

STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Case No. 20-0789-INV

Vermont Public Utility Commission orders and memoranda issued in response to COVID-19 pandemic	
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Order entered: 12/03/2021

**ORDER EXTENDING APPLICABILITY OF GUIDANCE ON MAKING CERTAIN FILINGS
THROUGH APRIL 5, 2022**

Due to the outbreak of the coronavirus known as COVID-19, the Governor of Vermont and the federal government declared a state of emergency. Although the Governor has since lifted the state of emergency, the risk of virus spread and the consequences of the pandemic persist. The Vermont Public Utility Commission (“Commission”) recognizes the importance of helping to slow the spread of COVID-19 in Vermont.

Social distancing is one step that helps slow the spread of this virus. As a result, the Commission examined its procedural requirements to identify those that require close personal contact and to review whether those requirements could be temporarily modified without adversely affecting other parties’ procedural rights.

The Commission recently promulgated a revised version of Emergency Rule 2.500 to modify those procedural requirements that were contained in the Commission’s rules. The revised Emergency Rule 2.500 will be in effect until April 5, 2022, unless the Commission withdraws it sooner.

The Commission also previously provided additional guidance on how to file certain types of documents with the Commission during the pandemic. In this order, the Commission extends the applicability of that guidance to filings made through April 5, 2022.¹ Specifically, the Commission extends:

- The guidance on how to file **confidential documents** with the Commission that is contained in the Commission’s March 31, 2020, order in this proceeding. The Commission similarly extends the waiver of the portion of Section IV(c) of the

¹ This aligns the time period that the filing guidance will be in effect with the time period that the revised Emergency Rule 2.500 will be in effect.

Commission’s “Standards and Procedures Applicable to Electronic Filing Using ePUC” that requires hard copies of confidential documents to be filed with the Commission within one business day of the date on which the non-confidential version of the document was filed using ePUC.²

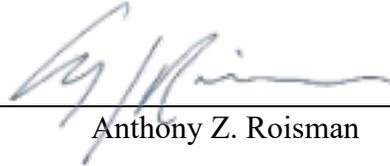
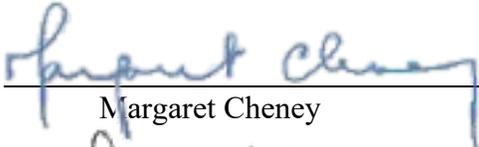
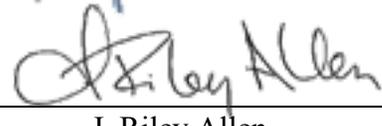
- The guidance on how to file **notices of appeal** with the Commission that is contained in the Commission’s April 23, 2020, order in this proceeding.

The Commission will continue to monitor the situation related to the COVID-19 pandemic to determine whether any changes to these decisions may be appropriate.

SO ORDERED.

² Emergency Rule 2.503 also addresses how to file documents with the Commission.

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 3rd day of December, 2021.

 _____)) PUBLIC UTILITY
Anthony Z. Roisman)	
_____)	
 _____)) COMMISSION
Margaret Cheney)	
_____)	
 _____)) OF VERMONT
J. Riley Allen)	

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

Filed: December 3, 2021

Attest: 

Clerk of the Commission

Notice to Readers: This decision is subject to revision of technical errors. Readers are requested to notify the Clerk of the Commission (by e-mail, telephone, or in writing) of any apparent errors, in order that any necessary corrections may be made. (E-mail address: puc.clerk@vermont.gov)