21, 2023, ISO-NE filed the results of the seventeenth FCA ("FCA17") held March 6, 2023 for the June 1, 2026 - May 31, 2027 Capacity Commitment Period ("CCP"). ISO-NE reported the following highlights:

- FCA17 Capacity Zones were 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 Southeastern Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Northeastern Massachusetts/Boston, Connecticut and Western/Central Massachusetts Load Zones). NNE was modeled as an export-constrained Capacity Zone. The Maine Load Zone was modeled as a separate nested export-constrained Capacity Zone within NNE.
- FCA17 commenced with a starting price of \$12.76/kW-mo. and concluded for all Capacity Zones after four rounds.
- Capacity Clearing Prices were as follows (prices expressed per kw-mo.): All Capacity Zones \$2.59; imports over the NY AC Ties (390 MW); and imports over the New Brunswick external interface (177 MW) \$2.55.⁴⁰
- 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.

ISO-NE asked the FERC to accept the FCA17 rates and results, effective July 19, 2023. Comments on this filing are due on or before *May 5, 2023*. Thus far, NEPOOL, Calpine, Constellation, Dominion, National Grid, NESCOE, EPSA, No Coal No Gas, and Public Citizen have filed doc-less interventions. No Coal No Gas submitted comments on May 3. Individual comments have been filed by more than 70 citizens (generally critical of process that permits continued assignment of Capacity Supply Obligations to fossil-fueled resources). 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).

⁴⁰ The HQ Highgate external interface and Phase I/II HQ Excess external interface were priced at \$2.59, with no imports receiving a Capacity Supply Obligation over either interface.

• Add'I Cost Recovery Due to Dec 24 General Threshold Energy Mitigation: Dynegy (ER23-1261) As previously reported, Dynegy Marketing and Trade, LLC ("Dynegy") requested in a March 6, 2023 filing, and pursuant to § 15 of Appendix A to Market Rule 1, that the FERC authorize the recovery of \$903,400 in unrecovered costs incurred by Dynegy because its Resources were subject to General Threshold Energy Mitigation on December 24, 2022. Specifically, Dynegy requested (i) \$903,400 in under-recovered fuel and variable operating and maintenance costs consistent with calculations set forth in ISO-NE IMMU's Report and (ii) reasonable, related regulatory costs (\$62,000 plus any further regulatory costs to be identified in a compliance filing).

Comments on this filing were due, after an extension of time requested by Public Citizen, Maine Office of the Public Advocate ("ME OPA"), and MA AG, and subsequently granted by the FERC, on or before April 4, 2023. That day, NEPGA filed comments supporting Dynegy's request; ME OPA and MA AG and the Connecticut Office of Consumer Counsel ("CT OCC") jointly protested Dynegy's request. The protests generally asserted that Dynegy did not demonstrate that its request for recovery associated with Upward Mitigation was consistent with or required by the Market Rules (recovery, which they assert, is limited to fuel and variable operating and maintenance costs of a Resource for the hours during which a supply offer was capped). Should the FERC grant Dynegy's cost recovery request, however, they suggested that the FERC utilize the Day-Ahead Real-Time approach described in the proceeding as the basis to calculate any cost recovery. Dynegy answered the ME OPA and MA AG/CT OCC protests on April 21, 2023. Doc-less interventions only were filed by NEPOOL, ISO-NE, National Grid, CT AG, CT PURA, EPSA, and Public Citizen.

This matter is now pending before the FERC. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Rosendo Garza (860-275-0660; <u>rgarza@daypitney.com</u>) or Pat Gerity (860-275-0533; <u>pmgerity@daypitney.com</u>).

• Mystic COS Agreement Updates to Reflect Constellation Spin Transaction⁴¹ (ER22-1192)

As previously reported, on May 2, 2022, the FERC accepted and suspended in part Constellation Mystic Power, LLC's ("Mystic's") changes to its Amended and Restated Cost-of-Service Agreement ("COSA") to reflect Mystic's current upstream ownership.⁴² The changes were accepted effective as of June 1, 2022, but subject to refund and to the outcome of paper hearing (or settlement procedures) on the issues of capital structure and cost of debt raises issues. Mystic filed an offer of settlement on September 8, 2022 to resolve all issues set for hearing and settlement proceedings and the FERC accepted that offer of settlement on November 2, 2022,⁴³ directing Mystic to make a compliance filing with revised tariff records in eTariff format reflecting the FERC's action in the November 2 order. Mystic submitted that compliance filing on December 2, 2022 (ER22-1192-003). No comments were received by the December 23, 2022 comment date, and there was no activity in this proceeding since the last Report. This compliance filing remains pending before the FERC. FERC action on the compliance filing will conclude this proceeding. If you have questions on any aspect of this proceeding, please contact Joe Fagan (202-218-3901; jfagan@daypitney.com) or Sebastian Lombardi (860-275-0663; slombardi@daypitney.com).

VTransco Deferral of Retiree Lump Sum Payment Cost Recovery (ER21-2627)

On March 17, 2023, Vermont Transco LLC ("VTransco") submitted an informational filing for lump sum payment elections taken in 2022. As previously reported, the FERC authorized VTransco to defer for future recovery costs associated with lump sum payments to employees who retire in 2021 and 2022.⁴⁴ VTransco

⁴¹ In the Spin Transaction, Constellation'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.

⁴² Constellation Mystic Power, LLC, 179 FERC ¶ 61,081 (May 2, 2022) ("May 2, 2022 Order").

⁴³ Constellation Mystic Power, LLC, 181 FERC ¶ 61,099 (Nov. 2, 2022).

⁴⁴ Vermont Transco LLC, Docket No. ER21-2627 (Sep. 22, 2021) (unpublished letter order).

reported that 24 plan participants elected lump sum payments in 2022, with the lump sum payments totaling approximately \$14.38 million. As a result, \$2.15 million was recorded as a regulatory asset on VTransco's balance sheet and will be amortized pursuant to the FERC-approved methodology and recovered from Vermont distribution utilities under the 1991 Vermont Transmission Agreement. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Pat Gerity (pmgerity@daypitney.com; 860-275-0533).

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

Mystic I Remand. As previously reported, the DC Circuit issued a decision on August 23, 2022⁴⁵ that, among other things: (i) granted State Petitioners' petitions for review on the cost allocation issue; (ii) vacated the clawback portions excluding Everett costs and the challenged delay provision of the orders under review; and (iii) remanded the cases to the FERC to address NESCOE's request for clarification about revenue credits and for clarification of the apparent contradictions in the FERC's *December 2020 Rehearing Order*.

(-024) Mystic Request for Rehearing of Mystic I Order on Remand. On April 27, 2023, Mystic requested rehearing and/or clarification of the March 28, 2023 Mystic I Order on Remand.⁴⁶ Mystic asserted that (a) the FERC should have considered and rejected NESCOE's arguments about "truing up" and challenging the Revenue Credit; (b) the Tank Congestion Charge and the calculation of the Forward Sales Margin credited to Mystic and its ratepayers should not be included in the true-up process; and (c) if the FERC does not grant rehearing on (a) or (b), in the alternative, it should clarify that the scope of review during the true-up for Revenue Credits and the Forward Sale Margin Shared with Mystic is not a prudence review and does not require disclosure of granular, unmasked transaction data. Mystic's request for rehearing is still pending, with FERC action required on or before *May 26, 2023*, or Mystic's request will be deemed denied by operation of law.

(-023) 30-Day Compliance Filing (Revised COSA). As directed in the Mystic I Order on Remand, Mystic filed, on April 27, 2023, an amended COSA to reinstate the previous revenue sharing mechanism. An effective date of June 1, 2022 was requested. Comments on the 30-Day Compliance Filing are due on or before **May 18, 2023**.

(-022) First CapEx Info. Filing Settlement Agreement Interim Rate Implementation. As previously reported, on March 27, 2023, Acting Chief ALJ Satten granted Mystic's request to implement the settlement rates on an interim basis, effective as of June 1, 2022. The interim rates will remain in effect pending FERC action on the First CapEx Settlement Agreement (-021).⁴⁷

(-021) First CapEx Info. Filing Settlement Agreement. On March 15, 2023, Mystic filed a Settlement Agreement to resolve all issues raised by the formal challenges to its First CapEx Info. Filing⁴⁸ and set for hearing in

⁴⁷ Constellation Mystic Power, LLC, 182 FERC ¶ 63,026 (Mar. 27, 2023) (Chief ALJ order granting motion to implement settlement rate on an interim basis).

⁴⁸ As previously reported, Mystic submitted, on Sep. 15, 2021, as required by orders in this proceeding and Sections I.B.1.i. and II.6. of Schedule 3A of the COSA ("Protocols"), its informational filing to provide support for the capital expenditures and related costs that Mystic projected would be collected as an expense between June 1, 2022 and Dec. 31, 2022 ("First CapEx Projects Info. Filing"). Formal challenges to the First CapEx Projects Info. Filing were submitted by the Eastern New England Customer-Owned Systems ("ENECOS") and NESCOE.

⁴⁵ Constellation Mystic Power, LLC v. FERC, 45 F.4th 1028 (D.C. Cir. 2022) ("Mystic I Remand Order").

⁴⁶ Constellation Mystic Power, LLC, 182 FERC ¶ 61,200 (Mar. 28, 2023) ("Mystic I Order on Remand"), reh'g requested. In the Mystic I Order on Remand, the FERC (1) found the initial allocation of 91% of Everett's fixed operating costs to Mystic remains just and reasonable and required that the revenue sharing mechanism be reinstated in the COSA; (2) held its ruling on the clawback issue in abeyance pending resolution in the settlement proceeding; (3) found that the existing language of the COSA mitigates the incentive to unduly delay capital projects; and (4) clarified that all interested parties can review and challenge Mystic's revenue credits and tank congestion charges during a subsequent true-up process. The FERC directed Mystic to submit a 30-day compliance filing, on or before April 27, 2023, revising the COSA to reinstate the revenue sharing mechanism (*see* -023).

the April 28, 2023 Mystic *First CapEx Info. Filing Order* ("Settlement Agreement").⁴⁹ The Settling Parties asked that the FERC act on the Settlement Agreement as soon as possible, but no later than September 1, 2023. Initial comments on the Settlement Agreement were due by April 4, 2023 and filed by ENECOS, CT PURA, FERC Trial Staff, MA AG, NESCOE, and National Grid. Reply comments were filed on April 14, 2023 by Mystic and State Settling Parties.⁵⁰ The Settlement Agreement is pending before the FERC.

(-018) Second CapEx Info Filing. Still pending is Mystic's September 15, 2022 "Second CapEx Info Filing" to provide support for the capital expenditures and related costs that Mystic projects will be collected as an expense between January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023 ("2023 CapEx Projects"). Formal challenges to the Second CapEx Info Filing were submitted by NESCOE and ENECOS. Comments on NESCOE's and ENECOS' challenges were due on or before November 16, 2022 and November 17, 2022, respectively. Mystic responded separately to NESCOE's and ENECOS' challenges. MMWEC/NHEC filed comments supporting ENECOS' formal challenge, emphasizing its support for formal challenge to the pass through of charges incurred by Everett for pipeline transportation reservations. On December 6, 2022, ENECOS answered Mystic's November 17, 2022 answer. Later, on December 22, 2022, Mystic filed a response to ENECOS' December 6 answer, and requested that the FERC reject the Formal Challenges, and accept the Second Filing as expeditiously as possible.

On February 17, 2023, reporting that it intends to file a settlement agreement in the *First CapEx Info. Filing* proceeding that would also impact certain pending Formal Challenges filed in response to the *Second CapEx Info. Filing*, Mystic requested that the FERC hold off on acting on the pending Formal Challenges in this proceeding until after the FERC acts on the Settlement Agreement (summarized in (-021) above) ("Motion for Abeyance"). On March 6, 2023, ENECOS filed a protest to Mystic's Motion for Abeyance. That request is pending before the FERC.

(-014) Revised ROE (Sixth) Compliance Filing. Also still pending is Mystic's December 20, 2021 filing in response to the requirements of the *Mystic ROE Allegheny Order*.⁵¹ 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 remains pending before the FERC.

Limited Waiver of Certain Mystic COSA True-Up Deadlines (ER23-1159). On March 20, 2023, the FERC granted Mystic's request for waiver of certain deadlines required by Schedule 3A of the Mystic COSA.⁵² to provide Settling Parties sufficient time to implement the terms of the Settlement Agreement as part of the Mystic COSA annual true-up process.

⁴⁹ Constellation Mystic Power, LLC, 179 FERC ¶ 61,011 (Apr. 28, 2022) ("Mystic First CapEx Info. Filing Order") (granting in part, and denying in part, ENECOS' and NESCOE's formal challenges, subject to refund, and establishing hearing and settlement judge procedures).

⁵⁰ The "State Settling Parties" are, collectively, the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection ("CT DEEP"), the Connecticut Public Utilities Regulatory Authority ("CT PURA"), and CT OCC (the "CT Parties"); the Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts ("MA AG"); and the New England States Committee on Electricity ("NESCOE").

⁵¹ An "Allegheny Order" is a merits rehearing order issued on or after the 31st day after receipt of a rehearing request, reflecting the FERC's authority to "modify or set aside, in whole or in part," its order until it files the record on appeal with a reviewing federal court. An Allegheny Order will use "modifying the discussion" if the FERC is providing a further explanation, but is not changing the outcome, of the underlying order; or "set aside" if the FERC is changing the outcome of the underlying order. Aggrieved parties have 60 days after a deemed denial to file a review petition, even if FERC has announced its intention to issue a further merits order.

⁵² Constellation Mystic Power, LLC, 182 FERC ¶ 61,181 (Mar. 20, 2023).

30-Day Compliance Filing per Order on ENECOS Mystic COSA Complaint (ER23-1735). On April 27, 2023, Mystic filed, as directed by the FERC's March 28, 2023 *Order on ENECOS Mystic COSA Complaint*, ⁵³ changes to the Mystic COSA to include pipeline-related crediting as an explicit provision in the COSA. Mystic also provided additional information/COSA changes to (i) describe the crediting process; (ii) differentiate, through both an explanation in its compliance filing and creation of two new line items in Schedule 3A, the credits and charges included as part of the Fixed Pipeline Costs; (iii) address how and whether the pipeline-related crediting procedure interacts or should interact with the true-up procedure already included in the COSA and revise the true-up as necessary; and (iv) differentiate in the COSA the Pipeline Transportation Costs as Fixed O&M/Return on Investment Costs from the Pipeline Transportation Agreement Costs. Comments on the 30-day compliance filing are due on or before *May* 18, 2023.

If you have questions on any aspect of these proceedings, please contact Joe Fagan (202-218-3901; <u>ifagan@daypitney.com</u>) or Margaret Czepiel (202-218-3906; <u>mczepiel@daypitney.com</u>).

• Transmission Rate Annual (2022-23) Update/Informational Filing (ER09-1532)

On July 29, 2022, the PTO AC submitted its 2023 annual filing identifying adjustments to Regional Transmission Service charges, Local Service charges, and Schedule 12C Costs under Section II of the Tariff. The filing reflected the charges to be assessed under annual transmission and settlement formula rates, reflecting actual 2021 cost data, plus forecasted revenue requirements associated with projected PTF, Local Service and Schedule 12C capital additions for 2022 and 2023, as well as the Annual True-up including associated interest. As prescribed in the Interim Protocols,⁵⁴ the formula rates that will be in effect for 2023 include a billing true up of seven months of 2021 (June-December). The PTO AC stated that the annual updates result in a Pool "postage stamp" RNS Rate of \$140.94 /kW-year effective January 1, 2023, a decrease of \$1.84 /kW-year from the charges that went into effect on January 1, 2022. In addition, the filing included updates to the revenue requirements for Scheduling, System Control and Dispatch Services (the Schedule 1 formula rate), which result in a Schedule 1 charge of \$1.75 kW-year (effective June 1, 2022 through May 31, 2023), a \$0.12/kW-year decrease from the Schedule 1 charge that last went into effect on June 1, 2022. This filing was not noticed for public comment.

The July 29 filing was reviewed with the Transmission Committee at its August 16, 2022 summer meeting and at an August 22, 2022 technical session for Interested Parties. The July 29 filing triggered the commencement of the Information Exchange Period and a Review Period under the Interim Protocols. Interested Parties had until September 15, 2022 to submit information and document requests, and the PTOs were required to make a good faith effort to respond to all requests within 15 days, but by no later than October 15, 2022. During the Review Period, Interested Parties had until November 15, 2022 to submit Informal Challenges to the PTOs, and the PTOs were required to make a good faith effort to respond to make a good faith effort to respond to any Informal Challenges by no later than December 15, 2022. Interested Parties had until January 31, 2023 to file a Formal Challenge with the FERC.

RENEW Formal Challenge. On January 31, 2023, RENEW filed a formal challenge ("Challenge"). RENEW asserted that (i) the TOs failed to provide adequate rate input information in the Annual Informational Filing and in the Information Exchange Period under the Interim Formula Rate Protocols regarding inclusion or exclusion of "O&M costs" on Network Upgrades that the TOs directly assign to Interconnection Customers (and thereby failing to demonstrate that such O&M costs are not being double counted in transmission rates);

⁵³ Belmont Municipal Light Dept., et al. v. Constellation Mystic Power, LLC and ISO New England, Inc., 182 FERC ¶ 61,199 (Mar. 28, 2023) ("Order on ENECOS Mystic COSA Complaint", which denied in part, and accepted in part, ENECOS' Complaint against Mystic and ISO-NE challenging the pass-through of firm pipeline transportation costs under the 2nd Amended and Restated Mystic COSA).

⁵⁴ The Interim Formula Rate Protocols ("Interim Protocols") became effective June 15, 2021, and will be replaced by permanent Formula Rate Protocols that will become effective June 15, 2023. *See* Settlement Agreement resolving all issues in Docket No. EL16-19 ("Settlement") approved by the FERC on Dec. 28, 2020, in *ISO New England et al.*, 173 FERC ¶ 61,270 (2020) ("Settlement Order").

and (ii) the TO's Interpretation of "Interested Party" to exclude RENEW violated the Interim Formula Rate Protocols. RENEW thus asked that the FERC (a) require the TOs to show the calculation of the annual O&M charges with sources of data inputs and show how such O&M charges are not being double recovered in transmission rates, and (b) determine that an entity such as RENEW is an Interested Party under the Interim Formula Rate Protocols and that its Information Requests seeking rate inputs and support for the O&M charges on Network Upgrades are within the scope of the Interim Formula Rate Protocols process. Comments on RENEW's Challenge were due on or before March 16, 2023. Comments and protests were filed by: <u>Avangrid, Eversource, National Grid, Public Systems, RI Energy, Unitil, Versant Power, VTransco/GMP</u>. On March 31, RENEW answered the comments and protests to its Challenge. Subsequently, on April 14, Eversource answered RENEW's March 31 answer. This matter is pending before the FERC.

If there are questions on this matter, please contact Eric Runge (617-345-4735; ekrunge@daypitney.com).

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

• IEP Parameter Updates (ER23-1588)

On April 7, 2023, ISO-NE and NEPOOL filed proposed revisions to Appendix K to Market Rule 1 to update certain parameters within the Inventoried Energy Program ("IEP Parameter Updates"). Specifically, the IEP Parameter Updates (i) move from a fixed rate to an indexed rate, which provides for automatic adjustments to account for changes in gas markets prior to each winter period, (ii) include modifications to natural gas contracting requirements to align the IEP more closely with common industry and commercial practices and the nature of firm pipeline service available in New England; and (iii) included changes to provide clarity and improve the administration of the IEP. A June 6, 2023 effective date was requested. The IEP Parameter Updates were supported by the Participants Committee at its April 6, 2023 meeting. Comments on the IEP Parameter Updates were due by April 28, 2023. Comments supporting the Updates were filed by <u>Indicated Suppliers</u>.⁵⁵ <u>Consumer Advocates</u>⁵⁶ and <u>Sierra Club/CLF/UCS</u> protested the Updates (challenging the costs and basis for the IEP as updated). Doc-less motions to intervene only were filed by Calpine, Constellation, Eversource, National Grid, Public Systems,⁵⁷ and the MA DPU. This matter is pending before the FERC. If you have any questions concerning this proceeding, please contact Rosendo Garza (860-275-0660; rgarza@daypitney.com).

• SATOA Revisions (ER23-739; ER23-743)

On December 29, 2022, ISO-NE, NEPOOL and the PTO AC filed revisions to the Tariff and the TOA, in two parts, to enable electric storage facilities to be planned and operated as transmission-only assets ("SATOA") to address system needs identified in the OATT's regional system planning process ("SATOA Revisions"). The SATOA Revisions were supported by the Participants Committee at its October 6, 2022 meeting (Agenda Item #7). ISO-NE requested a FERC order by March 29, 2023 and indicated that it intends to implement the SATOA Revisions effective July 1, 2024. ISO-NE committee to submit a filing specifying the precise effective date prior to implementation. For eTariff reasons, Part I included the ISO-NE Tariff revisions (ER23-739); Part II, the TOA revisions (ER23-743). Comments on the SATOA Revisions were due on or before January 19, 2023.

On January 19, 2023, comments and protests were filed by: <u>AEU</u>, <u>FirstLight</u>, <u>National Grid</u>, <u>NEPGA</u>, <u>NESCOE</u>, <u>UCS</u>, and <u>VELCO</u>. Doc-less interventions only were filed by Avangrid, Vistra, MA DPU, LSP Transmission Holdings, RENEW, RI Energy, ACPA, and EPSA. On February 3, 2023, <u>NEPOOL</u> answered VELCO's comments and

⁵⁵ "Indicated Suppliers" are CPV Towantic LLC, Eastern Generation LLC, JERA Americas Inc., and Vistra Corp.

⁵⁶ "Consumer Advocates" are the MA AG, CT OCC, NH OCA, and the Maine OPA.

⁵⁷ "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").

<u>ISO-NE</u> answered VELCO's comments and National Grid's limited protest. <u>NEPGA</u> answered VELCO's comments and National Grid's limited protest on February 7. In turn, on February 16, <u>National Grid</u> answered NEPGA's and ISO-NE's answers. ISO-NE answered National Grid's February 16 answer. This matter is pending before the FERC.

If you have any questions concerning this proceeding, please contact Rosendo Garza (860-275-0660; rgarza@daypitney.com).

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

In a lengthy compliance Order⁵⁸ issued March 1, 2023, the FERC approved in part, and rejected in part, ISO-NE, NEPOOL and the PTO AC's ("Filing Parties") Order 2222 compliance filing⁵⁹ ("Order 2222 Compliance Order").⁶⁰

In the Order 2222 Compliance Order, the FERC directed a number of revisions and additional compliance and informational filings to be filed within 30, 60 or 180 days of the Order 2222 Compliance Order:

- **30-Day Compliance Requirements (-003)**. ISO-NE was directed to submit two filings by March 31, 2023. The first, a compliance filing to explain how current Tariff capacity market mitigation rules would apply to Distributed Energy Capacity Resources ("DECR") participating in FCA18. The second, an informational filing that provides an update on implementation timeline milestones associated with DECR participation in FCA18 and the other markets. Those compliance filings were submitted on March 31, 2023. Comments on the DECR compliance filing (ER22-983-003) were due on or before April 21, 2023; none were filed. The March 31 informational filing was not noticed for public comment. The DECR compliance filing is pending before the FERC.
- **60-Day Compliance Filing**. On or before **May 9, 2023** (the FERC granted NEPOOL's March 23 request to extend the 60-day compliance deadline by 8 days, to May 9)), the FERC ordered ISO-NE:
 - to revise the Tariff to: (1) have RERRA make the determination of whether to allow customers of small utilities to participate in ISO-NE's markets through aggregation; (2) require that each DER Aggregator maintain and submit aggregate settlement data for the DERA; (3) designate the DER Aggregator as the entity responsible for providing any required metering information to ISO-NE, and if necessary, establish protocols for sharing meter data that minimize costs and other burdens and address concerns raised with respect to privacy and cybersecurity; (4) designate the DER Aggregator as the entity responsible for providing any required metering information to ISO-NE, and if necessary, establish protocols for sharing meter data that minimize costs and other burdens and address concerns raised with respect to privacy and cybersecurity; (4) designate the DER Aggregator as the entity responsible for providing any required metering information to ISO-NE; and (5) add specificity regarding existing resource non-performance penalties that would apply to a DERA when a Host Utility overrides ISO-NE dispatch instructions.

⁵⁸ Commissioners Danly and Clements each provided separate concurrences with, and Commissioner Christie provided a separate dissent from, the Compliance Order. Commissioners Danly and Christie, despite their opposing positions on the Compliance Order, both reiterated their reasons for dissenting from *Order 2222* and concern for FERC overreach and difficulty with complying with *Order 2222*. In her separate concurrence, Commissioner Clements urged the ISO on compliance to "modify its proposal to address undue barriers and make participation more workable" and "to pursue steps that genuinely open [the New England Markets] to DERs like behind-the-meter resources."

⁵⁹ As previously reported, the Filing Parties submitted on Feb. 2, 2022 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.

⁶⁰ ISO New England Inc. and New England Power Pool Participants Comm., 182 FERC ¶ 61,137 (March 1, 2023).

ISO-NE was also directed to: (1) identify the existing rules requiring a Market Participant that provides energy withdrawal service to be a load serving entity that is billed for energy withdrawal ("LSE Requirement") and explain whether the LSE Requirement is required of all resources seeking to provide wholesale energy withdrawal service in the energy market; (2) explain why its proposed metering and telemetry requirements were just and reasonable and did not pose an unnecessary and undue barrier to individual DERs joining a DERA; (3) establish protocols for sharing metering data that minimize costs and other burdens and address privacy and cybersecurity concerns; and (4) address how ISO-NE will resolve disputes that are within its authority and subject to its Tariff, regardless of whether there is an available dispute resolution process established by the RERRA.

The 60-day compliance changes, as recommended by the Markets Committee, will be considered by the Participants Committee at its May 4 meeting (Agenda Item #6).

• **180-Day Compliance Filing**. On or before **August 28, 2023**, the FERC directed ISO-NE to file a further compliance filing explaining how the current Tariff capacity market mitigation rules would apply to DECRs participating in FCA19 and beyond.

Requests for Rehearing and/or Clarification (-002). As reported in the Last Report, on March 31, 2023, ISO-NE and New England Public Utilities⁶¹ requested rehearing and/or clarification of the *Order 2222 Compliance Order.* **ISO-NE** urged the FERC to reconsider allowing DECRs to participate in FCA18 and designating the DER Aggregator as the entity responsible for transmitting DERA metering data. **New England Public Utilities** urged the FERC to adopt the DER metering and settlement approach proposed by the Filing Parties (*Order 2222* Changes) and clarify (1) that PTOs and distribution utilities are not prohibited from requiring metering and settlement data from DERs to satisfy their obligations to perform wholesale settlement and retail customer billing and (2) that it would not be unjust and unreasonable for utilities to recover costs related to investment and expenses incurred to modify its metering, billing, settlement, cyber security and other systems, to accommodate submetering of Behind-the-Meter DER participating in the wholesale market as part of a DERA. On April 14, 2023, **MA AG** answered New England Public Utilities' request for rehearing and clarification and requested that the FERC address the recovery of costs necessary to implement Behind-the-Meter DER submetering and the allocation of costs to DER aggregators and program participants. On April 17, *Advanced Energy United* ("AEU") answered ISO-NE's request for rehearing and urged the FERC to not reconsider its decision designating the DER Aggregator as the entity responsible for transmitting DERA metering data. ISO-NE answered the AEU answer on May 2, 2023.

Order 2222 Compliance Allegheny Order. On May 1, 2023, the FERC issued a "Notice of Denial of Rehearing by Operation of Law and Providing for Further Consideration".⁶² That Notice confirmed that the 60-day period during which a petition for review of the *Order 2222 Compliance Order* can be filed with an appropriate federal court was triggered when the FERC did not act on the requests for rehearing and/or clarification of the *Order 2222 Compliance Order*. The Notice also indicated that the FERC would address, as is its right, the rehearing request in a future order, and may modify or set aside its order, in whole or in part, "in such manner as it shall deem proper."

⁶¹ "New England Public Utilities" are: National Grid USA on behalf of Massachusetts Electric Co., Nantucket Electric Co., and New England Power Co. ("NGUSA"); Avangrid Networks, Inc. on behalf of CMP and UI ("Avangrid Networks"); and Eversource on behalf of The Connecticut Light and Power Co. ("CL&P"), Public Service Co. of New Hampshire ("PSNH"), and NSTAR Electric Co. ("NSTAR").

⁶² ISO New England Inc. and New England Power Pool Participants Comm., 183 FERC ¶ 62,050 (May 1, 2023) ("Order 2222 Compliance Allegheny Order").

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

• IEP Remand (ER19-1428-006)

On April 24, 2023, the FERC accepted ISO-NE's Tariff provisions, effective May 28, 2019,⁶³ governing the Inventoried Energy Program ("IEP") consistent with the D.C. Circuit's *IEP Decision*.⁶⁴ ISO-NE's proposed Tariff changes removed nuclear, biomass, coal, and hydroelectric generators from the IEP. Alternative Tariff changes proposed by Brookfield that would have explicitly allowed pumped hydro resources to participate in the IEP as Electric Storage Facilities were rejected on procedural grounds.⁶⁵ Challenges, if any, to the *IEP Remand Compliance Filing Order* are due on or before **May 24, 2023**. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Sebastian Lombardi (860-275-0663; <u>slombardi@daypitney.com</u>) or Rosendo Garza (860-275-0660; <u>rgarza@daypitney.com</u>).

IV. OATT Amendments / TOAs / Coordination Agreements

• Order 676-J Compliance Filings Part II (ER23-1771; ER23-1774; ER23-1782; ER23-1785)

On May 1, 2023, in accordance with Order 676-J,⁶⁶ the following second *Order 676-J* compliance filings to incorporate, or seek waiver of, the remainder of the WEQ Version 003.3 Standards were submitted:

- Order 676-J Compliance Filing Part II (ISO-NE and NEPOOL-Tariff Schedule 24) (ER23-1771);
- Order 676-J Compliance Filing Part II (CSC-Schedule 18-Attachment Z) (ER23-1774);
- Order 676-J Compliance Filing Part II (Versant-MPD OATT) (ER23-1782); and
- Order 676-J Compliance Filing Part II (TOs'-Schedules 20A-Common and 21-Common) (ER23-1785).

Comments on the compliance filings are due on or before *May 22, 2023*. If there are questions on any of these compliance filings, please contact Eric Runge (617-345-4735; <u>ekrunge@daypitney.com</u>).

• CNRIS Time-out Rules Removal (ER23-1581)

On April 6, 2023, ISO-NE, NEPOOL and PTO AC (the "Filing Parties") filed revisions to the OATT to remove the Capacity Network Resource Interconnection Service ("CNRIS") time-out rules from Section 4.4 of Schedules 22 and 25 and from Section 1.5.5 of Schedule 23 for Queue Positions that have not timed-out (in whole or part) by FCA 17. Under the proposed revisions, the time-out rules will not apply to Interconnection Requests for CNRIS deemed valid after May 31, 2020 (because these resources have not yet timed out). Resources that did not acquire a CSO in FCA 17 (or in earlier FCAs) timed-out and will need to submit a new Interconnection Request to re-establish CNRIS, but, going forward for FCAs 18 and after, Interconnection Requests for CNRIS will no longer time-out if they do not acquire a CSO in the FCA. The Filing Parties requested a June 5, 2023 effective date.

⁶³ ISO New England Inc., 183 FERC ¶ 61,059 (Apr. 24, 2022) ("IEP Remand Compliance Filing Order");

⁶⁴ Belmont Mun. Light Dept., et al., v. FERC, 2022 WL 2182810 (June 17, 2022) (the "IEP Decision"). The IEP Decision left intact the FERC's June 2020 IEP Remand Order (ISO New England Inc., 171 FERC ¶ 61,235 (June 18, 2020)) 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.

⁶⁵ In the *IEP Remand Compliance Filing Order*, the FERC stated that "The only question before the Commission in this proceeding is whether ISO-NE's filing complies with the directives of the September 2022 Order."

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

Comments were due by April 27, 2023 and comments in support were filed by <u>AEU</u> and <u>RENEW</u>. Constellation, National Grid, RI Energy, and Glenvale intervened doc-lessly only. This matter is pending before the FERC. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Eric Runge (617-345-4735; <u>ekrunge@daypitney.com</u>).

• *Phase I/II HVDC-TF Order 881* Compliance Filing: HVDC TOA (ER22-2467) and Sched. 20-A Common Attachment M (ER22-2468)

On July 22, 2022, following a requested 10-day extension of time granted by the FERC, a Phase I/II HVDC-TF *Order 881* compliance filing was submitted in two parts ((i) changes to the HVDC TOA and (ii) changes to Schedule 20-Common Attachment M) by: ISO-NE, the Asset Owners,⁶⁷ and the Schedule 20A Service Providers.⁶⁸ Specifically, the Filing proposed changes to the **HVDC TOA** (ER22-2467) to address the Order 881 requirements related to transmission ratings and rating procedures and to **Schedule 20A-Common** (ER22-2468) to ensure compliance with Order 881 with respect to transmission rating transparency and transmission service (together, the "Phase I/II HVDC-TF *Order 881* Compliance Filing"). Comments on the Phase I/II HVDC-TF *Order 881* Compliance Filing were due on or before August 12, 2022; none were filed. The IRH Management Committee submitted a doc-less intervention. This matter remains pending before the FERC. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Eric Runge (617-345-4735; <u>ekrunge@daypitney.com</u>).

• Order 881 Compliance Filing: New England (ER22-2357)

As previously reported, ISO-NE, NEPOOL, the PTO AC, and CSC (the "Filing Parties") filed, on July 12, 2022, proposed revisions to the OATT in response to the requirements of *Order 881*⁶⁹ ("*Order 881* Compliance Changes"). Specifically, the Filing Parties proposed the addition of a new Attachment Q to the OATT, and to revise OATT Schedules 18 (MTF; MTF Service) and 21 (Local Service - Common). The *Order 881* Compliance Changes (the Attachment Q and Schedule 18 changes) were supported by the Participants Committee at its June 21-23 Summer Meeting (Consent Agenda Item No. 2). An effective date of September 10, 2022 was requested, with changes to Attachment Q and Schedule 21 to become applicable by their own terms in July 2025. Comments on the *Order 881* Compliance Changes were due on or before August 2, 2022; none were filed. Eversource, Narragansett Electric Company ("RI Energy") and National Grid filed doc-less interventions. This matter remains pending before the FERC. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Eric Runge (617-345-4735; <u>ekrunge@daypitney.com</u>).

V. Financial Assurance/Billing Policy Amendments

No Activities to Report

VI. Schedule 20/21/22/23 Changes & Agreements

• Schedule 21-NEP: NEP/Dichotomy Collins Hydro SGIA (ER23-888)

As previously reported, on January 18, 2023, NEP filed a non-conforming Small Generation Interconnection Agreement ("SGIA") with Dichotomy Collins Hydro LLC ("Dichotomy") to cover the continued interconnection of Dichotomy's 1.3 MW hydroelectric (run-of-river) generating facility in Wilbraham, Massachusetts. National Grid requested a December 19, 2022 effective date for the SGIA. Initial comments

⁶⁷ The "Asset Owners" are, collectively, New England Hydro-Transmission Electric Company, New England Hydro-Transmission Corporation, New England Electric Transmission Corporation, and Vermont Electric Transmission Company ("VETCO").

⁶⁸ The "Schedule 20A Service Providers" are: Central Maine Power Co. ("CMP"); The Conn. Light and Power Co. and Public Service Co. of NH ("Eversource"); Green Mountain Power Corp. ("GMP"); New England Power Co. ("NEP"); NSTAR Electric Co.; The United Illuminating Co. ("UI"); Vermont Electric Cooperative, Inc. ("VEC"); and Versant Power.

⁶⁹ Managing Transmission Line Ratings, Order No. 881, 177 FERC ¶ 61,179 (Dec. 16, 2021); Managing Transmission Line Ratings, Order No. 881-A, 179 FERC ¶ 61,125 (May 19, 2022) (together, "Order 881").

on this filing were due on or before February 8, 2023; none were filed. On March 17, 2023, the FERC issued a deficiency letter requesting additional information related to the QF status of the Dichotomy facility. NEP filed its deficiency letter response on April 14, 2023. Comments, if any, on the deficiency letter response are due on or before *May 5, 2023*. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Pat Gerity (pmgerity@daypitney.com; 860-275-0533).

• Schedule 21-VP: Revised 2021 Annual Update Settlement Agreement (ER20-2119-002)

On May 1, 2023, the FERC approved a revised, uncontested Joint Offer of Settlement ("Revised 2021 Annual Update Settlement") between Versant Power and the MPUC.⁷⁰ The Revised 2021 Annual Update Settlement resolves all issues regarding Versant Power's Bangor Hydro District 2021 annual update under Schedule 21-VP. Unless the May 1 order is challenged, this proceeding will be concluded. If you have any questions concerning this proceeding, please contact Pat Gerity (860-275-0533; <u>pmgerity@daypitney.com</u>).

Schedule 21-VP: Revised 2020 Annual Update Settlement Agreement (ER15-1434-006)

Also on May 1, 2023, the FERC approved a revised, uncontested Joint Offer of Settlement ("Revised 2020 Annual Update Settlement") between Versant and the MPUC.⁷¹ The Revised 2020 Annual Update Settlement resolves all issues regarding Versant Power's Bangor Hydro District 2020 annual update under Schedule 21-VP. Unless this May 1 order is challenged, this proceeding will be concluded. If you have any questions concerning this proceeding, please contact Pat Gerity (860-275-0533; pmgerity@daypitney.com).

• Schedule 21-VEC and 20-VEC Annual Informational Filing (ER10-1181)

On April 28, 2023, VEC submitted its 20th annual update to the formula rates contained in Schedules 21-VEC and 20-VEC covering the July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024 period. The FERC will not notice this filing for public comment, and absent further activity, no further FERC action is expected. If there are questions on this matter, please contact Pat Gerity (860-275-0533; <u>pmgerity@daypitney.com</u>).

VII. NEPOOL Agreement/Participants Agreement Amendments

No Activities to Report

VIII. Regional Reports

• RTO/ISO Common Performance Metrics (AD19-16)

On April 24, 2023, ISO-NE submitted its FERC Form-922 (RTO/ISO Common Performance Metrics) for 2019-2022. Form 922 helps the FERC track the performance of the RTO/ISOs that it regulates via information responses related to 29 metrics organized into 3 groups: (1) Administrative and Descriptive Metrics; (2) Energy Market Metrics; and, where applicable, (3) Capacity Market Metrics. ISO-NE's submittal will not be noticed for public comment.

• Opinion 531 Refund Reports (EL11-66)

The following refund reports filed in response to *Opinions No. 531-A*⁷² and 531-B⁷³ remain pending:

The TOs' November 2, 2015 regional refund report;

⁷⁰ ISO New England Inc. and Versant Power, 183 FERC ¶ 61,080 (May 1, 2023) (approving Revised 2021 Annual Update Settlement).

⁷¹ *ISO New England Inc. and Versant Power*, 183 FERC ¶ 61,077 (May 1, 2023) (approving Revised 2020 Annual Update Settlement).

⁷² Martha Coakley, Mass. Att'y Gen., 149 FERC ¶ 61,032 (Oct. 16, 2014) ("Opinion 531-A").

⁷³ Martha Coakley, Mass. Att'y Gen., Opinion No. 531-B, 150 FERC ¶ 61,165 (Mar. 3, 2015) ("Opinion 531-B").

- The TOs'⁷⁴ local refund reports; and
- Fitchburg Gas & Electric's ("FG&E") June 29, 2015 local refund report.

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

• LFTR Implementation Quarterly Status Report (ER07-476)

On April 14, 2023, ISO-NE filed its 58th quarterly status report regarding LFTR implementation. ISO-NE reported that it implemented monthly reconfiguration auctions (accepted in ER12-2122) beginning with the month of October 2019. ISO-NE further reported that, while it will continue to evaluate its as-filed LFTR design and financial assurance issues, including an ongoing evaluation of the FTR market and risk associated with FTRs and LFTRs, it is currently focused on higher priority market-design initiatives. ISO-NE concluded its report by describing the 18-month implementation that would be required once the LFTR financial assurance issues are resolved. These status reports are not noticed for public comment.

• ISO-NE 2022 FERC Form 582 (not docketed)

On April 20, 2023, ISO-NE submitted a report of its total MWh of transmission service during 2022. ISO-NE reported that 125,007,501 MWh of transmission service in interstate commerce was provided during 2022 (roughly 1,099,0000 MWh more than 2021 (123,908,497 MWh)). These filings are not noticed for comment.

• ISO-NE 2022 Q4 FERC Form 3Q (not docketed)

On April 14, 2023, ISO-NE submitted its 2022/Q4 FERC Form 3Q (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 public comment.

IX. Membership Filings

• May 2023 Membership Filing (ER23-1768)

On April 28, 2023, NEPOOL requested that the FERC accept: (i) the memberships of Carbon Solutions Group (GIS-Only Participant); PPL TransLink Inc. [Related Person to RI Energy (Transmission Sector)]; and Second Foundation US Trading, LLC (Supplier Sector); (ii) the termination of the Participant status of EnPowered USA LLC; Invenia Technical Computing Corp.; Uniper Global Commodities NA LLC; and WATTIFI INC.; and (iii) the name changes of RWE Clean Energy Wholesale Services, Inc. (f/k/a Consolidated Edison Energy, Inc.); RWE Clean Energy Asset Holdings, Inc. (f/k/a Consolidated Edison Development, Inc.); RWE Clean Energy Solutions, Inc. (f/k/a Consolidated Edison Solutions, Inc.); and SYSO Inc. (f/k/a SYSO LLC). Comments on the May membership filing are due on or before *May 19, 2023*.

Involuntary Termination of Membership of NTE Connecticut, LLC (ER23-1689)

On April 21, 2023, NEPOOL and ISO-NE jointly requested that the FERC terminate (i) the NEPOOL Participant status of NTE Connecticut, LLC ("NTE CT") and (ii) the Market Participant Service Agreement between ISO-NE and NTE CT, 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. NEPOOL and ISO-NE requested that the termination of NTE CT's NEPOOL and Market Participant status become effective as of June 22, 2023. Comments on this filing are due on or before *May 12, 2023*.

⁷⁴ TOs filing local refund reports include: CMP, National Grid, UI, Versant Power (f/k/a Emera Maine), NHT, VTransco, Eversource, and NSTAR.

• March 2023 Membership Filing (ER23-1197)

On April 27, 2023, the FERC accepted⁷⁵ (i) the membership of Calpine Community Energy [Related Person to Calpine Energy Services et al. (Generation Sector)]; (ii) the termination of the Participant status of Clean Choice Energy (Supplier Sector); InBalance, Inc. (Supplier Sector); and Stored Solar J&WE, LLC (AR Sector, RG Sub-Sector); and (iii) the name change of Interstate Gas Supply, LLC (f/k/a Interstate Gas Supply, Inc.).

• 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
Apr 12/14	Rivercrest Power-SOUTH, LLC	Payment	

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

X. Mis	c ERO	Rules,	Filings;	Reliability	Standards
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Questions concerning any of the ERO Reliability Standards or related rule-making proceedings or filings can be directed to Pat Gerity (860-275-0533; <u>pmgerity@daypitney.com</u>).

• Revised Reliability Standard: PRC-002-4 (RD23-4)

On April 14, 2023, the FERC approved proposed changes to Reliability Standard PRC-002-4 (Disturbance Monitoring and Reporting Requirements), the associated Violation Risk Factors and Violation Severity Levels, and the proposed implementation plan, including the retirement of the currently effective Reliability Standard PRC-002-3.⁷⁶ NERC's proposed revisions: (1) clarify requirements for notifications under the Standard, including when generator owners and transmission owners must have data for an applicable transformer or transmission line; (2) clarify and make consistent terminology used in the Standard; (3) incorporate the implementation timeframe for newly-identified facilities; and (4) add a criterion defining substantial changes in fault current levels requiring changing the locations for which certain data is recorded. Challenges, if any, to the April 14 order are due on or before *May 14, 2023*.

• NERC Report on Evaluation of Physical Reliability Standard (CIP-014) (RD23-3)

As directed by the FERC's December 15, 2022 order,⁷⁷ NERC, on April 14, 2023, provided an updated evaluation of CIP-014 (its "Physical Security Reliability Standard"). NERC concluded that CIP-014 applicability criteria is meeting its objective to "appropriately focus[] limited industry resources on risks to the reliable operation of the BPS associated with physical security incidents at the most critical facilities" and the objective is broad enough to capture the subset of applicable facilities that TOs should identify as "critical" pursuant to the risks assessment mandated by Requirement R1. NERC did not find evidence that an expansion of the applicability criteria would identify additional substations that would qualify as "critical" substations under the CIP-014 Requirement R1 risk assessment, declined to recommend expansion of the CIP-014 applicability criteria, but committed to continued evaluation of the adequacy of the applicability criteria in meeting the objective of CIP-014. Comments on NERC's report are due on or before *May 15, 2023*.

⁷⁵ New England Power Pool Participants Comm., Docket No. ER23-1197-000 (Apr. 27, 2023).

⁷⁶ N. Amer. Elec. Rel. Corp., Docket No. RD23-4-000 (Apr. 14, 2023) (unpublished letter order).

⁷⁷ N. Amer. Elec. Rel. Corp., 181 FERC ¶ 61,230 (Dec. 15, 2022).

• Revised Reliability Standards: EOP-011-3 and EOP-012-1 (RD23-1)

On February 16, 2023, the FERC approved NERC's changes to Reliability Standards EOP-011-3 (Emergency Operations) and EOP-012-1 (Extreme Cold Weather Preparedness and Operations) (the "Cold Weather Standards").⁷⁸ As previously reported, the changes to the Cold Weather Standards, which address certain key recommendations from the Feb 2021 Cold Weather Outages Joint Report,⁷⁹ establish a more comprehensive framework of requirements addressing generator preparedness for cold weather operations. The Cold Weather Standards also address the use of manual load shed during Emergency conditions, requiring Transmission Operators to take steps to minimize the use of manual load shed that could further exacerbate Emergency conditions and threaten system reliability.

In accepting the *Cold Weather Standards*, the FERC directed a number of changes and follow-up items. For example, the FERC directed NERC to modify EOP-012-1:

• to ensure that it captures all bulk electric system generation resources needed for reliable operation and excludes only those generation resources not relied upon during freezing conditions by clarifying "the language of the applicability section to align with NERC's explanation of the entities that should already be preparing to comply with the Standard, and should not need additional implementation time";⁸⁰

• Requirements R1 and R7, to address concerns related to the ambiguity of generator-defined declarations of technical, commercial, or operational constraints that exempt a generator owner from implementing the appropriate freeze protection measures by including "objective criteria on permissible technical, commercial, and operational constraints, to identify the appropriate entity that would receive the generator owners' constraint declarations under [] Requirements R1 and R7, to describe how that entity would confirm that the generator owners comply with the objective criteria, and to describe the consequences of providing a constraint declaration," ensuring that "declarations cannot be used to opt out of mandatory compliance with the Standard or obligations set forth in a corrective action plan";⁸¹

• to clarify R1 to ensure that generators that are technically incapable of operating for 12 continuous hours (e.g., solar facilities during winter months with less than 12 hours of sunlight) are not excluded from complying with the Standard;⁸²

• to increase the length of R2's continuous operations requirement (one hour being too short);⁸³

• to include in R7 deadlines for implementation completion of corrective action plans, as recommended in the *November 2021 Report*;⁸⁴

• to shorten the implementation plan for existing generating units, staggering the implementation for existing unit(s) in a generator owner's fleet;⁸⁵ and

• to work with FERC staff to submit a plan no later than February 16, 2024 explaining how it will collect and assess data prior to and after the implementation of the following elements of EOP-012-1: (1) generator owner declared constraints and explanations thereof; and (2) the adequacy of the Extreme Cold Weather Temperature definition.⁸⁶

⁸⁰ Id. at P 4.

- ⁸¹ *Id.* at P 6.
- ⁸² *Id.* at P 7.
- ⁸³ *Id.* at P 8.
 ⁸⁴ *Id.* at P 9.
- ⁸⁵ *Id.* at P 10.
- ⁸⁶ *Id.* at P 11.

⁷⁸ N. Amer. Elec. Rel. Corp., 182 FERC ¶ 61,094 (Feb. 16, 2023), reh'g denied by operation of law ("Cold Weather Standards Order").

⁷⁹ FERC, NERC, Regional Entity Staff Report: The February 2021 Cold Weather Outages in Texas and the South Central United States (Nov. 2021), <u>https://www.ferc.gov/media/february-2021-cold-weather-outages-texasand-south-central-united-states-ferc-nerc-and</u> (*"Feb 2021 Cold Weather Outages Joint Report"*).

The FERC deferred its decision on whether to approve or modify NERC's proposed implementation date for EOP-011-3 (and proposed retirement of EOP-011-2) until NERC submits its revised applicability section for EOP-012. The FERC stated that "allowing EOP-011-2 requirements to remain mandatory and enforceable until such time as the revised applicability is effective for EOP-012 will ensure all bulk electric system generating units are required to maintain cold weather preparedness plans."⁸⁷

Request for Rehearing Denied by Operation of Law. On March 20, 2023, EPSA, NEPGA and the PJM Power Providers Group ("P3") filed a joint request for rehearing. The petitioners allege that, by approving the *Cold Weather Standards* without addressing how generators can recover the costs associated with complying with EOP-012-1, the FERC "breached its duty to ensure that proposed reliability standards are 'just' and 'reasonable' ... and failed to engage in reasoned decision-making." On April 20, 2023, the FERC issued a "Notice of Denial of Rehearing by Operation of Law and Providing for Further Consideration".⁸⁸ That Notice confirmed that the 60-day period during which a petition for review of the *Cold Weather Standards Order* can be filed with an appropriate federal court was triggered when the FERC did not act on the requests for rehearing and/or clarification of the *Cold Weather Standards Order*. The Notice also indicated that the FERC would address, as is its right, the rehearing request in a future order, and may modify or set aside its order, in whole or in part, "in such manner as it shall deem proper."

Inverter-Based Resource Registration (RD22-4)

On November 17, 2022, to address FERC concerns regarding the reliability impacts of inverter-based resources ("IBRs")⁸⁹ on the Bulk-Power System ("BPS"), the FERC issued an order⁹⁰ directing NERC to submit a work plan on or before February 15, 2023 describing how it plans to identify and register owners and operators of IBRs that are connected to the BPS, but that are not currently required to register with NERC under the bulk electric system ("BES") definition ("unregistered IBRs"), and that "have an aggregate, material impact on the reliable operation of the [BPS]". FERC stated that the work plan should explain how NERC will modify its processes to address unregistered IBRs within 12 months of approval of the work plan. The work plan must also include implementation milestones ensuring that owners and operators meeting the new registration criteria are identified within 24 months of the approval date of the work plan, and that they are registered and required to comply with applicable Reliability Standards within 36 months of the approval date of the work plan. The FERC will notice the work plan for public comment. Once approved, NERC must file progress reports every 90 days thereafter detailing the progress towards identifying and registering owners and operators of unregistered IBRs.

On February 16, 2023, NERC filed its IBR Work plan, which outlined NERC's proposed approach to identify and register owners and operators of IBRs within 36 months of FERC approval of the Work Plan. Comments on the IBR Work Plan were due on or before March 20, 2023. Comments were filed by <u>ACPA</u>, <u>APPA</u>, <u>NRECA</u>, <u>Arizona</u> <u>Public Service Co.</u>, and <u>Pine Gate Renewables</u>. This matter is pending before the FERC.

• 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. NERC submitted its most recent informational filing regarding one active CIP standard

⁸⁸ N. Am. Elec. Rel. Corp., 183 FERC ¶ 62,034 (Apr. 20, 2023) ("Cold Weather Standards Allegheny Order").

⁸⁷ Id. at P 5.

⁸⁹ IBRs include all generating facilities that connect to the BPS using power electronic devices that change direct current ("DC") power produced by a resource to alternating current ("AC") power compatible with distribution and transmission systems. IBRs connected to the distribution system are not addressed in the *IBR Registration Order*.

⁹⁰ Registration of Inverter-based Resources, 181 FERC 61,124 (Nov. 17, 2022) ("IBR Registration Order").

development project (Project 2016-02 – Modifications to CIP Standards ("Project 2016-02"))⁹¹ on March 15, 2023. Project 2016-02 focuses on modifications to the CIP Reliability Standards to incorporate applicable protections for virtualized environments. In the March 15 report, NERC reported that, because ballot body approval was again not achieved for two related Reliability Standards, the schedule for Project 2016-02 has been further revised and now calls for final balloting of revised standards in May 2023, NERC Board of Trustees Adoption in August 2023 and filing of the revised standards with the FERC in September 2023.

• NOPR: IBR Reliability Standards (RM22-12)

On November 17, 2022, the FERC issued a notice⁹² proposing to direct NERC (i) to develop new or modified Reliability Standards that address the following reliability gaps related to inverter-based resources ("IBR"): data sharing; model validation; planning and operational studies; and performance requirements; and (ii) to submit a 90-day compliance filing that includes a detailed, comprehensive standards development and implementation plan to ensure all new or modified Reliability Standards necessary to address the IBR-related reliability gaps identified in the final rule are submitted to the FERC within 36 months of FERC approval of the plan. Initial comments were due February 6, 2023⁹³ and were filed by nearly 20 parties, including, among others, ISO-NE, the IRC, SPP, CAISO, Advanced Energy United, ACPA/SEIA, EEI, and EPRI. Reply comments were due on March 6, 2023 and were filed by ISO-NE, APPA, and CA DWP. This matter is pending before the FERC.

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

On June 16, 2022, the FERC issued a notice⁹⁴ 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 were due August 26, 2022⁹⁵ and were filed by over 37 parties, including, among others, <u>ISO-NE</u>, <u>Eversource</u>, <u>NESCOE</u>, <u>NRDC</u>, <u>UCS</u>, <u>NERC</u>, <u>ERCOT</u>, <u>MISO</u>, <u>PJM</u>, <u>ACPA</u>, <u>EPRI</u>, <u>EPSA</u>, <u>NARUC</u>, and <u>Trade Associations</u>. This matter is pending before the FERC.

• Order 887: Internal Network Security Monitoring for High and Medium Impact BES Cyber Systems (RM22-3)

One year after the FERC issued its *Internal Network Security Monitoring NOPR*,⁹⁶ the FERC issued *Order* 887.⁹⁷ Order 887 directs NERC to develop and submit, on or before July 10, 2024⁹⁸ for FERC approval, new or

⁹³ The IBR NOPR was published in the Fed. Reg. on Dec. 6, 2022 (Vol. 87, No. 233) pp. 74,541-74,563.

- ⁹⁵ The *Extreme Weather Transmission System Planning NOPR* was published in the *Fed. Reg.* on June 27, 2022 (Vol. 87, No. 122) pp. 38,021-38,044.
- ⁹⁶ 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").
- ⁹⁷ Internal Network Security Monitoring for High and Medium Impact Bulk Electric System Cyber Systems, Order No. 887, 182 FERC ¶ 61,021 (Jan. 19, 2023) ("Order 887").

⁹¹ 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.

⁹² Reliability Standards to Address Inverter-Based Resources, 181 FERC ¶ 61,125 (Nov. 17, 2022) ("IBR NOPR").

⁹⁴ Transmission System Planning Performance Requirements for Extreme Weather, 179 FERC ¶ 61,195 (June 16, 2022) ("Extreme Weather Transmission System Planning NOPR").

⁹⁸ Order 887 was published in the Fed. Reg. on Feb. 9, 2023 (Vol. 88, No. 27) pp. 8,354-8,368.

modified Reliability Standards that require internal network security monitoring ("INSM")⁹⁹ within a trusted Critical Infrastructure Protection ("CIP") networked environment for all high impact bulk electric system ("BES") Cyber Systems with and without external routable connectivity and medium impact BES Cyber Systems with external routable connectivity. In addition, the FERC directed NERC to perform a study of all low impact BES Cyber Systems with and without external routable connectivity and medium impact BES Cyber Systems without external routable connectivity, and to submit its study report to the FERC on or before January 19, 2024. *Order 887* will become effective April 10, 2023.

• 2023 NERC/NPCC Business Plans and Budgets (RR22-4)

As previously reported, the FERC accepted, subject to a 60-day compliance filing, NERC's proposed Business Plan and Budget, as well as the Business Plans and Budgets for the Regional Entities, including NPCC, for 2023.¹⁰⁰ In accepting NERC's Business Plan/Budget Filing, the FERC agreed with EEI that additional transparency into certain Electricity Information Sharing and Analysis Center ("E-ISAC") costs would better allow the FERC to fulfill its oversight duties, and thus directed NERC to submit a compliance filing providing additional information related to E-ISAC costs, the E-ISAC vendor affiliate program, and the E-ISAC and natural gas stakeholder partnership. That compliance filing was due, and was filed, on January 3, 2023. Comments on the January 3 compliance filing were due on or before January 24, 2023; none were filed. The 60-day compliance filing remains pending before the FERC.

XI. Misc. - of Regional Interest

• 203 Application: Energy Harbor / Vistra (EC23-74)

On April 17, 2023, Energy Harbor Corp., on behalf of Energy Harbor, LLC and Energy Harbor Nuclear Generation LLC (collectively, the "Energy Harbor Public Utilities"), and Vistra Corp. ("Vistra"), requested FERC authorization for a proposed transaction pursuant to which the Energy Harbor Public Utilities and certain Vistra subsidiaries that are public utilities will become indirectly owned by a newly-formed subsidiary holding company of Vistra – Vistra Vision. Comments on this 203 application are due on or before *June 16, 2023*. Thus far, the following parties have filed doc-less interventions: Monitoring Analytics, LLC (the PJM Independent Market Monitor), Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council ("NOPEC") and Public Citizen. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Pat Gerity (pmgerity@daypitney.com; 860-275-0533).

• 203 Application: Weaver Wind / Greenbacker (EC23-68)

On March 27, 2023, Weaver Wind, LLC and Weaver Wind Maine Master Tenant, LLC ("Weaver Wind") requested FERC authorization for a proposed transaction pursuant to which Jade Energy LLC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Greenbacker Renewable Energy Company, will acquire all the membership interests in Weaver Wind (upon consummation, making Weaver Wind a Related Person to Howard Wind and Hecate Energy). Comments on this 203 application were due April 17, 2023; none were filed. This matter is pending before the FERC. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Pat Gerity (<u>pmgerity@daypitney.com</u>; 860-275-0533).

• 203 Application: Saddleback / CPV (EC23-52)

On March 23, 2023, the FERC authorized CPV Mountain Wind Holdings, LLC's ("Buyer") acquisition of all of the membership interests in Saddleback Ridge Wind, LLC ("Saddleback").¹⁰¹ The transaction closed on April 6, 2023 and with the closing, Spruce Mountain Wind and CPV Towantic became Related Persons. Pursuant to the March 23 order, Saddleback must file a notice within 10 days of consummation of the transaction, which as of the

⁹⁹ 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.

¹⁰⁰ N. Am. Elec. Rel. Corp., 181 FERC ¶ 61,095 (Nov. 2, 2022) ("2023 Budgets Order").

¹⁰¹ Saddleback Ridge Wind, LLC, 182 FERC ¶ 62,168 (Mar. 23, 2023).

date of this Report has not yet occurred. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Pat Gerity (<u>pmgerity@daypitney.com</u>; 860-275-0533).

• 203 Application: Salem Harbor / Castleton Commodities (EC23-50)

On April 4, 2023, the FERC authorized a proposed transaction pursuant to which CCI U.S. Asset Holdings LLC ("Castleton Commodities") will acquire at least 67%, and up to 100%, of the issued and outstanding Series A-1 Common Units and/or Series A-2 Common Units of Salem Harbor Power Holdco LLC ("Salem Harbor").¹⁰² Pursuant to the April 4 order, Salem Harbor must file a notice within 10 days of consummation of the transaction, which as of the date of this Report has not yet occurred. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Pat Gerity (pmgerity@daypitney.com; 860-275-0533).

• 203 Application: Talen Energy Supply Reorganization (EC23-42)

On March 30, 2023, the FERC issued an order authorizing a change in control transaction whereby 10% or more of the voting securities of a new parent of Talen Energy Supply, LLC ("TES") and its affiliated debtors will be distributed to some or all of Indicated Noteholders pursuant to a joint plan of reorganization of the TES Debtors subject to confirmation by the Bankruptcy Court.¹⁰³ If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Pat Gerity (<u>pmgerity@daypitney.com</u>; 860-275-0533).

• 203 Application: Agilitas Companies / AB CarVal Funds (EC23-30)

On January 24, 2023, the FERC authorized¹⁰⁴ a transaction pursuant to which the AB CarVal Funds¹⁰⁵ will convert their existing passive, non-voting ownership interest in Agilitas Energy, Inc., which indirectly owns all of the membership interests in the Agilitas Companies,¹⁰⁶ into 21.3% of the voting interests in Agilitas Energy. On April 6, 2023, AB CarVal Funds filed a notice informing the FERC that the transaction was consummated on March 29, 2023. Reporting on this matter has concluded. If you have any remaining questions concerning this matter, please contact Pat Gerity (<u>pmgerity@daypitney.com</u>; 860-275-0533).

• NSTAR / Vineyard Wind D&E Agreement (ER23-1665)

On April 20, 2023, NSTAR Electric Company ("NSTAR") filed an amendment to the previously-approved D&E Agreement between NSTAR and Vineyard Wind LLC for civil and below-grade and above-grade electrical substation work at NSTAR's Bourne 345 kV substation.¹⁰⁷ The amendment seeks to extend the term of the Agreement for additional work and changes the scope of work of the D&E Agreement (i) to address the risks and impacts to milestone revisions; (ii) to address the impact of higher rating of certain Direct Assigned Facilities; and (iii) to conduct harmonic study and data collection. An April 21, 2023 effective date was requested. Comments on this filing are due on or before *May 11, 2023*. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Pat Gerity (<u>pmgerity@daypitney.com</u>; 860-275-0533).

• NSTAR / Commonwealth Wind D&E Agreement (ER23-1607)

On April 11, 2023, NSTAR filed a Design & Engineering Agreement setting forth the terms and conditions under which NSTAR will perform necessary engineering and design services for the interconnection of Commonwealth Wind, LLC's large generating facility to the Administered Transmission System. An effective date of April 12, 2023 was requested. Comments on this filing were due on May 2, 2023; none were filed. This matter

¹⁰² Salem Harbor Power Development LP, 183 FERC ¶ 62,005 (Apr. 4, 2023).

¹⁰³ *Talen Energy Supply, LLC*, 182 FERC ¶ 62,183 (Mar. 30, 2023).

¹⁰⁴ Madison BTM, LLC et al., 182 FERC ¶ 62,048 (Jan. 24, 2023).

¹⁰⁵ The "AB CarVal Funds" are CEF Master Fund IV LP, CVI CEF II Pooling Fund IV LP, and CVI CSF Master Fund II LP.

¹⁰⁶ For purposes of this proceeding, "Agilitas Companies" are: Madison BTM LLC; Madison ESS, LLC; Rumford ESS, LLC; South Portland ESS, LLC; Sanford ESS, LLC; Ocean State BTM, LLC; and AE-ESS NWS 1, LLC. Madison BTM, Madison ESS, Rumford EES, and Ocean State BTM are each NEPOOL Participants. This transaction will not impact Agilitas' membership in the AR Sector.

¹⁰⁷ NSTAR Electric Co., Docket No. ER21-1285 (Apr. 16, 2021).

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

• NSTAR / Ocean State Power RFA Termination (ER23-1606)

On April 11, 2023, NSTAR filed to terminate the Related Facilities Agreement ("RFA") between Eversource Energy, on behalf of NSTAR, and Ocean State Wind following a determination by NSTAR that, pursuant to capital project upgrades on its own system for its own purposes, the Related Facilities were no longer necessary. Both parties agree to terminate the Agreement. No further work is being done under the Agreement and all applicable billing and refunds have been finalized. An effective date of April 11, 2023 was requested. Comments on this filing were due on May 2, 2023; none were filed. This matter is pending before the FERC. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Pat Gerity (<u>pmgerity@daypitney.com</u>; 860-275-0533).

• Study Work Agreement Cancellation: CL&P / NYISO (ER23-1483)

On March 28, 2023, CL&P submitted a Notice of Termination of the Study Work Agreement with NYISO that was accepted by FERC in Docket No. ER21-2946. All work contemplated by the Agreement was completed in February 2023 and all billing and invoices have been finalized. An effective date of March 29, 2023 was requested. Comments on this filing were due on April 18, 2023; none were filed. This matter is pending before the FERC. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Pat Gerity (<u>pmgerity@daypitney.com</u>; 860-275-0533).

• PSNH / National Grid D&E Agreement (ER23-1481)

On March 28, 2023, Eversource Energy, on behalf of Public Service Company of New Hampshire ("PSNH"), filed a Design & Engineering ("D&E") Agreement that sets forth the terms and conditions under which PSNH will perform necessary engineering, procurement and design services in connection with National Grid's asset separation project with Great River Hydro. An effective date of March 29, 2023 was requested. Comments on this filing were due on April 18, 2023; none were filed. This matter is pending before the FERC. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Pat Gerity (<u>pmgerity@daypitney.com</u>; 860-275-0533).

• LGIA: RIE / ISO-NE / Various Entities (ER23-1767, ER23-1748, ER23-1741)

On April 28, 2023, ISO-NE and Rhode Island Energy ("RIE") filed three revised LGIAs to reflect RIE as the new Interconnecting Transmission Owner pursuant to a FERC-approved transaction. A January 1, 2023 effective date was requested for each of the following LGIAs:

- ER23-1767: First Revised LGIA that governs the interconnection of Manchester Street, LLC's 516 MW facility located in Providence, RI.
- ER23-1748: First Revised LGIA that governs the interconnection of Ocean State Power LLC's 656.157 MW facility located in Burrillville, RI.
- **ER23-1741:** Second Revised LGIA that governs the interconnection of Rhode Island LFG Genco, LLC's 38 MW facility located in Johnston, RI.

Comments on these filings are due on or before *May 19, 2023*. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Pat Gerity (<u>pmgerity@daypitney.com</u>; 860-275-0533).

• LGIA: CL&P/Generate NB Fuel Cells/ISO-NE (ER23-1479)

On March 27, 2023, as supplemented on March 28 and April 4, CL&P and ISO-NE filed a revised nonconforming Large Generation Interconnection Agreement ("LGIA") with Generate NB Fuel Cells, LLC ("Generate NB") to govern the interconnection of Generate NB's 20 MW fuel cell project in New Britain, Connecticut (Stanley Black & Decker campus). The original non-conforming LGIA was accepted by FERC on July 11, 2022.¹⁰⁸ The revised LGIA includes, among others, changes reflecting the sale of the fuel cell project by EIP Investment to Generate NB.

¹⁰⁸ ISO New England Inc., and The Conn. Light and Power Co., Docket No. ER22-1862 (July 11, 2022) (unpublished letter order).

A February 23, 2023 effective date was requested. Comments on this filing were due on April 17, 2023; none were filed. This matter is pending before the FERC. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Pat Gerity (<u>pmgerity@daypitney.com</u>; 860-275-0533).

• National Grid/ GRH SGIA (ER23-1152)

On April 20, 2023, the FERC accepted National Grid's non-conforming SGIA with Great River Hydro to cover the continued interconnection of GRH's 13 MW hydro facility in the towns of Barnet, VT and Monroe, NH.¹⁰⁹ The SGIA is effective January 30, 2023. Unless the April 20 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).

• LSAs: RI Energy/ISO-NE/BIPCO (ER23-1003; ER23-1000)

On January 31, 2023, ISO-NE and RI Energy filed two Local Service Agreements ("LSAs"), as replacements to two current New England Power TSAs (TSA-NEP-83 and TSA-NEP-86), to allow RI Energy to fully recover the Block Island Transmission System ("BITS") surcharge now that it is both Transmission Owner and Customer under these arrangements. On March 31, 2023, the FERC conditionally accepted the LSA replacing TSA-NEP-86 (ER23-1003), effective January 1, 2023, ¹¹⁰ and directed RI Energy, on or before May 1, 2023, to add language to the LSA to make explicit that the BITS Surcharge shall be subject to the Protocols for Schedule 21-RIE. That compliance filing was submitted on May 1, 2023 as directed. Also on March 31, 2023, FERC also issued a deficiency letter asking for additional information regarding whether the LSA replacing TSA-NEP-83 (ER23-1000) is subject to the Schedule 21-RIE Protocols. The response to the deficiency letter was also filed, as directed, on May 1, 2023. Comments on both May 1 filings are due on or before **May 22, 2023**. If you have any questions concerning these matters, please contact Eric Runge (617-345-4735; <u>ekrunge@daypitney.com</u>).

• Versant Power MPD OATT Order 881 Compliance Filing (ER22-2358)

On July 12, 2022, in response to the requirements of *Order 881*, Versant Power filed a proposed new Attachment T to the Versant Power Open Access Transmission Tariff for the Maine Public District ("MPD OATT"). Attachment T, Versant reported, incorporates all the contents of the *pro forma* OATT's new Attachment M. An effective date of July 12, 2025 was requested in an errata filing submitted on August 1, 2022. On August 2, 2022, MPUC submitted comments asserting that Versant's Compliance Filing, without further detail, is insufficient to meet the requirements of *Order 881* and should either (i) be rejected outright, ordering Versant to re-file with sufficient detail, or (ii) subject to a deficiency letter requiring further information with respect to the Compliance Filing. MPUC withdrew those comments on August 31, 2022 in exchange for certain understandings with Versant Power (including MPUC's attendance, as a non-voting participant, at any NMISA working group discussions on *Order 881* implementation planning and Versant Power's submission of informational compliance filings to keep the FERC apprised of versant's progress in developing its AAR implementation plan). On September 6, 2022, Versant Power supplemented its compliance filing to confirm the MPUC's understandings, as delineated in its Notice of Withdrawal. This matter remains pending before the FERC. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Eric Runge (617-345-4735; <u>ekrunge@daypitney.com</u>).

¹⁰⁹ New England Power Co., Docket No. ER23-1152-000 (Apr. 20, 2023) (unpublished letter order).

¹¹⁰ ISO New England Inc., Docket No. ER23-1003-000 (Mar. 31, 2023) (unpublished letter order).

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• Interregional HVDC Merchant Transmission (AD22-13)

As previously reported, Invenergy Transmission ("Invenergy") filed a petition, on July 19, 2022, requesting that the FERC hold a technical conference to explore ways to potentially make available and compensate certain grid reliability and resilience benefits associated with interregional high voltage direct current ("HVDC") merchant transmission. Initial comments to be considered by the FERC in its determination of any action to be taken were due on or before August 26, 2022. Comments were filed by 13 parties and included, among others, <u>CSC</u>, <u>ENGIE</u>, <u>Invenergy</u>, <u>Phase I/II Asset Owners and IRH</u>, <u>Joint Consumer Advocates</u>, <u>MISO</u>, <u>ACORE</u>, <u>ACPA</u>, <u>SEIA</u>, and <u>Neptune and Hudson</u>. <u>Invenergy</u> answered the comments filed by <u>MISO</u>.

On November 10, 2022, Invenergy again urged the FERC to "hold a technical conference to examine and to improve the policy and processes relating to the interconnection of interregional MHVDC systems". In December, <u>ENGIE, Grid United</u> and <u>SEIA</u> filed comments supporting Invenergy's November 10 request. On February 6, 2023, the FERC issued a notice of Invenergy's November 10, 2022 request, providing any person interested in commenting a March 8, 2023 comment deadline. Comments were filed by the following parties: <u>Advanced Energy</u> <u>United</u>, <u>NRDC</u>, <u>IRC</u>, <u>SPP</u>, <u>NARUC</u>, <u>Amer</u>. <u>Council on Renewable Energy</u>, <u>Assoc. Industries of MO</u>, <u>Clean Energy</u> <u>Buyers Assoc., Converge Strategies, ELCON</u>, <u>Grid United</u>, <u>IL Manufac. Assoc., MN PSC</u>, <u>Natl. Elec. Manufac. Assoc.</u>, <u>ND PSC</u>, <u>Public Citizen</u>, <u>Niskanen Center</u>, <u>Prysmian Group</u>, <u>P. Stockton</u>, <u>R Street Institute</u>, <u>Rail Electrification</u> <u>Council</u>, <u>Renew Missouri Advocates</u>, <u>SOO Green HVDC Link ProjectCo</u>, and <u>World Resources Institute</u>.

• Joint FERC-DOE Supply Chain Risk Management Technical Conference (Dec 7, 2022) (AD22-12)

On December 12, 2022, the FERC and the DOE convened a joint technical conference held its annual Commissioner-led technical conference to discuss supply chain security challenges related to the BPS, ongoing supply chain-related activities, and potential measures to secure the supply chain for the grid's hardware, software, computer, and networking equipment. Speaker materials are posted in eLibrary and a recording of the <u>conference</u> will be available on the FERC website for roughly one more month. On December 19, 2022, the FERC invited all those interested to file, by February 17, 2023, post-technical conference comments addressing issues raised during the technical conference. Comments were filed by <u>AEP</u>, <u>APPA</u>, <u>EEI</u>, the <u>North American Transmission</u> <u>Forum</u>. In addition, on February 13, 2023, the FERC posted a transcript of the December 12 technical conference in eLibrary. This matter is pending before the FERC.

• Reliability Technical Conference (Nov 10, 2022) (AD22-10)

On November 10, 2022, the FERC held its annual Commissioner-led technical conference to discuss policy issues related to the reliability of the BPS. The conference's two panels were: (I) "Managing the Electric Grid to Advance Reliability" (to explore the current state of grid reliability and efforts that can be undertaken to improve it); and (II) "Managing Cyber Security Threats, the CIP Reliability Standards, and Best Practices for the Bulk-Power System" (to discuss how cyber security governance encompasses the CIP Reliability Standards and compliance as well as best practices; the challenges of implementing appropriate oversight; and ways in which industry can address these challenges to improve its response to evolving vulnerabilities and threats to reduce the risk to the BPS). On November 22, 2022, the FERC invited all those interested to file post-technical conference comments to address issues raised during the technical conference identified in the Supplemental Notice of Technical Conference issued on November 3, 2022. Comments were due on or before January 23, 2023 and were filed by

¹¹¹ Reporting on the following Administrative proceeding has been suspended since the last Report and will be continued if and when there is new activity to report: NOI: Dynamic Line Ratings (AD22-5).

<u>EPSA</u> and <u>Public Power Associations</u>.¹¹² A transcript of the technical conference was posted in the FERC's eLibrary on January 17, 2023. This matter is pending before the FERC.

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

The Second New England Gas-Electric Forum (June 20, 2023 in Portland, ME). On April 13, 2023, the FERC issued a supplemental notice of a Second New England Winter Gas-Electric Forum containing the preliminary agenda for the Forum, further registration details, and details regarding the panelist nomination process. The event (with address corrected) will be held at the DoubleTree by Hilton Portland, 363 Maine Mall Rd, Portland, ME, 04106.

Registration for in-person attendance is required and there will be no fee for attendance. Link to attendee registration is available on the <u>New England Winter Gas-Electric Forum</u> event page. Due to space constraints, seating for this event is limited. Members who wish to attend in-person should register as soon as possible. The forum will also be available on webcast. Individuals interested in participating as panelists should submit a self-nomination email by Friday, *May 19, 2023*, to <u>Panelist NewEnglandForum@ferc.gov</u>. For more information, technical or logistical questions about this forum, please contact <u>NewEnglandForum@ferc.gov</u>.

The First New England Gas-Electric Forum (September 8, 2022 in Burlington, VT). The purpose of the Forum was to discuss and achieve a greater understanding among stakeholders in defining the electric and natural gas system challenges in the New England Region. Topics discussed included the historical context of New England winter gas-electric challenges, concerns and considerations for upcoming winters such as reliability of gas and electric systems and fuel procurement issues, and whether additional information or modeling exercises are needed to inform the development of solutions to these challenges. On September 21, 2022, the FERC invited parties wishing to submit comments regarding the topics discussed at the Forum to do so on or before November 7, 2022. Post-Forum Comments were submitted by: ISO-NE, Acadia, AEU, AIM, Calpine, Constellation, Excelerate, FirstLight, LS Power, NECOS, NEPGA, NESCOE, Public Systems, Repsol, TOS, VELCO, Vistra, Potomac Economics, CT DEEP, AEMA, APGA, EPSA, INGA, NE LDCs, NGSA, New England Council, NEPPA, NH BIA, PIOs, RENEW/ACPA, Berkshire Action Team, Greater Concord Chamber of Comm., Mass. Alliance for Econ. Dev., Mass. Business Roundtable, Mass. Coalition for Sustainable Energy, Mass. United Assoc. of Journeymen, Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce, Public Citizen, Western Mass. Economic Dev. Council, and Individual Citizens (M. Axner, E. Blank, S. Botkin, D. Heimann, J. Krieger, B. Little, I. McDonald, J. Neville, W. Persons, R. Spector). On November 22, National Grid filed reply comments.

• Transmission Planning and Cost Management Technical Conference (AD22-8)

On October 6, 2022, the FERC convened a Commissioner-led technical conference regarding transmission planning and cost management for transmission facilities developed through local or regional transmission planning processes. The 5 panels throughout the day addressed: (1) the processes by which transmission providers develop local transmission planning criteria, identify local transmission needs using those criteria, and evaluate and choose local transmission facilities to address those needs; (2) whether local transmission facility costs are adequately scrutinized; (3) the processes by which transmission providers evaluate, select, and develop regional transmission facilities for reliability; (4) whether regional transmission facilities for reliability costs are adequately scrutinized; and (5) cross-cutting themes and potential best practices for both local transmission facilities and regional reliability transmission planning and cost management, in addition to innovative approaches that could be explored further, including the possibility of establishing a role for an Independent Transmission Monitor, and mechanisms to support enhanced transparency. Advance materials were submitted by representatives on behalf of: ISO-NE, CA PUC, KY PSC, NC Utils. Comm. Public Staff, NV PUC, RI PUC, AEU, AEP, Ameren, AMP/APPA, Ari Peskoe, L. Azar, Clean Energy Buyers Assoc., Coalition of MISO Customers, Harvard Electricity Law Initiative, ITC Holdings, LPPC, IA Consumer Advocate, J. Macey, NESCOE, Northern California Power

¹¹² "Public Power Associations" are American Public Power Association ("APPA"), the Large Public Power Council ("LPPC"), and Transmission Access Policy Study Group ("TAPS").

Agency, Northwest & Intermountain Power Producers Coalition, OH Consumers' Counsel, OH PUC, Old Dominion Elec. Coop., PJM, G. Poulus, SPP, Potomac Economics, Southern California Edison, Southern Environmental Law Center, and TAPS/FMPA and WIRES.

On September 30 and October 4, the FERC issued supplemental notices that included a final agenda, including further details regarding the agenda and speakers, for this technical conference. On November 1, 2022, a transcript of the technical conference was posted in the FERC's eLibrary. On December 23, 2022, the FERC issued a notice inviting post-technical conference comments on questions listed in that notice. Those comments were due by March 23, 2023 and were filed by: <u>ISO-NE, AEU, Avangrid, Cypress Creek Renewables, Eversource, LS</u> Power, MA AG, NE Public Systems, NESCOE, NextEra, NRDC, NRG, Maine PUC, American Council on Renewable <u>Energy ("ACRE"), APPA, EEI, Harvard Elec. Law Inst., LPPC, NASUCA, NRECA</u>, and <u>R Street Institute</u>. Since the last Report, reply comments were filed by the PJM IMM and the ITC Companies. This matter is pending before the FERC.

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

A seventh meeting of the FERC-established Joint Federal-State Task Force on Electric Transmission ("Transmission Task Force" or "JFSTF")¹¹³ will be held Sunday, July 18, 2023 in Austin, TX. s held February 15, 2023 in Washington, DC.¹¹⁴ An agenda for the February 15 meeting was posted on February 1, 2023. The one topic noticed was "Physical Security of the Transmission System", with Jim Robb, NERC President and CEO, and Puesh Kumar, Director of DOE's Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Response, as the principal speakers. A transcript of the February 15 meeting was posted to eLibrary on March 6, 2023.

Comments on the topics/questions related to the FERC's October 6, 2022 technical conference on Transmission Planning and Cost Management, also posted in this docket, were due on or before March 23, 2023. *See* AD22-8 above for a more information.

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

ISO/RTO Reports. On April 21, 2022, the FERC issued an order¹¹⁵ directing each independent system operator ("ISO") and regional transmission organization ("RTO"), including ISO-NE, to submit on or before October 18, 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. The *Order Directing Reports* followed a series of staff-

¹¹³ Joint Federal-State Task Force on Electric Transmission, 175 FERC ¶ 61,224 (June 18, 2021). 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 Marissa Gillett (Chair, CT PURA). *See* Order on Nominations, *Joint Federal-State Task Force on Elec. Trans.*, 180 FERC ¶ 61,030 (July 15, 2022).

¹¹⁴ Summaries of the first – fifth meetings of the Transmission Task Force can be found in previous Reports.

¹¹⁵ Modernizing Wholesale Electricity Market Design, 179 FERC ¶ 61,029 (Apr. 21, 2022) ("Order Directing Reports").

led technical conferences, convened in 2021 and summarized in previous Reports, addressing ISO/RTO resource adequacy¹¹⁶ and energy and ancillary services markets.¹¹⁷

ISO-NE Report. On October 18, 2022, <u>ISO-NE</u> (as well as the other ISO/RTOs) filed its report in response to the *Order Directing Reports*. Comments in response to the RTO/ISO reports were due, following an EEI request, on or before January 18, 2023. Comments were filed by, among others: <u>Advanced Energy</u> <u>United</u>, <u>API</u>, <u>Constellation</u>, <u>New England Public Systems</u>,¹¹⁸ <u>Shell</u>, <u>Clean Energy Assocs</u>, <u>Clean Energy Buyers</u> Association, EEI, EPSA, Public Interest Orgs, R Street Institute.

The FERC is reviewing the RTO/ISO reports and comments related thereto to determine whether further action is appropriate.

• NOPR: Duty of Candor (RM22-20)

On July 28, 2022, the FERC issued a NOPR¹¹⁹ proposing to add a new section to its regulations to require that any entity communicating with the FERC or other specified organizations (e.g. ISO/RTOs, FERC-approved market monitors, NERC and its Regional Entities, or transmission providers) related to a matter subject to FERC jurisdiction submit accurate and factual information and not submit false or misleading information, or omit material information ("Duty of Candor Requirements"). An entity would be shielded from violation of the new regulation if it has exercised due diligence to prevent such occurrences. The FERC's current regulations prohibit, in defined circumstances, inaccurate communications to the FERC and other organizations upon which the FERC relies to carry out its statutory obligations. However, because those requirements cover only certain communications and impose a patchwork of different standards of care for such communications, the FERC believes that a broadly applicable duty of candor will improve its ability to effectively oversee jurisdictional markets. It further indicated that its proposed due 'diligence standard' and other limitations are intended to minimize the additional burdens to industry that come with the new Duty of Candor Requirements.

On September 1, 2022, Joint Associations¹²⁰ requested an additional month to submit comments.¹²¹ On September 14, 2022, the FERC granted that request. Accordingly, initial comments were due November 11, 2022 and over 30 sets of comments were filed, including by: <u>ISO-NE</u>, <u>ISO-NE IMM</u>, <u>ISO-NE EMM</u>, <u>PJM IMM</u>, <u>ABA</u>, <u>AGA</u>,

¹¹⁹ Duty of Candor, 180 FERC ¶ 61,052 (July 28, 2022) ("Duty of Candor NOPR").

¹¹⁶ 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: <u>AEU</u>, <u>Calpine</u>, <u>Cogentrix</u>, <u>Dominion</u>, <u>Exelon</u>, <u>FirstLight</u>, <u>LS Power</u>, <u>NESCOE</u>, <u>NEPGA</u>, <u>NRG</u>, <u>PSEG</u>, <u>Shell</u>, <u>Vistra</u>, <u>CT DEEP</u>, <u>EEI</u>, <u>EPSA</u>, and <u>NRECA/APPA</u>. Reply comments were filed by <u>ACPA</u>, <u>AEP</u>, <u>EPSA</u>, <u>Exelon</u>, <u>Joint Consumer Advocates</u>, <u>LS Power</u>, <u>Old Dominion Electric Cooperative</u> ("ODEC"), <u>P3</u>, <u>Public Interest</u> <u>Organizations</u> ("PIOs"), and the <u>Retail Electric Supply Association</u> ("RESA"). Following the May 25 conference, comments were filed by: <u>AEU</u>, <u>Calpine</u>, <u>CT Parties</u>, <u>Dominion</u>, <u>Eversource</u>, <u>MMWEC</u>, <u>NESCOE</u>, <u>NEPGA</u>, <u>NextEra</u>, <u>NRG</u>, <u>Public Interest Orgs</u>, <u>Vistra</u>, <u>AEMA</u>, <u>EPSA</u>, <u>RENEW</u>.

¹¹⁷ 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 "<u>Energy and Ancillary Services Market Reforms to Address Changing System Needs</u>" 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: <u>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 <u>Public Citizen</u>. Reply comments were filed by <u>EPRI, NERC and its Regional Entities</u> and <u>Vistra</u>.</u>

¹¹⁸ "New England Public Systems" are CMMEC, MMWEC, NHEC, and VPPSA.

¹²⁰ "Joint Associations" included the following trade associations on behalf of their respective members: the American Gas Association ("AGA"), American Public Gas Association ("APGA"), Interstate Natural Gas Association of America ("INGA"), Edison Electric Institute ("EEI"), Electric Power Supply Association ("EPSA"), Energy Trading Institute ("ETI"), Natural Gas Supply Association ("NGA"), and Process Gas Consumers Group ("PGCG").

¹²¹ The *Duty of Candor NOPR* was published in the *Fed. Reg.* on Aug. 12, 2022 (Vol. 87, No. 155) pp. 49,784-49,793.

APGA, APPA, EEI, Energy Trade Associations, INGA, NGSA, Nodal Exchange, NRECA, State Agencies, US Chamber of Commerce, DE Riverkeeper Network, New Civil Liberties Alliance, and Nodal Exchange. The US Chamber of Commerce filed reply comments on December 12, 2022. There was no activity in the proceeding since the last Report. This matter is pending before the FERC.

• Order 893: Incentives for Advanced Cybersecurity Investment (RM22-19)

On April 21, 2023, the FERC issued *Order 893*,¹²² which revises the FERC's regulations to encourage investments by utilities in Advanced Cybersecurity Technology and participation by utilities in cybersecurity threat information sharing programs, as directed by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021. *Order 893* (1) identifies the utilities permitted to request incentive-based rate treatment for cybersecurity investments; (2) establishes the criteria that the FERC will use to determine whether a cybersecurity investment is eligible to receive an incentive-based rate treatment; (3) discusses the approaches that a utility may use to demonstrate that a cybersecurity investment satisfies the eligibility criteria; (4) explains the type of incentive-based rate treatment available for qualifying cybersecurity investments; (5) sets limits on the duration of the incentive-based rate treatment for cybersecurity investments; and (7) establishes the annual reporting requirements for utilities that receive incentive-based rate treatment for their cybersecurity investments. *Order 893* will become effective July 3, 2023.¹²³

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

On June 16, 2022, as corrected on July 12, 2022, the FERC issued a notice¹²⁴ proposing to require transmission providers to submit one-time informational reports describing their current or planned policies and processes for conducting extreme weather vulnerability assessments¹²⁵ (how they establish a scope for their extreme weather vulnerability assessments, 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 were due August 30, 2022¹²⁶ and were filed by over 13 parties, including among others, <u>Eversource</u>, <u>NRDC</u>, <u>NERC</u>, <u>MISO</u>, <u>PJM</u>, and <u>EPSA</u>. This matter is pending before the FERC.

NOPR: Interconnection Reforms (RM22-14)

On June 16, 2022, the FERC issued a notice of proposed rulemaking ("NOPR"),¹²⁷ more than 400 pages long, that proposed 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* SGIA to address interconnection queue backlogs, improve certainty, and prevent undue discrimination for new technologies.

As previously reported, the proposed reforms fall into three main categories: (1) reforms to implement a first-ready, first-served cluster study process;¹²⁸ (2) reforms to increase the speed of interconnection queue

¹²² Incentives for Advanced Cybersecurity Investment, Order No. 893, 183 FERC ¶ 61,033 (Apr. 21, 2023) ("Order 893").

¹²³ Order 893 was published in the Fed. Reg. on May 3, 2023 (Vol. 88, No. 85) pp. 28,348-28,125.

¹²⁴ 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").

¹²⁵ "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".

¹²⁶ The *Extreme Weather Vulnerability Assessments NOPR* was published in the *Fed. Reg.* on July 1, 2022 (Vol. 87, No. 126) pp. 39,414-39,426.

¹²⁷ Improvements to Generator Interconnection Procedures and Agreements, 179 FERC ¶ 61,194 (June 16, 2022) ("Interconnection Reforms NOPR").

¹²⁸ To implement the **first-ready, first-served cluster study process**, the FERC proposed to:

processing;¹²⁹ and (3) reforms to incorporate technological advancements to the interconnection process.¹³⁰ Within each of these categories, the FERC proposes a wide array of reforms, and requested comment.

Initial Comments. Initial comments were due October 13, 2022¹³¹ and over 130 sets of comments were filed, including: <u>NEPOOL</u>, <u>ISO-NE</u>, <u>NESCOE</u>, <u>AEU</u>, <u>Anbaric</u>, <u>Avangrid</u>, <u>Cypress Creek Renewables</u>, <u>Dominion</u>, <u>EDF</u> <u>Renewables</u>, <u>ENGIE</u>, <u>Envir</u>. <u>Defense Fund</u>, <u>Longroad</u>, <u>National Grid</u>, <u>NextEra</u>, <u>PPL</u>, <u>RWE</u>, <u>Shell</u>, <u>VELCO</u>, <u>Vistra</u>, <u>ACPA</u>, <u>ACRE</u>, <u>APPA</u>, <u>US DOE</u>, <u>EEI</u>, <u>ELCON</u>, <u>EPRI</u>, <u>EPSA</u>, <u>IRC</u>, <u>NARUC</u>, <u>NERC</u>, <u>NRECA</u>, <u>PIOs</u>, <u>R Street Institute</u>, <u>SEIA</u>, <u>State</u> <u>Agencies</u>, and <u>WIRES</u>.

- 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;¹²⁸
- 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; and
- Impose withdrawal penalties when the interconnection customer withdraws from the interconnection queue.

¹²⁹ 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;
- 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); and
- 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.

¹³⁰ 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.
- ¹³¹ The Interconnection Reforms NOPR was published in the Fed. Reg. on July 5, 2022 (Vol. 87, No. 127) pp. 39,934-40,032.

Reply Comments. Following a request by EEI for a 30-day extension of time to submit reply comments, supported by AEU, ACPA, ACRE, and SEI, and granted by the FERC on October 28, 2022, reply comments were due December 14, 2022. More than 50 sets of reply comments were filed, including by <u>ACPA</u>, <u>ACORE</u>, <u>AEU</u>, <u>APPA/LPPC</u>, <u>Avangrid</u>, <u>Dominion</u>, <u>EDF</u>, <u>EEI</u>, <u>Elevate Renewables F7</u>, <u>Enel</u>, <u>ENGIE</u>, <u>Invenergy</u>, the <u>IRC</u>, <u>Longroad</u> <u>Energy</u>, <u>NERC</u>, <u>NESCOE</u>, <u>NextEra</u>, <u>Orsted</u>, <u>SEIA</u>, <u>Shell</u>, <u>Sierra Club</u>, <u>UCS</u>, <u>WIRES</u>. Since the last Report, US Senator John Barrasso, M.D., a ranking member of the Senate's Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, asked the FERC to respond to a series of questions.

The Interconnection Reforms NOPR is pending before the FERC. 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: ISO/RTO Credit Information Sharing (RM22-13)

On July 28, 2022, the FERC issued a NOPR¹³² proposing to revise its regulations to permit ISO/RTOs to share among themselves¹³³ credit-related information regarding market participants.¹³⁴ The FERC believes that the proposed credit information sharing could improve ISO/RTOs' ability to accurately assess market participants' credit exposure and risks and enable ISO/RTOs to respond to credit events more quickly and effectively (minimizing the overall credit-related risks, including risks of unexpected defaults by market participants, in organized wholesale electric markets). The FERC proposal would not permit the information sharing to be conditioned on the specific consent of the market participant, would permit the receiving ISO/RTO to use market participant credit-related information received from another ISO/RTO to the same extent and for the same purposes that the receiving ISO/RTO may use credit-related information collected from its own market participants, and would not change the existing discretion an ISO/RTO has to act on credit-related information, regardless of the source of that information. The FERC sought comment on whether ISO/RTOs' credit-related information, sharing discretion should be limited in any specific ways or to any specific circumstances.

Initial Comments. Initial comments were due October 7, 2022¹³⁵ and were filed by, among others: <u>NEPOOL</u>, <u>Dominion</u>, <u>EEI</u>, <u>Energy Trading Institute</u>, <u>EPSA</u>, and the <u>IRC</u>.

Reply Comments. Reply comments were due November 7, 2022 and were filed by the <u>IRC</u> and a <u>couple of</u> <u>persons</u> from Augusta University.

¹³² Credit-Related Information Sharing in Organized Wholesale Electric Markets, 180 FERC ¶ 61,048 (July 28, 2022) ("ISO/RTO Credit-Related Info Sharing NOPR").

¹³³ The ISO/RTO Credit-Related Info Sharing NOPR does propose credit-related information sharing with markets that are not Commission-jurisdictional (i.e. ERCOT, AESO, IESO or commodities and derivative markets that are subject to the jurisdiction of other regulators, including the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC")).

¹³⁴ Revisions would be to 18 CFR § 35.47(h). The changes would "[p]ermit the sharing of market participant credit-related information with, and receipt of market participant credit-related information from, other organized wholesale electric markets for the purpose of credit risk management and mitigation, provided such market participant credit-related information is treated upon receipt as confidential under the terms for the confidential treatment of market participant information set forth in the tariff or other governing document of the receiving organized wholesale electric market; and permit the receiving organized wholesale electric market to use market participant credit-related information received from another organized wholesale electric market to the same extent and for the same purposes that the receiving organized wholesale electric market may use credit-related information collected from its own market participants.

¹³⁵ The *ISO/RTO Credit-Related Info Sharing NOPR* was published in the *Fed. Reg.* on Aug. 8, 2022 (Vol. 87, No. 151) pp. 48,118-

• NOPR: Transmission Siting (RM22-7)

On December 15, 2022, the FERC issued a NOPR¹³⁶ proposing to revise its regulations governing applications for permits to site electric transmission facilities under section 216 of the FPA, as amended by the Infrastructure and Jobs Act. The *Transmission Siting NOPR* is intended to ensure consistency with the Infrastructure and Jobs Act's amendments to FPA section 216, to modernize certain regulatory requirements, and to incorporate other updates and clarifications to provide for the efficient and timely review of permit applications. Following a NARUC request for an extension of time, granted by the FERC on March 3, 2023, comments on the *Transmission Siting NOPR* are due on or before *May 17, 2023*.

• Transmission NOPR (RM21-17)

Following its ANOPR process,¹³⁷ the FERC issued on April 21, 2022 a NOPR¹³⁸ 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;
- 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 queue processes, interregional transmission coordination and planning, and oversight of transmission planning

¹³⁸ Building for the Future Through Electric Regional Transmission Planning and Cost Allocation and Generator Interconnection, 179 FERC ¶ 61,028 (Apr. 21, 2022) ("Transmission NOPR").

¹³⁶ Applications for Permits to Site Interstate Electric Transmission Facilities, 181 FERC ¶ 61,205 (Dec. 15, 2022) ("Transmission Siting NOPR").

¹³⁷ See Building for the Future Through Electric Regional Transmission Planning and Cost Allocation and Generator 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: <u>NEPOOL</u>, <u>ISO-NE</u>, <u>AEU</u>, <u>Anbaric</u>, <u>Avangrid</u>, <u>BP</u>, <u>CPV</u>, <u>Dominion</u>, <u>EDF</u>, <u>EDP</u>, <u>Enel</u>, <u>EPSA</u>, <u>Eversource</u>, <u>Exelon</u>, <u>LS Power</u>, <u>MA AG</u>, <u>MMWEC</u>, <u>National Grid</u>, <u>NECOS</u>, <u>NESCOE</u>, <u>NextEra</u>, <u>NRDC</u>, <u>Orsted</u>, <u>Shell</u>, <u>UCS</u>, <u>VELCO</u>, <u>Vistra</u>, <u>Potomac Economics</u>, <u>ACORE</u>, <u>ACPA/ESA</u>, <u>APPA</u>, <u>EEI</u>, <u>ELCON</u>, <u>Industrial Customer Orgs</u>, <u>LPPC</u>, <u>MA DOER</u>, <u>NARUC</u>, <u>NASUCA</u>, <u>NASEO</u>, <u>NERC</u>, <u>NEECA</u>, <u>SEIA</u>, <u>State Agencies</u>, <u>TAPS</u>, <u>WIRES</u>, <u>Harvard</u> <u>Electric Law Initiative</u>; <u>NYU Institute for Policy Integrity</u>, <u>New England for Offshore Wind Coalition</u>, and the <u>R Street Institute</u>. *ANOPR* reply comments and post-technical conference comments were filed by over 100 parties, including: by: <u>CT AG</u>, <u>Acadia Center/CLF</u>, <u>CT AG</u>, <u>Dominion</u>, <u>Enel</u>, <u>Eversource</u>, <u>LS Power</u>, <u>MA AG</u>, <u>MMWEC</u>, <u>NESCOE</u>, <u>NextEra</u>, <u>Shell</u>, <u>UCS</u>, <u>Vistra</u>, <u>ACPA/ESA</u>, <u>AEU</u>, <u>APPA</u>, <u>EEI</u>, <u>ELCON</u>, <u>Environmental and Renewable Energy Advocates</u>, <u>EPSA</u>, <u>Harvard ELI</u>, <u>NRECA</u>, <u>Potomac Economics</u>, and <u>SEIA</u>. Supplemental reply comments were filed by <u>WIRES</u>, a group of former military leaders and former Department of Defense officials, and <u>ACPA/AEU/SEIA</u>.

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.

Comments. Following a number of requests for extensions of time, comments on the *Transmission NOPR* were due August 17, 2022.¹³⁹ Nearly 200 sets of comments were filed, including comments by <u>NEPOOL</u>, <u>ISO-NE</u>, <u>Acadia/CLF</u>, <u>Anbaric</u>, <u>AEU</u>, <u>Avangrid</u>, <u>BP</u>, <u>Dominion</u>, <u>Enel</u>, <u>Engie</u>, <u>Eversource</u>, <u>Invenergy</u>, <u>LSP Power</u>, <u>MOPA</u>, <u>MMWEC/CMEEC/NHEC/VPPSA</u>, <u>National Grid</u>, <u>NECOES</u>, <u>NESCOE</u>, <u>NextEra</u>, <u>NRG</u>, <u>Onward Energy</u>, <u>Orsted</u>, <u>PPL</u>, <u>Shell</u>, <u>Transource</u>, <u>VELCO</u>, <u>Vistra</u>, <u>ISO/RTO Council</u>, <u>NERC</u>, <u>US DOJ/FTC</u>, <u>MA AG</u>, <u>State Agencies</u>, <u>VT PUC/DPS</u>, <u>Potomac</u> <u>Economics</u>, <u>ACPA</u>, <u>ACRE</u>, <u>APPA</u>, <u>EEI</u>, <u>EPSA</u>, <u>Industrial Customer Organizations</u>, <u>LPPC</u>, <u>NASUCA</u>, <u>NRECA</u>, <u>Public</u> <u>Interest Organizations</u>, <u>SEIA</u>, <u>TAPS</u>, <u>WIRES</u>, <u>Harvard Electricity Law Initiative</u>, <u>New England for Offshore Wind</u>, and the <u>R Street Institute</u>.

Reply Comments. Reply comments were due September 19, 2022. Nearly 100 sets of reply comments were filed, including by: <u>ISO-NE</u>, <u>AEU</u>, <u>Anbaric</u>, <u>Avangrid</u>, <u>CT DEEP</u>, <u>Cypress Creek</u>, <u>Dominion</u>, <u>ENGIE</u>, <u>Eversource</u>, <u>Invenergy</u>, <u>LS Power</u>, <u>MA AG</u>, <u>NECOS</u>, <u>NESCOE</u>, <u>NextEra</u>, <u>Shell</u>, <u>Transource</u>, <u>UCS</u>, <u>ACPA</u>, <u>ACRE</u>, <u>APPA</u>, <u>EEI</u>, <u>Industrial</u> <u>Customer Organizations</u>, <u>LPPA</u>, <u>NRECA</u>, <u>Public Interest Organizations</u>, <u>R Street</u>, and <u>SEIA</u>. On November 28, 2022, the New Jersey BPU moved to lodge its recently issued <u>Board Order</u> selecting transmission projects to be built pursuant to PJM's State Agreement Approach ("SAA") for the purpose of supporting New Jersey's offshore wind ("OSW") goals, the Brattle Group's <u>SAA Evaluation Report</u>, and <u>PJM's SAA Economic Analysis Report</u>, which it stated demonstrates that competitive transmission solicitations can provide significant value to consumers. In December 2022, the <u>Harvard Electricity Law Initiative</u>, and <u>P. Alaama</u> submitted further comments.

LS Power and NRG filed comments in this proceeding, as well as in (Transmission Planning and Cost Management Joint Federal-State Task Force on Electric Transmission) (AD22-8) and JFSTF proceeding (AD21-15). They asserted that the FERC "cannot sufficiently address the transmission planning issues raised in its Transmission NOPR without addressing the intertwined cost management issues raised in AD22-8-000 and during the October 6, 2022 Technical Conference in AD22-8.

This matter remains pending before the FERC. If you have any questions concerning the *Transmission NOPR*, please contact Eric Runge (617-345-4735; <u>ekrunge@daypitney.com</u>) or Margaret Czepiel (202-218-3906; <u>mczepiel@daypitney.com</u>).

• NOPR: Accounting and Reporting Treatment of Certain Renewable Energy Assets (RM21-11)

On July 28, 2022, the FERC issued a NOPR¹⁴⁰ proposing reforms to the accounting and reporting treatment of certain renewable energy assets. Specifically, the FERC proposes changes to the Uniform System of Accounts ("USofA") and relevant FERC forms to: (i) include new accounts for wind, solar, and other non-hydro renewable assets; (ii) create a new functional class for energy storage accounts; (iii) codify the accounting treatment of renewable energy credits; and (iv) create new accounts within existing functions for hardware, software, and communication equipment. The FERC also seeks comment on whether the Chief Accountant should issue guidance on the accounting for hydrogen. Comments on the *Renewable Energy Assets USofA and Reporting NOPR*

¹³⁹ A July 27, 2022, request by the Georgia Public Service Commission ("GA PUC") for an additional 30 days of time to submit comments and reply comments was denied on Aug. 9, 2022.

¹⁴⁰ Accounting and Reporting Treatment of Certain Renewable Energy Assets, 180 FERC ¶ 61,050 (July 28, 2022) ("Renewable Energy Assets USofA and Reporting NOPR").

were due November 17, 2022.¹⁴¹ Comments were filed by: <u>Dominion</u>, <u>ACPA/SEIA</u>, <u>EEI</u>, <u>Liquid Energy Pipeline</u> <u>Assoc.</u>, <u>RESA</u>, <u>PG&E/SDG&E</u>, <u>C. Pechman</u>. There was no activity in this proceeding since the last Report. This matter remains pending before the FERC.

XIII. FERC Enforcement Proceedings

Electric-Related Enforcement Actions

• No activity to report

Natural Gas-Related Enforcement Actions

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

Procedural Schedule Suspended. As previously reported, on May 24, 2022, the Honorable Judge Karen Gren Scholer of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas issued an order staying this proceeding. Consistent with that order and out of an abundance of caution, ALJ Joel DeJesus, who will be the presiding judge for hearings in this matter,¹⁴² suspended the procedural schedule until such time as the Court's stay is lifted and the parties provide jointly a proposed amended procedural schedule.

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

On December 16, 2021, the FERC issued a show cause order¹⁴³ 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,¹⁴⁴ 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;¹⁴⁵ (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

¹⁴¹ The *Renewable Energy Assets USofA and Reporting NOPR* was published in the *Fed. Reg.* on Oct. 3, 2022 (Vol. 87, No. 190) pp. 59,870-59,963.

¹⁴² See Rover Pipeline, LLC, and Energy Transfer Partners, L.P., 178 FERC ¶ 61,028 (Jan. 20, 2022) ("Rover/ETP Hearings Order"). The hearings will be 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.

¹⁴³ Rover Pipeline, LLC, and Energy Transfer Partners, L.P., 177 FERC ¶ 61,182 (Dec. 16, 2021) ("Rover/ETP Tuscarawas River HDD Show Cause Order").

¹⁴⁴ 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").

¹⁴⁵ 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.

the intentional wrongdoing of others that is alleged in the Staff Report." The FERC denied Respondents' request for rehearing of the FERC's January 21, 2022 designation notice.¹⁴⁶ This matter is pending before the FERC.

• BP (IN13-15)

On December 17, 2020, the FERC issued *Opinion 549-A*,¹⁴⁷ a 159-page decision addressing arguments raised on rehearing requested of *Opinion 549*.¹⁴⁸ *Opinion 549-A* modifies the discussion in *Opinion 549*, but 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.¹⁴⁹ 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.¹⁵⁰

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 order¹⁵¹ 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 2012.¹⁵²

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

¹⁴⁹ BP Penalties Allegheny Order at P 1.

¹⁵⁰ *Id.* at P 319.

¹⁵¹ Total Gas & Power North America, Inc., 155 FERC ¶ 61,105 (Apr. 28, 2016) ("TGPNA Show Cause Order").

¹⁴⁶ 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.

¹⁴⁷ BP America Inc. et al., Opinion No. 549-A, 173 FERC ¶ 61,239 (Dec. 17, 2020) ("BP Penalties Allegheny Order").

¹⁴⁸ *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 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*")).

¹⁵² 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.

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.¹⁵³ On July 27, 2021, Chief Judge Cintron designated Judge Suzanne Krolikowski as the Presiding ALJ and established an extended Track III Schedule for the proceeding.

Discovery in this case closed on December 2, 2022. On December 16, 2022, Respondents filed for a preliminary injunction in the US District Court for the Southern District of Texas. In order to allow for briefing and a decision on that motion, the FERC placed this proceeding in abeyance for 90 days, and directed that the hearing scheduled to begin on January 23, 2023, commence no earlier than *April 24, 2023*.¹⁵⁴

XIV. Natural Gas Proceedings

For further information on any of the natural gas proceedings, please contact Joe Fagan (202-218-3901; <u>ifagan@daypitney.com</u>).

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.¹⁵⁵ 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 all applicable FERC regulations under the NGA; (iii) 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 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 4th quarter 2023 in-service date.

¹⁵³ Total Gas & Power North America, Inc. et al., 176 FERC ¶ 61,026 (July 15, 2021).

¹⁵⁴ Total Gas & Power North America, Inc., Total, S.A., Total Gas & Power, Ltd., Aaron Hall, and Therese Tran f/k/a Nguyen, 181 FERC ¶ 61,252 (Dec. 21, 2022).

¹⁵⁵ Iroquois Gas Transmission Sys., L.P., 178 FERC ¶ 61,200 (2022) (Iroquois Certificate Order).

XV. State Proceedings & Federal Legislative Proceedings

• Maine - NECEC Transmission LLC et al. v. Bureau of Parks and Lands et al. (BCD-21-416)

On August 30, 2022, the Maine Supreme Judicial Court concluded that the legislation enacted as a result of the passage of Maine's November 2, 2021 ballot question,¹⁵⁶ and that effectively halted construction of the NECEC Project,¹⁵⁷ was unconstitutional to the extent it required the legislation to be applied retroactively to the certificate of public convenience and necessity ("CPCN") issued for the Project if NECEC had acquired vested rights to proceed with Project construction (by undertaking substantial construction consistent with and in good-faith reliance on the CPCN before the Initiative was enacted). The Court remanded to the Business and Consumer Docket the factual question of whether NECEC performed substantial construction in good faith according to a schedule that was not created or expedited for the purpose of generating a vested rights claim (which it suggested appeared to be the case from the limited record developed in connection with the request for preliminary injunctive relief in this matter).

On April 20, 2023, after a week-long trial, a jury ruled 9-0 that developers had completed enough work in good faith before the passage of the ballot question to have a constitutional right to proceed with construction. Based on that verdict, a state judge is expected to conclude that the referendum was unconstitutional. The decision will almost certainly be appealed to the Maine Supreme Judicial Court for a final say.

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; <u>pmgerity@daypitney.com</u>).

Seabrook Dispute Order (23-1094) Underlying FERC Proceeding: EL21-6, EL 23-3 Petitioner: NextEra Energy Resources, LLC and NextEra Energy Seabrook, LLC Status: Filing of Initial Submissions Underway

On April 4, 2023, NextEra Energy Resources, LLC and NextEra Energy Seabrook, LLC (collectively, "NextEra") petitioned the DC Circuit Court of Appeals for review of the FERC's orders. The Court ordered NextEra to file, by May 8, 2023, a Docketing Statement, a Statement of Intent to Utilize Deferred Joint Appendix, a Statement of Issues, and the Underlying Decision from which the appeal arose. Appearances and other procedural motions, if any, are also due on or before May 8. A Certified Index to the Record and Dispositive Motions, if any, are due on or before May 22, 2023. On April 14, 2023, NECEC Transmission LLC and Avangrid, Inc. (collectively, "Avangrid") filed a motion for leave to intervene in support of the FERC.

¹⁵⁶ The ballot question, approved by 59% of Maine voters, which summarized the citizen's initiative pursued under Maine's constitutional provision for direct initiative of legislation (ME. Const. Art. IV, pt. 3, § 18), read: "Do you want to ban the construction of high-impact electric transmission lines in the Upper Kennebec Region and to require the Legislature to approve all other such projects anywhere in Maine, both retroactively to 2020, and to require the Legislature, retroactively to 2014, to approve by a two-thirds vote such projects using public land?"

¹⁵⁷ The New England Clean Energy Connect ("NECEC") project (the "NECEC Project") is designed to transmit power generated in Québec through Maine and into Massachusetts. The Project includes a new 145.3-mile, high-voltage direct current ("HVDC") transmission line, proposed to run from the Maine-Québec border in Beattie Township, ME to a new converter station in Lewiston, ME and from there to an existing substation by a new 1.2-mile, high-voltage alternating current transmission line.

2nd Revised Narragansett LSA Orders (22-1161, 22-1108) (consolidated) Underlying FERC Proceeding: ER22-707¹⁵⁸ Petitioner: Green Development Status: Briefing Completed; Oral Argument Held March 20, 2023; Decision Pending Oral argument in this case was held before Judges Henderson, Pillard and Katsas on March 20, 2023. This

matter, which as previously reported was initiated on June 15, 2022 by a Green Development petition challenging the FERC's 2nd Revised Narragansett LSA Orders, ¹⁵⁹ is pending before the Court.

 Mystic II (ROE & *True*-Up) (21-1198; 21-1222, 21-1223, 21-1224, 22-1001, 22-1008, 22-1026) (consolidated) Underlying FERC Proceeding: EL18-1639-010, -011,¹⁶⁰ -013¹⁶¹ -017¹⁶² Petitioners: Mystic, CT Parties,¹⁶³ MA AG, ENECOS Status: Being Held in Abeyance; Motion for further abeyance pending

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.

As previously reported, on July 8, 2022, Connecticut Parties and ENECOS jointly moved to hold these proceedings in abeyance until 30 days after the DC Circuit issued an opinion in *MISO Transmission Owners v. FERC*, 16-1325 ("*MISO TOs"*). They requested abeyance on the basis that the consolidated petitions in this proceeding and *MISO TOs* both involve challenges to the FERC's ROE methodology (the FERC set the ROE used in calculating Constellation's rates using the methodology challenged in *MISO TOs*). Although Constellation opposed the

¹⁵⁸ 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".

¹⁵⁹ The 2nd Revised Narragansett LSA is a Local Service Agreement ("LSA") among New England Power, 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.

¹⁶⁰ 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).

¹⁶¹ 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).

¹⁶² Constellation Mystic Power, LLC, 179 FERC ¶ 61,011 (Apr. 28, 2022) ("Mystic First CapEx Info. Filing Order"); Constellation Mystic Power, LLC, 179 FERC ¶ 62,179 (June 27, 2022) ("June 27 Notice") (Notice of Denial By Operation of Law of Rehearings of Mystic First CapEx Info. Filing Order).

¹⁶³ In this appeal, "CT Parties" are the CT PURA CT PURA, Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection ("CT DEEP"), and the CT OCC.

abeyance request, the Court granted the abeyance request on July 27, 2022, directing the Parties to file motions to govern future proceedings within 30 days of the court's disposition of *MISO TOs*.

As previously reported, the Court has since decided *MISO TOs*. However, the parties continue to agree that this case should remain in abeyance pending further proceedings related to MISO TOs, now on remand at the FERC. Accordingly, on January 24, 2023, Mystic, without opposition, asked the Court for an order keeping these proceedings in abeyance and directing that motions to govern future proceedings be filed in late April, 2023. On February 3, 2023, the Court issued an order that these cases remain in abeyance and that the parties file motions to govern future proceedings by April 24, 2023. On April 24, Constellation reported that all parties agree and asked the Court that this case should remain in abeyance for an additional 90 days pending FERC action on remand in the MISO TOs case. Constellation's motion is pending before the Court.

CASPR (20-1333, 21-1031) (consolidated)**
 Underlying FERC Proceeding: ER18-619¹⁶⁴

 Petitioners: Sierra Club, NRDC, RENEW Northeast, and CLF
 Status: Being Held in Abeyance (until March 1, 2024)

As previously reported, the Sierra Club, NRDC, RENEW Northeast, and CLF petitioned the DC Circuit Court of Appeals on August 31, 2020 for review of the FERC's order accepting ISO-NE's CASPR revisions and the FERC's subsequent *CASPR Allegheny Order*. Appearances, docketing statements, a statement of issues to be raised, and a statement of intent to utilize deferred joint appendix were filed. A motion by the FERC to dismiss the case was dismissed as moot by the Court, referred to the merits panel (Judges Pillard, Katsas and Walker), and is to be addressed by the parties in their briefs.

Petitioners have moved to hold this matter in abeyance three times. The Court has granted each request. The most recent request was submitted on July 22, 2022 (third abeyance request) and the Court granted a few days later the request to hold this matter in abeyance until March 1, 2024, the date on which the elimination of MOPR is to be implemented, with motions to govern due 30 days thereafter.

 Opinion 531-A Compliance Filing Undo (20-1329) Underlying FERC Proceeding: ER15-414¹⁶⁵ Petitioners: TOs' (CMP et al.) Status: Being Held in Abeyance

On August 28, 2020, the TOs¹⁶⁶ 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*¹⁶⁷ 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 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 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 to govern future

¹⁶⁴ ISO New England Inc., 162 FERC ¶ 61,205 (Mar. 9, 2018) ("CASPR Order").

¹⁶⁵ ISO New England Inc., 161 FERC ¶ 61,031 (Oct. 6, 2017) ("Order Rejecting Filing").

¹⁶⁶ 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.

¹⁶⁷ Emera Maine v. FERC, 854 F.3d 9 (D.C. Cir. 2017) ("Emera Maine").

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. The FERC's last status report, indicating that the proceedings before the Commission remain ongoing and that this appeal should continue to remain in abeyance, was filed on April 4, 2023.

Other Federal Court Activity of Interest

 Northern Access Project (22-1233) Underlying FERC Proceeding: CP15-115¹⁶⁸ Petitioners: Sierra Club Status: Briefing Complete; Oral Argument Not Yet Scheduled

On September 6, 2022, the Sierra Club petitioned the DC Circuit for review of *Northern Access Project Add'l Extension Order*. On October 11, 2022, Sierra Club filed a Docketing Statement, a Statement of Issues, and the underlying decision from which the appeal arises. Also on October 11, the FERC moved to hold this proceeding in abeyance. Sierra Club opposed that motion on October 21, 2022. Having issued its further order on rehearing on October 14, 2022,¹⁶⁹ the FERC, on November 4, 2022, withdrew its 's motion to hold this proceeding in abeyance and asked the Court to issue a scheduling order in this proceeding. The Court issued that schedule on November 9, 2022. The Certified Index to the Record was submitted on November 16, 2022 and Petitioner's (Sierra Club's) Brief on December 16, 2022. Respondent's (FERC's) Brief was filed on February 14, 2023); Brief for Respondent-Intervenors and an amicus brief by the Natural Gas Association of America were filed on February 21, 2023. Since the last Report, briefing in this case was completed, with Petitioner's (Sierra Club's) Reply Brief filed on March 14, 2023; a Joint Deferred Appendix filed on March 21, 2023; and Final Briefs filed on April 4, 2023 by Sierra Club, the FERC, INGA (Amicus for FERC) and Empire Pipeline and National Fuel Gas Supply (Intervenor for Respondent FERC). The date of oral argument and the composition of the merits panel will be provided at a later date.

 Order 872 (20-72788,* 21-70113; 20-73375, 21-70113) (consol.) (9th Cir.) Underlying FERC Proceeding: RM19-15¹⁷⁰ Petitioners: SEIA et al. Status: Oral Argument Held March 8, 2022; Awaiting Decision

On September 17, 2020, SEIA petitioned the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals for review of *Order 872*.¹⁷¹ Briefing was completed and oral argument held March 8, 2022 before Judges Nguyen, Miller and Bumatay. This matter remains pending before the Court.

¹⁶⁸ National Fuel Gas Supply Corp. and Empire Pipeline, Inc., 179 FERC ¶ 61,226 (June 29, 2022) ("Northern Access Project Add'I Extension Order").

¹⁶⁹ Corpus Christi Liquefaction Stage III, LLC, 181 FERC ¶ 61,033 (Oct. 14, 2022).

¹⁷⁰ 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).

¹⁷¹ 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.

Algonquin Atlantic Bridge Project Orders (21-1115*, 21-1138, 21-1153, 21-1155 consol.) and (22-1146, 22-1147 consol.) Underlying FERC Proceeding: CP16-9-012¹⁷² Petitioners: LS Power, Algonquin, INGA

Status: Cases 22-1146/47 Deconsolidated, Briefing Completed and Oral Held Apr 20, 2023; Remaining Cases (21-1115 et al.) Being Held in Abeyance Pending Disposition of 22-1146/47

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").

On June 30, the First Circuit transferred cases 20-1458 and 22-1201 to the DC Circuit. The DC Circuit docketed those cases as 22-1146 and 22-1147, consolidated them with its cases challenging the Atlantic Bridge Project orders (with 21-1115 remaining the lead case), and directed the parties to file a proposed briefing schedule. On July 19, the parties filed a proposal that cases 22-1146 and 22-1147 be severed, proposed a revised briefing format and schedule for those cases, and asked the Court to continue to hold the remaining cases in abeyance (asserting that abeyance may avoid the need for briefing and adjudication of the issues that Algonquin and INGAA would press).

On August 16, 2022, the Court deconsolidated 22-1146 and 22-1147 from 21-1115 et al., which is to remain in abeyance pending a further order of the Court. The Court consolidated Cases 22-1146 and 22-1147 together and directed briefing in the consolidated cases. As previously reported, the FERC filed its Respondent Brief on January 12, 2023 and Algonquin and INGA filed a Joint Brief of Intervenors on January 26, 2023. Petitioners filed their Joint Reply Brief on February 16, 2023. Since the last Report, the Deferred Joint Appendix was filed on March 2, 2023 and Final Briefs were filed on March 9, 2023. Briefing in 22-1146/47 was completed and oral argument held April 20, 2023 before Judges Srinivasan, Millett and Tatel. This matter is pending before the Court.

¹⁷² Briefing Order; April 19 Notice of Denial of Rehearings by Operation of Law.

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