

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES**

Petition of NSTAR Electric Company and)	
Western Massachusetts Electric Company, each)	
d/b/a Eversource Energy for Approval of)	D.P.U. 17-05
an Increase in Base Distribution Rates for Electric)	
Service Pursuant to G.L. c. 164, §94 and)	
220 C.M.R. §5.00)	

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF
JONATHAN F. WALLACH
ON BEHALF OF
THE CAPE LIGHT COMPACT**

APRIL 27, 2017

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1 **I. INTRODUCTION AND QUALIFICATIONS**

2 **Q. Please state your name and business address.**

3 A. My name is Jonathan F. Wallach. My business address is Resource Insight, Inc., 5
4 Water Street, Arlington, Massachusetts.

5 **Q. What is your occupation?**

6 A. I am Vice President of Resource Insight, Inc.

7 **Q. Please summarize your professional experience.**

8 A. I have worked as a consultant to the electric power industry since 1981. From 1981
9 to 1986, I was a Research Associate at Energy Systems Research Group. In 1987
10 and 1988, I was an independent consultant. From 1989 to 1990, I was a Senior
11 Analyst at Komanoff Energy Associates. I have been in my current position at
12 Resource Insight since 1990.

13 Over the past four decades, I have advised and testified on behalf of clients on a
14 wide range of economic, planning, and policy issues relating to the regulation of
15 electric utilities, including: electric-utility restructuring; wholesale-power market
16 design and operations; transmission pricing and policy; market-price forecasting;
17 market valuation of generating assets and purchase contracts; power-procurement
18 strategies; risk assessment and mitigation; integrated resource planning; mergers
19 and acquisitions; cost allocation and rate design; and energy-efficiency program
20 design and planning.

21 My resume is included as Exhibit CLC-JFW-2.

1 **Q. Have you testified previously in utility proceedings?**

2 A. Yes. I have sponsored expert testimony in more than eighty state, provincial, and
3 federal proceedings in the U.S. and Canada. In Massachusetts, I testified before the
4 Department of Public Utilities (the “Department”) in D.P.U. 89-100, D.T.E. 97-11,
5 D.T.E. 97-120, D.P.U. 10-170, and D.P.U. 11-05/06/07. Exhibit CLC-JFW-2 (at 7-
6 16) provides a detailed list of my previous testimony.

7 **Q. On whose behalf are you testifying in this proceeding?**

8 A. I am testifying on behalf of the Cape Light Compact (the “Compact”) in this
9 proceeding.

10 **Q. What is the purpose of your direct testimony?**

11 A. My direct testimony addresses the following rate-design proposals by NSTAR
12 Electric Company and Western Massachusetts Electric Company, each d/b/a
13 Eversource Energy (“Eversource”):

- 14 • For all NSTAR Electric Company (“NSTAR Electric”) residential rate classes,
15 Eversource proposes to set the customer charge at \$8.00 per customer per
16 month.
- 17 • For NSTAR Electric residential customers who commence net-metering service
18 on or after January 1, 2018, Eversource proposes to set the customer charge to
19 \$10.38 per customer per month for R-1/R-2 customers and to \$11.43 per
20 customer per month for R-3/R-4 customers.

- For NSTAR Electric residential customers who commence net-metering service on or after January 1, 2018, Eversource proposes to impose a demand rate of \$2.12/kW for R-1/R-2 customers and \$2.97/kW for R-3/R-4 customers.

Eversource proposes these changes to the design of its residential rates as part of a broader proposal to consolidate the base distribution and reconciling rates across the Boston Edison Company (“BECO”), Cambridge Electric Light Company (“CAMB”), and Commonwealth Electric Company (“COM”) service territories of NSTAR Electric. Consequently, these proposals will have varying impacts on residential customers in each of the NSTAR Electric service territories. However, my direct testimony is primarily concerned with the impact on COM residential customers.

Q. What materials submitted by Eversource did you review in order to prepare your testimony?

A. I reviewed the ten-volume filing entitled NSTAR Electric Company and Western Massachusetts Electric Company, each d/b/a Eversource Energy, Petition for Approval of a Performance-Based Ratemaking Mechanism and General Distribution Revenue Change, D.P.U. 17-05, and dated January 17, 2017 (the “Initial Filing”). Specifically, I focused on Volumes 8, 9, and 10 of the Initial Filing. I also reviewed a number of Eversource’s discovery responses, including associated attachments.

Q. Did you review any other materials in preparing this testimony?

1 A. Yes. I reviewed various comments and other filings regarding the Monthly
2 Minimum Reliability Contribution (“MMRC”) in D.P.U. 16-64. I also reviewed the
3 Department’s orders in D.P.U. 13-75, D.P.U. 13-90, and D.P.U. 15-155.

4 **Q. How is the rest of your testimony organized?**

5 A. In Section II, I discuss how Eversource’s proposal for the residential customer
6 charge would dampen price signals to consumers for reducing energy usage and
7 would disproportionately and inequitably increase bills for Eversource’s lowest-
8 usage residential customers. In Section III, I explain how Eversource’s proposal to
9 implement a demand charge for new residential net-metering customers would
10 reduce customers’ ability to control their bills and perversely encourage inefficient
11 consumption patterns. Finally, Section IV summarizes my conclusions and
12 recommendations.

13 **Q. Before you present these findings in detail, what is your overall impression of**
14 **Eversource’s rate-design proposals for residential customers?**

15 A. In the Initial Filing, Eversource asserts that it “relied on the Department’s long-
16 standing rate design goals of *efficiency, simplicity, continuity, fairness* and *earnings*
17 *stability*” as a guide in formulating its proposals to consolidate and design rates.
18 (Initial Filing, Vol. 8, Exh. ES-RDP-1 at 11.) However, as I discuss in detail below,
19 Eversource’s proposals for residential customer and demand charges run counter to
20 the Department’s goals. In particular, the Department has long held that “meeting
21 the goal of efficiency should involve rate structures that provide strong signals to
22 consumers to decrease energy consumption in consideration of price and non-price

1 social, resource, and environmental factors.” (D.P.U. 15-155 Order at 383-84
2 (September 30, 2016).) As I discuss below, Eversource’s proposals regarding
3 residential customer and demand charges will likely weaken, not strengthen, price
4 signals and thereby hinder achievement of the Department’s economic efficiency
5 goal.

6 **II. RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER CHARGE**

7 **Q. What is Eversource’s proposal with respect to the customer charge for NSTAR**
8 **Electric residential customers?**

9 A. As part of its proposal to consolidate rates across the BECO, CAMB, and COM
10 service territories, Eversource proposes to set the customer charge for all residential
11 rate classes to \$8.00 per month. (Initial Filing, Vol. 8, Exh. ES-RDP-1 at 42.) For
12 new net-metering residential customers, Eversource proposes to set the customer
13 charge to \$10.38 per month for customers without space heating (“R-1/R-2”) and to
14 \$11.43 per month for customers with space heating (“R-3/R-4”). (Initial Filing, Vol.
15 8, Exh. ES-RDP-6, Sch. RDP-1 (East).)

16 For COM residential customers without electric space heating, Eversource’s
17 proposal would more than double the customer charge from its current rate of \$3.73
18 per month. If these customers became net-metering customers after January 1,
19 2018, their customer charge would increase again by an additional 30% under
20 Eversource’s proposal.

1 For COM space-heat residential customers, Eversource's proposal would reduce the
2 customer charge by about 20% from its current rate of \$10.03 per month. However,
3 if those space-heat customers became net-metering customers after January 1, 2018,
4 their customer charge would then increase by about 43% to a rate that exceeds their
5 current charge by about 14%.

6 Eversource contends that its proposal would move the residential customer charge
7 closer to the fully allocated embedded cost of service for customer-related costs, as
8 indicated by the results of Eversource's Allocated Cost of Service Study for the
9 NSTAR Electric service territory (the "ACOS (East)").¹ (Initial Filing, Vol. 8, Exh.
10 ES-RDP-1 at 42.) Specifically, the ACOS (East) estimates a customer-related cost
11 of \$10.38 per customer per month for R-1/R-2 customers and \$11.43 per customer
12 per month for R-3/R-4 customers. (Initial Filing, Vol. 10, Exh. ES-ACOS-2 (East)
13 at 3.) This means that the proposed residential customer charge would recover
14 between 70% and 77% of the embedded costs classified as customer-related and
15 allocated to the residential rate classes in the ACOS (East). For new net-metering
16 customers, the proposed customer charge would recover 100% of the ACOS (East)
17 estimate of residential customer-related costs.

18 **Q. What costs are classified as customer-related in the ACOS (East)?**

¹ The term "embedded costs" refers to the accounting costs on Eversource's books in the test year.

1 A. The ACOS (East) estimate of customer-related costs includes the embedded costs of
2 meters, service drops, meter reading, billing, collections, other customer services,
3 uncollectible costs, and an allocation of overhead costs.

4 **Q. Why does Eversource want to move the customer charge for NSTAR Electric**
5 **residential customers closer to the ACOS (East) estimate of embedded**
6 **customer-related costs?**

7 A. According to Eversource, moving the customer charge closer to embedded cost of
8 service is consistent with the Department’s efficiency goal because “*efficiency*
9 means that the rate structure should reflect the cost of providing distribution service
10 and provide an accurate basis for consumer decisions on the optimum means for
11 fulfilling their requirements.” (Initial Filing, Vol. 8, Exh. ES-RDP-1 at 43.) In
12 other words, Eversource claims that moving the residential customer charge closer
13 to embedded cost of service – more precisely, the average embedded cost per
14 customer – would improve price signals for promoting economically efficient
15 behavior by residential customers.

16 Eversource also claims that moving the residential customer charge closer to
17 embedded cost of service would yield a fairer rate design, since it would reduce the
18 potential for cost-shifting to other rate classes under the proposed decoupling
19 mechanism. (Initial Filing, Vol. 8, Exh. ES-RDP-1 at 43.) However, increasing the
20 residential customer charge would do nothing to alleviate the potential for cost-
21 shifting from other rate classes onto the residential classes under the proposed

1 decoupling mechanism. Thus, increasing the residential customer charge would be
2 more-favorable to other rate classes, but not fairer for all rate classes.

3 **Q. Would moving the customer charge closer to average embedded cost per**
4 **customer necessarily improve price efficiency as Eversource alleges?**

5 A. No. From a strict efficiency perspective, the customer charge should reflect
6 *marginal*, not *embedded*, cost of service. In other words, prices are efficient in
7 theory when they reflect the future cost to add one customer, not the average
8 historic or “sunk” cost to serve one customer. Consequently, Eversource’s proposal
9 would dampen price signals for efficient behavior if moving the customer charge
10 closer to embedded cost also moves it further from marginal cost.

11 **Q. How should residential energy and customer charges be designed in order to**
12 **provide price signals for efficient customer behavior?**

13 A. Customer charges are intended to recognize that all customers contribute to the cost
14 of distribution service regardless of the customer’s energy usage, whereas energy
15 charges recognize that customers of different sizes and load profiles contribute to
16 distribution service costs at different levels. If usage-driven costs are
17 inappropriately collected through fixed customer charges, then customers will have
18 reduced incentives to maximize their energy efficiency.

19 Accordingly, energy charges should be set at levels that recover costs that tend to
20 increase with customer usage. Energy charges should include costs directly driven
21 by customer usage, such as distribution plant costs, operation and maintenance
22 (“O&M”) costs, and any other costs directly related to maintaining reliability of an

1 expanding distribution system. They should also include costs that tend to rise
2 indirectly with customer usage level, such as collection costs, uncollectible costs,
3 and some other customer-service costs.

4 In contrast, the customer charge is intended to reflect the cost to connect to the
5 distribution system a customer who uses very little or zero energy. Thus, the
6 customer charge should not be expected to cover all customer-related embedded
7 costs for the average residential customer, but only those incremental costs incurred
8 to connect one more very small customer. Such “minimum connection costs” are
9 generally limited to plant and maintenance costs for a service drop and meter, along
10 with meter-reading, billing, and other customer-service expenses not recovered
11 through energy charges.² Administrative and general overhead costs other than for
12 pensions and benefits are reasonably excluded from the customer charge because
13 such costs do not vary with number of customers.

14 **Q. Have you estimated the minimum cost to connect an NSTAR Electric**
15 **residential customer?**

16 A. Yes. Based on the allocation of customer-related costs in the ACOS (East), I find
17 that the incremental connection cost for R-1/R-2 customers could be as little as
18 \$6.60 per customer per month where the connection does not require a service drop
19 and as much as \$8.10 for a connection with a dedicated service drop.³ For R-3/R-4

² A very small customer in multi-family housing might not require their own service drop. If so, the minimum cost to connect such a customer would not include the cost of a service drop.

³ I derived my estimates of minimum connection cost using Eversource’s ACOS (East) spreadsheet model, which was provided in response to Department discovery. (Disc. Attachment DPU-1-3.) I derived my high-end estimate of R-1/R-2 minimum cost as total customer-related revenue requirements allocated to the R-1/R-

1 customers, my estimate of minimum connection cost ranges from about \$7.40 to
2 about \$9.00 per customer per month.

3 My low-end estimate of minimum connection cost is comparable to the current
4 average customer charge of \$5.61 for NSTAR Electric R-1/R-2 customers.⁴ If the
5 current customer charge reasonably reflects minimum connection costs,
6 Eversource's proposal to increase the residential customer charge would shift costs
7 to the customer charge that are more appropriately recovered through the energy
8 charge. Such a cost shift would dampen price signals and discourage economically
9 efficient conservation by residential customers, contrary to the Department's
10 economic efficiency goal.

11 **Q. Would Eversource's proposal with regard to the residential customer charge**
12 **conflict with any of the Department's other rate-design goals?**

13 A. Yes. Eversource's proposal to increase the customer charge would shift recovery of
14 usage-related costs from the energy charge to the customer charge. To the extent
15 that volumetric costs are recovered through the customer charge, a low-usage
16 residential customer will contribute a larger share toward recovery of such costs
17 than a high-usage customer. If so, smaller customers will be paying for more than
18 their fair share of usage-related costs, in conflict with the Department's fairness
19 goal – at least from an intra-class perspective.

2 class less allocated revenue requirements for: (1) uncollectible costs; and (2) administrative and general costs other than for pensions and benefits. I derived my low-end estimate by netting allocated service-drop revenue requirements from my high-end estimate.

⁴ This is the customer-weighted average of the current rates charged to R-1/R-2 customers in the BECO, CAM, and COM service territories.

1 In addition, increasing the residential customer charge as proposed by Eversource
2 would violate the Department's continuity principle. For R-1/R-2 customers in the
3 COM service territory, Eversource's proposal would more than double the customer
4 charge and then increase the rate by an additional 30% for new net-metering
5 customers. By no stretch of the imagination could such sharp increases be
6 considered gradual.

7 **Q. What do you recommend with regard to Eversource's proposal for the**
8 **residential customer charge?**

9 A. The Department should reject Eversource's proposal to set the customer charge to
10 \$8.00 per customer per month for all NSTAR Electric residential customers.
11 Instead, the customer charge for residential rate classes should be set at the current
12 average rate for each rate class if the Department approves the consolidation of
13 rates across NSTAR Electric or at the current rates for each of the BECO, CAMB,
14 and COM service territories if not.

15 Likewise, the Department should reject Eversource's proposal for the customer
16 charge for new net-metering residential customers. The minimum cost to connect
17 such customers is no different than that to connect other customers in their rate
18 class. These customers should therefore pay the same customer charge as all other
19 customers in their rate class.

20 **III. RESIDENTIAL NET-METERING DEMAND CHARGE**

21 **Q. What is Eversource's proposal with respect to a demand charge for NSTAR**
22 **Electric residential customers?**

1 A. Pursuant to recent Massachusetts solar energy legislation, Eversource proposes to
2 include an MMRC on the bills of customers who commence net-metering service
3 on or after January 1, 2018. (*An Act Relative to Solar Energy* (“Solar Energy Act”),
4 St. 2016, c. 75, §§3-9, 12 (April 11, 2016).) The MMRC proposed by Eversource
5 would be recovered in part through the customer charge (as discussed above in
6 Section II) and in part through a demand charge. Eversource proposes a monthly
7 demand rate of \$2.12/kW for NSTAR Electric R-1/R-2 customers and \$2.97/kW for
8 NSTAR Electric R-3/R-4 customers. (Initial Filing, Vol. 8, Exh. ES-RDP-6, Sch.
9 RDP-1 (East).) The proposed demand rate would be applied to a customer’s
10 maximum 15-minute demand during the month, whenever that maximum occurs.

11 For 2018, Eversource proposes a base distribution energy rate of 5.011¢/kilowatt-
12 hour (“kWh”) for NSTAR Electric R-1/R-2 customers and 4.293¢/kWh for NSTAR
13 Electric R-3/R-4 customers. (Initial Filing, Vol. 8, Exh. ES-RDP-2, Sch. RDP-6
14 (East).) For NSTAR Electric residential customers who commence net-metering
15 service on or after January 1, 2018, imposition of the proposed MMRC would
16 reduce the base distribution energy rate to 3.064¢/kWh for R-1/R-2 customers and
17 to 1.845¢/kWh for R-3/R-4 customers. (Initial Filing, Vol. 8, Exh. ES-RDP-6, Sch.
18 RDP-1 (East).) Consequently, imposition of the MMRC would reduce both: (1)
19 bill savings from customer load reductions due to energy efficiency or distributed
20 energy resources (“DER”); and (2) the value of net-metering credits from any DER
21 generation in excess of customer monthly consumption.

1 **Q. How did Eversource determine the rates for its proposed residential demand**
2 **charges?**

3 A. Eversource proposes to set the demand charges for each residential rate class at the
4 rate that recovers the portion of the total cost for the distribution system (i.e., for
5 poles, conductors, conduits, and line transformers) attributable to a “minimum
6 distribution system.” (Initial Filing, Vol. 8, Exh. ES-RDP-1 at 94.) Eversource
7 further proposes to estimate the cost of a minimum distribution system using the
8 minimum-size method for classifying distribution plant costs. Under Eversource’s
9 proposal the estimated cost of a minimum-size system would be recovered through
10 the demand charge, while the remainder of the total cost of the distribution system
11 in excess of minimum cost would be recovered through the base distribution energy
12 charge. (Initial Filing, Vol. 8, Exh. ES-RDP-1 at 86.)

13 **Q. What is the basis for Eversource’s proposal to set the MMRC demand charge**
14 **based on the cost of a minimum distribution system?**

15 A. The Solar Energy Act provides that the Department may approve an MMRC so
16 long as it “equitably allocates the fixed costs of the electric distribution system not
17 caused by volumetric consumption.” (Solar Energy Act, §9.) Eversource claims
18 that all distribution system costs are fixed. (Initial Filing, Vol. 8, Exh. ES-RDP-1 at
19 93.) However, in order to “avoid any question about cost causation relative to
20 volumetric consumption,” Eversource proposes an MMRC that recovers just the
21 portion of total distribution system costs attributable to a minimum distribution
22 system. (Initial Filing, Vol. 8, Exh. ES-RDP-1 at 93-94.)

1 **Q. Do you agree with Eversource’s contention that all distribution system costs**
2 **are fixed?**

3 A. No. Such costs may appear “fixed” from the short-term perspective of utility
4 accounting treatment since the revenue requirements associated with debt service
5 and maintenance in any year are unlikely to vary much with load or sales in that
6 year. However, from the longer-term perspective of cost-causation and economic
7 efficiency, distribution plant and O&M costs are variable with respect to customer
8 usage and therefore avoidable by reducing customer usage.

9 **Q. Does Eversource explain why it believes that the cost of a minimum**
10 **distribution system would reasonably represent the portion of total**
11 **distribution system costs not caused by volumetric consumption?**

12 A. No.

13 **Q. Please describe the minimum-size method for classifying distribution system**
14 **costs.**

15 A. A minimum-size analysis attempts to estimate the cost to install the same amount of
16 poles, wires, conduits, and transformers as are currently on the distribution system,
17 assuming that each piece of distribution equipment is the smallest size currently
18 used on the system. In other words, a minimum-size analysis attempts to estimate
19 the cost to exactly replicate the configuration of the existing distribution system
20 using the smallest-size equipment currently used on the system.

21 Minimum-size analyses are typically used to separate distribution-system costs into
22 customer-related and demand-related portions for the purposes of allocating
23 distribution costs to rate classes in a cost of service study. In those cases, the

1 estimated minimum cost of existing distribution plant is deemed to be customer-
2 related, and the remainder of distribution plant cost in excess of minimum cost is
3 classified as demand-related.

4 In this case, Eversource proposes to use the minimum-size method not for the
5 purposes of classifying and allocating costs to rate classes, but to determine the
6 portion of the distribution costs allocated to each rate class in the ACOS (East) that
7 is attributable to the minimum system.⁵ As noted above, under Eversource's
8 MMRC proposal, the minimum-system portion of allocated distribution costs would
9 be recovered through the demand charge and the remainder recovered through the
10 energy charge.

11 **Q. However estimated, should MMRC costs be recovered from residential new**
12 **net-metering customers through a demand charge as proposed by Eversource?**

13 A. No. Recovery of MMRC costs through a demand charge would dampen price
14 signals for conservation, promote inefficient customer behavior, and would
15 undermine net-metering customers' ability to control electricity costs. As proposed
16 by Eversource, the demand charges on a net-metering-customer's monthly bill will
17 be determined based on the customer's 15-minute maximum demand, whenever
18 that maximum occurs during the month. In order to control monthly demand costs,
19 a customer would therefore need to have detailed information regarding his 15-
20 minute load profile for each day of the month as well as in-depth understanding of

⁵ The ACOS (East) classifies 100% of pole, wire, conduit, and transformer costs as demand-related and allocates such demand-related costs to rate classes on the basis of each class's non-coincident peak.

1 which combination of appliance- or equipment-usage gives rise to monthly
2 maximum demands. Even with such information, it would be difficult to reduce
3 demand charges, since even a single failure to control load during the month would
4 result in the same demand charge as if the same demand had been reached in every
5 day or every hour.

6 The demand charge proposed by Eversource would also provide little or no
7 incentive to take actions that reduce distribution-system costs. As reflected in the
8 ACOS (East), distribution equipment costs are driven primarily by the coincident
9 peak load for all customers sharing the equipment. An individual customer is
10 unlikely to reach her maximum demand at the same time as when coincident peak
11 on the distribution system occurs. Thus, a demand charge will provide an incentive
12 to a net-metering customer to control load at the time that customer reaches
13 maximum demand, but not necessarily at the time of peak load on the distribution
14 system. In fact, customers could avoid demand charges merely by redistributing
15 load within the peak period. Some of those customers might shift loads from their
16 own peak to the peak hour on the local distribution system, thereby increasing their
17 contribution to maximum or critical loads on the local distribution system.

18 Finally, Eversource's proposal to shift recovery of MMRC costs from the energy
19 charge to a demand charge would lower the energy rate and thereby perversely
20 encourage increased energy consumption, some of which might occur at times of
21 peak loading on the distribution system. Shifting costs from the energy charge to a

1 demand charge could therefore increase distribution system costs and offset
2 anticipated benefits from a demand charge.

3 **Q. Is there a way to provide for an equitable contribution of MMRC costs from**
4 **new net-metering customers that would not hamper customers' ability to**
5 **control costs or dampen price signals for conservation?**

6 A. Yes. Rather than recovering MMRC costs through a demand charge, the net-
7 metering credit for excess generation could be modified for new net-metering
8 customers such that excess generation is compensated only for the portion of total
9 distribution costs avoided by the generation and not for the fixed (i.e., MMRC)
10 portion of total costs. Thus, under this approach, excess generation from new net-
11 metering customers would not reduce those customers' share of MMRC costs.
12 Specifically, the net metering credit for excess generation from new net-metering
13 customers could be derived based on an explicit valuation of the price and non-price
14 benefits from such excess generation, including:

- 15 • Avoided locational energy-market costs.
- 16 • Avoided locational capacity-market costs.
- 17 • Avoided transmission and distribution capacity costs.
- 18 • Reduced line losses.
- 19 • Avoided carbon and other environmental externalities.
- 20 • Reduced energy and capacity market prices.

1 Under this approach, new net-metering customers would pay the same customer
2 and distribution energy charges as all other residential customers and would
3 therefore face the same price incentives for controlling load. However, for these
4 new net-metering customers, the net-metering credit for excess generation would
5 reflect only avoidable, and not fixed, distribution costs. Consequently, excess
6 generation would not reduce a new net-metering customer's contribution to fixed
7 costs.

8 **IV. CONCLUSION**

9 **Q. Could you please review your concerns regarding Eversource's proposed**
10 **residential customer charge and residential net-metering demand charge?**

11 A. Contrary to the Department's long-standing rate design goals, Eversource's
12 proposals to sharply increase residential customer charges and to impose a demand
13 charge on new net-metering customers would dampen price signals to consumers
14 for reducing energy usage, weaken customers' control of their bills, promote
15 inefficient behavior, and disproportionately burden Eversource's lowest-usage
16 residential customers.

17 **Q. Do you have any recommendations as to how the Department should resolve**
18 **these concerns?**

19 A. Yes. The Department should reject Eversource's proposal regarding customer
20 charges for NSTAR Electric residential customers, including for new net-metering
21 residential customers. Instead, I recommend that the customer charge for all
22 customers in each residential rate class (including new net-metering customers)

1 should be set at: (1) the current average rate for each rate class if the Department
2 approves the consolidation of rates across NSTAR Electric; or (2) at the current
3 rates for each of the BECO, CAMB, and COM service territories if not.

4 Moreover, the Department should reject Eversource's proposal to impose a demand
5 charge on residential customers who commence net-metering service on or after
6 January 1, 2018. I recommend that Eversource be directed to estimate a net-
7 metering credit for new net-metering residential customers based on an explicit
8 valuation of the price and non-price benefits attributable to excess generation.

9 **Q. Does this conclude your direct testimony?**

10 **A. Yes it does.**

Qualifications of
JONATHAN F. WALLACH

Resource Insight, Inc.
5 Water Street
Arlington, Massachusetts 02476

SUMMARY OF PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 1990–Present* **Vice President, Resource Insight, Inc.** Provides research, technical assistance, and expert testimony on electric- and gas-utility planning, economics, regulation, and restructuring. Designs and assesses resource-planning strategies for regulated and competitive markets, including estimation of market prices and utility-plant stranded investment; negotiates restructuring strategies and implementation plans; assists in procurement of retail power supply.
- 1989–90* **Senior Analyst, Komanoff Energy Associates.** Conducted comprehensive cost-benefit assessments of electric-utility power-supply and demand-side conservation resources, economic and financial analyses of independent power facilities, and analyses of utility-system excess capacity and reliability. Provided expert testimony on statistical analysis of U.S. nuclear plant operating costs and performance. Co-wrote *The Power Analyst*, software developed under contract to the New York Energy Research and Development Authority for screening the economic and financial performance of non-utility power projects.
- 1987–88* **Independent Consultant.** Provided consulting services for Komanoff Energy Associates (New York, New York), Schlissel Engineering Associates (Belmont, Massachusetts), and Energy Systems Research Group (Boston, Massachusetts).
- 1981–86* **Research Associate, Energy Systems Research Group.** Performed analyses of electric utility power supply planning scenarios. Involved in analysis and design of electric and water utility conservation programs. Developed statistical analysis of U.S. nuclear plant operating costs and performance.

EDUCATION

BA, Political Science with honors and Phi Beta Kappa, University of California, Berkeley, 1980.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts. Physics and Political Science, 1976–1979.

PUBLICATIONS

“The Future of Utility Resource Planning: Delivering Energy Efficiency through Distributed Utilities” (with Paul Chernick), *International Association for Energy Economics Seventeenth Annual North American Conference* (460–469). Cleveland, Ohio: USAEE. 1996.

“The Price is Right: Restructuring Gain from Market Valuation of Utility Generating Assets” (with Paul Chernick), *International Association for Energy Economics Seventeenth Annual North American Conference* (345–352). Cleveland, Ohio: USAEE. 1996.

“The Future of Utility Resource Planning: Delivering Energy Efficiency through Distribution Utilities” (with Paul Chernick), *1996 Summer Study on Energy Efficiency in Buildings* 7(7.47–7.55). Washington: American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy, 1996.

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2009 **Maryland PSC** Case No. 9192, Delmarva Power & Lights rates; Maryland Office of People's Counsel. Direct, August 2009; Rebuttal, Surrebuttal, September 2009.

Cost allocation and rate design.

Wisconsin PSC Docket No. 6630-CE-302, Glacier Hills Wind Park certificate; Citizens Utility Board of Wisconsin. Direct and Surrebuttal, October 2009.

Reasonableness of proposed wind facility.

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Structure of auctions, credits, and capacity pricing as part of transition to competitive electricity markets.

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Cost allocation and rate design (electric).

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Recovery of environmental remediation costs at a manufactured gas plant. Cost allocation and rate design.

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Economic evaluation of alternative environmental-compliance plans. Effects of energy efficiency and renewable resources on cost and risk.

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Estimation of retail costs of electricity supply.

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Cost allocation and rate design; rate-stabilization mechanism.

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Cost allocation and rate design.

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Need for new capacity. Economic assessment of alternative resource options.

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Estimation of retail costs of power supply for residential standard-offer service.

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Allocation of distribution-rider costs.

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Cost allocation and rate design.

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Cost allocation and rate design.

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Cost allocation and rate design.

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Allocation of fuel-adjustment costs.

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Cost allocation and rate design.

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Cost allocation and rate design.

Maryland PSC Cases Nos. 9226 & 9232, administrative charge for standard-offer service; Maryland Office of People's Counsel. Third Reply, September 2015; Third Rebuttal, October 2015.

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2016 **Maryland PSC** Case No. 9406, Baltimore Gas & Electric base rate case; Maryland Office of People's Counsel. Direct, February 2016; Rebuttal, March 2016; Surrebuttal, March 2016.

Allocation of Smart Grid costs. Recovery of conduit fees. Rate design.

Nova Scotia UARB Case No. NSUARB P-887(16), Nova Scotia Power 2017-2019 Fuel Stability Plan; Nova Scotia Consumer Advocate. Direct, May 2016; Reply, June 2016.

Base Cost of Fuel forecast. Allocation of Maritime Link capital costs. Fuel cost hedging plan.

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Cost allocation and rate design.

Minnesota PSC Docket No. E002/GR-15-826, Northern States Power Company electric rates, Clean Energy Organizations. Direct, June 2016; Rebuttal, September 2016; Surrebuttal, October 2016.

Cost basis for residential customer charges.

Nova Scotia UARB Case No. NSUARB M07611, Nova Scotia Power 2016 fuel adjustment mechanism audit; Nova Scotia Consumer Advocate. Direct, November 2016.

Sanctions for imprudent fuel-contracting practices.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

Petition of NSTAR Electric Company and
Western Massachusetts Electric Company, each
d/b/a Eversource Energy for Approval of
an Increase in Base Distribution Rates for Electric
Service Pursuant to G.L. c. 164, §94 and
220 C.M.R. §5.00

D.P.U. 17-05

AFFIDAVIT OF JONATHAN F. WALLACH

Jonathan F. Wallach does hereby depose and say as follows:

I, Jonathan F. Wallach, certify that the direct testimony and exhibits submitted on behalf of the Cape Light Compact in the above-captioned proceeding, which bear my name, were prepared by me or under my supervision and are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signed under the pains and penalties of perjury.



Jonathan F. Wallach
Vice President, Resource Insight, Inc.

Dated: April 27, 2017