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STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

CASE NUMBER 18-1633-PET

PETITION OF GREEN MOUNTAIN POWER CORPORATION
FOR APPROVAL OF A MULTI-YEAR REGULATION PLAN
PURSUANT TO 30 V.S.A. SECTIONS 209, 218, AND
218(d)

July 26, 2018
7:00 p.m.

112 State Street
Montpelier, Vermont

Public Hearing held before the Vermont Public
Utility Commission at the Brattleboro Municipal
Offices, 230 Main Street, Suite 212, Brattleboro,
Vermont on July 26, 2018, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

P R E S E N T

Commissioners: Anthony Z. Roisman, Chairman

Staff: Ann Bishop, Director of Operations

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P A R T I C I P A N T S

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Ed Oregan
Kristin Carlson, GMP
Geoff Hand, Dunkiel Saunders
Dan Burke, DPS
Peter Elwell, Brattleboro Town Manager

1 CHAIRMAN ROISMAN: Good evening. This is a
2 public hearing in Case Number 18-1633-PET, which
3 concerns the Petition of Green Mountain Power
4 Corporation for approval of a multi-year regulation
5 plan. My name is Anthony Roisman, and I'm Chair of the
6 Vermont Public Utility Commission. With me today is
7 our Chief of Operations, Ann Bishop. There are also
8 representatives from Green Mountain Power as well as
9 representatives from the Vermont Department of Public
10 Service. They conducted an information session just
11 prior to this public hearing and are available for
12 questions.

13 The purpose of today's hearing is for the
14 Commission to hear comments from members of the public
15 about the company's request for approval of a
16 multi-year regulation plan. We look forward to hearing
17 your input because your comments are helpful in raising
18 new issues or offering perspectives for the Commission
19 to consider in this case, and, although these comments
20 do not become part of the formal evidence in the case,
21 under Vermont law, the Commission's final decision must
22 be based on the evidence presented by formal parties
23 during the evidentiary proceedings, but comments from
24 the public have to be addressed in the Commission's
25 final decision. So whatever comments are made here

1 this evening by members of the public will be
2 ultimately addressed by the Commission in its final
3 decision in the case.

4 The hearing is being transcribed by a court
5 reporter, and the transcript of this hearing will be
6 available in the electronic database of the Public
7 Utility Commission called ePUC, and instructions on how
8 to access that are in the paper that's been handed out
9 to you. The Commission also maintains a computer for
10 public use at our offices in Montpelier, 112 State
11 Street on the 4th floor, and people there who can help
12 any member of the public who wishes to access our
13 electronic data in that manner. In addition, documents
14 that are in that file can be provided to members of the
15 public for a cost if it becomes substantial in terms of
16 volume in printed form simply by making a request to
17 the clerk's office.

18 If you wish to speak, please write your name on
19 the sign-up sheet. I see we have one name already on
20 here. Thank you. And that will help the court
21 reporter in identifying you. This is not the only
22 opportunity to participate in this process. You can
23 provide the Commission with written comments which you
24 can send by mail, email, or electronically into the
25 ePUC system. The contact information is in the

1 handout. Be sure to reference this case number if you
2 want to comment on this case. It happens, at this
3 moment, there are two and shortly will be three cases
4 involving requests from Green Mountain Power, so it's
5 important to identify which of those proceedings your
6 comments are related to.

7 In addition to submitting public comments, some
8 people may wish to intervene in this case so they can
9 participate as a formal party. A formal party is
10 permitted to submit evidence, is permitted to
11 cross-examine the witnesses of other parties in the
12 case, and, of course, is subject to being
13 cross-examined by the other parties in the case. If
14 you have questions about the intervention process, Ms.
15 Bishop, sitting in the back, will be more than happy to
16 describe that.

17 The schedule for the early steps in this
18 investigation is printed on the back of the
19 Commission's handout. The schedule for the remainder
20 of the case will be discussed at the August 3rd
21 prehearing conference. That prehearing conference will
22 be held in our hearing room at 112 State Street in
23 Montpelier. It's open to the public, of course. The
24 parties to the proceeding, and people who wish to
25 become a party will be allowed to speak. Others who

1 are neither parties nor seeking to become parties are
2 welcome to listen, but it is not an opportunity for
3 further public participation in that forum.

4 Over the course of this investigation, the
5 Commission -- it says here, "may" -- I can say "will"
6 direct the company to respond to the issues that you
7 raise at this hearing. At various points in the
8 proceeding, the Commission will also ask the company
9 questions that may be based on your comments. When we
10 rule on the petition, as I mentioned before, the
11 Commission will address the comments that come from the
12 public. We'll now open the floor to public comment.
13 Is it Oregon?

14 MR. OREGAN: Oregon. Just call me Ed.

15 CHAIRMAN ROISMAN: Oregon, not the state?
16 Okay. Ed, we would be delighted to hear anything you
17 have to say about this particular matter. The floor is
18 yours.

19 MR. OREGAN: Well, I'm the newbie on the
20 block, okay, but I like to get involved. Purpose,
21 maybe. I don't know, whatever.

22 CHAIRMAN ROISMAN: Can you hear him all
23 right?

24 MR. OREGAN: Okay. My question is: Is Green
25 Mountain in different parts of the state, or is it just

1 one area? I've got, like, a two-part question. Like,
2 is, we have Green Mountain Power in Brattleboro, okay?
3 Is it the power rate base got it up. Is it the same
4 Green Mountain rate as it is in Montpelier, you know,
5 different county? Is it across the board, or it's, Oh,
6 in Brattleboro, we've got to raise it 3 percent here,
7 and we've got to raise it 4 percent there? Okay, now
8 we've got an average of 6 percent, so we'll just put
9 them together and get 6 percent.

10 How do you -- like, do you have different rates in
11 different parts of the state or New England or the
12 United States being Green Mountain? You know, is the
13 CEO playing golf because he got a 6 percent golden
14 handshake? I don't know.

15 CHAIRMAN ROISMAN: All right. I think Green
16 Mountain's representative will be happy to answer that
17 question.

18 MS. CARLSON: Kristin Carlson with Green
19 Mountain Power. Thank you for the question and for
20 showing up here tonight. So Green Mountain Power is a
21 utility that's only in Vermont. Our CEO is a woman. I
22 don't believe she golfs.

23 MR. OREGAN: Well, that's good. That's good.
24 I was just saying that for the speech, you know?

25 MS. CARLSON: Yeah, fair enough. And we

1 serve about three quarters of the state of Vermont
2 geographically, and our rates are the same --

3 MR. OREGAN: Across the board?

4 MS. CARLSON: -- across the board.

5 MR. OREGAN: Is there any competition?

6 MS. CARLSON: So it's interesting. There is
7 a changing energy landscape. So, as a utility, we
8 serve the area that we serve. We don't grow the area
9 we serve. We don't shrink the area we serve. We are
10 the main utility provider in that area we serve, that
11 three quarters of the state of Vermont I mentioned,
12 but, with the new changing energy landscape, customers
13 have a lot of choices. They can choose to
14 self-generate. We have thousands --

15 MR. OREGAN: I understand all that stuff.
16 That's, that's Top 40, like, you know, like, common
17 knowledge to me, anyway. I'm not knocking you. You're
18 informing me. I'm not knowing all. I'm not saying
19 that, okay? It's just like, but I'm trying to get in
20 depth more.

21 Does, do they have any programs for people that
22 are on government assistance with state, federal, city,
23 town, hardship, whatever like that have programs
24 available for people to help pay -- let's say
25 electricity, okay? Because that's the primary purpose

1 of Green Mountain Power. It's not gas. It's nothing
2 like that. That's their primary -- that's their
3 mission, okay? I say that a nonprofit meaning the
4 mission means that's our goal, okay?

5 MS. CARLSON: Yeah, you're right. So we do
6 have a program called the EAP, which stands for Energy
7 Assistance Program, and folks can qualify for that, and
8 it does help pay and it is a discount off their
9 electric bill, and we are always really happy to
10 qualify people for that program.

11 MR. OREGAN: Is that seasonal, like, one part
12 of the year or all year long?

13 MS. CARLSON: Yeah, all year long.

14 MR. OREGAN: Do they have to reapply all the
15 time?

16 MS. CARLSON: There is not a reapply all year
17 long. I think it might be yearly. But, if you want, I
18 can follow up with you on the specifics of enrollment,
19 because it is a program that folks should really
20 consider and do because it is a --

21 MR. OREGAN: Yeah. Could you give me some
22 information about that?

23 MS. CARLSON: I would love to, yeah. Do you
24 have more --

25 MR. BURKE: I can give you some more

1 information. There's a woman who works in my office.
2 Her name is Carol Flint, and I can give you her contact
3 information.

4 MR. OREGAN: Whatever you can give me, just
5 write it down, would be super.

6 MR. BURKE: She knows the program inside and
7 out.

8 MR. OREGAN: Here, want a piece of paper?
9 Want to use this?

10 MR. BURKE: I'll give you my phone number and
11 Carol's phone number.

12 MR. OREGAN: That would be great. I don't
13 want to be a gnat. My wife says sometimes I'm a gnat.
14 There's just things I want to find out, you know? It's
15 just like, Why am I paying this when I can say -- like,
16 I'm not blaming anybody here. When they did the
17 evaluation of my house, I asked the guy evaluating, and
18 he didn't put my taxes in and all that, and it all got
19 fouled up, and I went down and tried to settle it and,
20 Oh, don't worry about it. You're spelling my address
21 wrong. It's L-Y, not L-I. We can't find it. I said,
22 I just paid a lawyer to close for me, and I got to Page
23 128. I said, Why am I doing this? I should have been
24 a lawyer, but I'm not. I'm just me, a taxpayer, you
25 know?

1 So but, anyway, what I was trying to make a point
2 is like, when they screwed up my taxes, it's like a
3 silent thing that people don't talk about in
4 Brattleboro. It's like my taxes are wrong, and I think
5 it's wrong, and I don't know if I should bring that up
6 to you or you or whatever.

7 MR. ELWELL: You should talk to me about your
8 taxes.

9 MR. OREGAN: Because I found out that they
10 let the guy go. I mean, he wasn't even a, an agent of
11 real estate. He wasn't even a broker. I said how
12 justified is this job? He goes, Well, 4 plus 4.9. I
13 said, Buddy, you're wrong. You're way off. Then I
14 came back. I can't think of her name. She's the
15 department head now. She's tall and thin. Very, very
16 polite. I don't know, but she's -- I'm just describing
17 her because I don't know her name.

18 But I saw her the other day because the new tax
19 guy that they have there, he seems like -- I feel
20 confident with him because I did the 50 questions, how
21 long you've lived here. Okay, you passed. But, like,
22 and then, like I said, okay, I'm going to be asking
23 some tough questions, okay? I got a disability here,
24 but, if you're a Veteran and you're 40 percent, you get
25 a discount, and he goes, Yeah. I said, No. 41 percent

1 because zero is a number, like I was trying to tell you
2 about my wife.

3 And then you get maybe an exemption. It's up to
4 the town, and they send it up to Montpelier, and
5 Montpelier makes the final decision, but then I found
6 out, you know, recently that I'm more than 40 percent
7 and they misdiagnosed me so it's like 70 percent, and
8 then they, Oh, we're sorry. We owe you back pay, which
9 is fine monetary, but that's not the point, you know?

10 I struggled and I struggled to make this point,
11 and I feel finally I'm getting traction later. You
12 know, took me a lot of years. Nothing against you. I
13 call it -- my father was a wannabe politician, okay,
14 and I've met a lot of politicians. I met George Bush,
15 Senior, when I was in music. Molly Hatchet's father,
16 he worked with George Bush, Senior, in the CIA, which I
17 met him because they were fishing buddies. The
18 Kennedys, my grandfather, my mother's father, knew the
19 Kennedys, so I knew some of them, and I've met a lot of
20 interesting people in my life because I'm different.
21 Maybe that's why, you know?

22 I challenge myself to different things that are,
23 like, really weird, I guess. I don't go like monkey
24 see, monkey do, but I don't fight, and I don't know big
25 vocabulary words and all that stuff, but I try to do

1 the right thing every day.

2 CHAIRMAN ROISMAN: Ed, I don't want to cut you
3 off.

4 MR. OREGAN: Yes, you do.

5 CHAIRMAN ROISMAN: No, I don't. I want to
6 make sure that you tell us any issues you have with
7 regard to this proposal that Green Mountain Power is
8 making.

9 MR. OREGAN: I can't say because I haven't
10 read it. So excuse me for my ignorance. So I can't
11 make any comment about things I don't know that might
12 be, Oh, yeah, that's in Section 8.

13 CHAIRMAN ROISMAN: Well, you can, as I
14 mentioned before, you can write in to us. We'll take
15 written comments at any time.

16 MR. OREGAN: Well, you're going to hear a lot
17 from me.

18 MR. BURKE: And, also, I gave you the phone
19 number for the Department for Carol Flint, and we have
20 a consumer hotline that you can call. We have a whole
21 team. They're nice people, but they can help you with
22 --

23 MR. OREGAN: Where are they located?

24 MR. BURKE: In Montpelier at 112 State Street
25 in Montpelier. They work right down the hall from me,

1 and they're very good at helping people navigate their
2 rights as utility customers, identifying any discounts
3 that you might be eligible, whether it's GMP's EAP
4 program or --

5 MR. OREGAN: All year long, they'll respond
6 to me?

7 MR. BURKE: All year long. They're very nice
8 people, I can assure you.

9 MR. OREGAN: There's probably a million
10 questions I want to ask all of you, but I don't want to
11 -- we got a meeting here. Shut up, you know?

12 CHAIRMAN ROISMAN: So do you have any other
13 comments about the, about the, the rates that Green
14 Mountain Power is proposing in this three-year plan?

15 MR. OREGAN: Okay. If they get what they
16 want, whatever, and they vote on it and it goes
17 through, we vote on it, I assume, right, taxpayers and
18 all that, right, the proposal? Just, okay. And then
19 they get that --

20 CHAIRMAN ROISMAN: No, no. The Commission --

21 MR. OREGAN: Then they get it and it goes
22 into effect. What do they do for the rest of the time
23 at Green Mountain Power now that it's already gone
24 through? Okay. Now we've got to play catch-up for the
25 next three years? What do they do, work on the next

1 business plan for the next three years after that, or
2 do they lay everybody off, or do they keep everybody?
3 Like General Electric, you know, they, Okay, you got
4 one more year? Tough, you're out of here, you know?
5 Now you get to be a subcontractor.

6 CHAIRMAN ROISMAN: You're wondering about
7 what happens to the people at Green Mountain Power who
8 work to put all of this together?

9 MR. OREGAN: Yes.

10 CHAIRMAN ROISMAN: Okay.

11 MR. OREGAN: Will they still have their jobs?

12 CHAIRMAN ROISMAN: Okay. Kristin?

13 MS. CARLSON: Yes.

14 MR. OREGAN: What do they do with that time?

15 MS. CARLSON: So, right now, Green Mountain
16 Power has a lot of regulatory proceedings, which are
17 really important, and they do take a lot of time, but
18 what our, what our team is really focused on is
19 customers and how to deliver innovations that are going
20 to drive down costs. We have a call center as well
21 that is located in Colchester and Rutland in Vermont
22 that respond to customer questions and concerns. We
23 have a large field team which is made up of line
24 workers and field folks who are working --

25 MR. OREGAN: Do they have, not reference,

1 but, like, a revised -- like, does somebody keep up
2 with the revisions on a daily or a monthly or
3 quarterly, like, Oh, yeah, just, you know, wait a
4 minute. Like, I just had my house inspected last week,
5 in between last week before the codes have changed, you
6 know? Nobody tells you that, but if you don't change
7 your smoke detector and you have a motion thing and you
8 have to have it set up, the insurance is not going to
9 pay, so you lose \$100,000 or whatever your insurance
10 is, but they don't tell you that, but at least --

11 I'm not blaming the fire department. I'm not
12 blaming the insurance company, but at least Green
13 Mountain Power is, I think they ought to make it more,
14 more, like, open to the public. Like, I have an issue
15 that I talked to the TV people. They have to be asked
16 by you guys to be filmed. They can't just come in and
17 start filming. So I was going to say, Is it run by
18 Robert's rules? What are you talking about? And I
19 said, Well, I don't know everything, but I, do I go to
20 the meeting and say, Any questions, like you asked me?

21 Yes, I'd like to make a suggestion or ask
22 something. Like, how can we get these meetings, not
23 just Green Mountain Power or the utilities, just
24 informational meetings on public access TV for
25 Brattleboro on Channel 8 and 10? Because I just got

1 cable after boycotting it for two years because I
2 didn't like the expense of it, how much it was. You
3 know what I'm saying? It adds up. But who do I talk
4 to, or do I talk to him? See, he's playing with his --
5 I'm boring him. See, he's just like a kid. Grow up.

6 CHAIRMAN ROISMAN: Well, to some extent, the
7 Public Utility Commission --

8 MR. OREGAN: On public access TV to the
9 meetings that happen down here to let the public know,
10 because people that are disabled, you're losing a lot
11 of votes in the pipeline of people that can't get to
12 this because they don't know. It's not, the newspaper
13 just doesn't cut it. But then you get -- some of
14 that's, like, assisted living, you can't really afford
15 much, but you've got basic cable, whatever, public
16 access to what's going on downtown, you know? I live
17 here. So maybe you can bring that -- it wouldn't cost
18 anything. I mean, it's quicker than email. It's right
19 across the hall, right in the same building, you know?

20 MR. ELWELL: Actually, this is not the
21 purpose of the meeting tonight, but I could talk with
22 you afterwards about Channel 8 is almost all meetings,
23 and then Channel 10 has other programming.

24 MR. OREGAN: Not good enough. You're not --
25 you're doing a terrible job.

1 MR. ELWELL: Okay.

2 MR. OREGAN: Sorry. I'm not trying to be
3 rude or blunt, and I respect you man to man, respect
4 you because you're a lady, and you're a lady, okay? I
5 respect you.

6 CHAIRMAN ROISMAN: Ed, anything else on the
7 rates?

8 MR. OREGAN: I want to listen and shut up and
9 see what's going on.

10 CHAIRMAN ROISMAN: At this meeting, you're
11 the, you're the speaker. We're the audience. So, if
12 you have something to say about the rates and about
13 this proposal that GMP has, you can say it here out
14 loud. You can write it down and mail it in to us.
15 They'll be treated the same. We'll look at them.
16 We'll consider them. We'll, if we think appropriate,
17 ask Green Mountain Power questions about it.

18 MR. OREGAN: I have something to confess.
19 I've told people that, KK and everybody here but you.
20 Not knocking you for not being here, but I do have
21 issues about myself. I'm computer illiterate. I'm
22 Green Acres, but I don't climb the pole, okay? Can't
23 spell real good, but I know numbers really pretty good,
24 okay? Like, I worked at a casino for 13, 15 years
25 doing numbers, but so, when you say numbers, like, my

1 sister and I -- I was telling you -- we had a bet you
2 guys probably want 3 percent. I'm saying, No, they
3 want 3.8. Spread it out.

4 So I'm kind of curious to see how you guys --
5 okay. We voted on it. Here's the results, you know?
6 Just kind of curious to see from day one when they
7 start from the public to the time it gets asked. Okay,
8 now we're paying. Does it take -- would you project
9 this will kick in by the fiscal year this year coming
10 or the next year after that or --

11 CHAIRMAN ROISMAN: Okay, Kristin?

12 MS. CARLSON: Yeah, so what we're proposing
13 and what we're talking about is a multi-year plan which
14 is, we had talked about it a little bit before in the
15 informational session, but this would be for the plan
16 to take effect that would start in 2020 -- 2019, I'm
17 sorry. I'm jumping ahead. I'm sorry. 2019, 2020,
18 2021.

19 MR. OREGAN: Just thinking of buying a new
20 car in September, and they're always out a year ahead
21 of it.

22 MS. CARLSON: Thank you.

23 MR. OREGAN: Well, that's the way I
24 remembered fiscal years in college and stuff.

25 MS. CARLSON: Thank you. That's helpful. So

1 this would be for 2019, 2020, and 2021, and this is not
2 setting rates. This is really, How do you set a
3 regulation plan that allows for innovation to happen,
4 allows for just and reasonable rates to happen with
5 this change in the energy landscape, which I know you
6 said you're familiar with? And, again, this would
7 start in 2019.

8 MR. HAND: So it starts in the fiscal year.
9 This plan would start October of 2019 would be the
10 proposal. It would go the next --

11 MR. OREGAN: I thought it would too much to
12 jam in by October of this year, okay? But would that
13 mean they could just raise the rates for the next three
14 years and the public wouldn't know or say anything
15 about that and it's just like, Shut up, once we have
16 the next three years, and then we'll talking about what
17 we are talking about now. Is this going to keep
18 continuous going on and on?

19 MS. CARLSON: So what it would do -- and this
20 is sort of different than current regulation -- is that
21 it would fix a lot of costs, which would benefit
22 customers. So, when it comes to capital costs, when it
23 comes to some other costs that we, as a utility, can
24 control, it would fix them. It would cap them, which,
25 again, means that it wouldn't cause rate pressure for

1 customers during that three-year period. It's under
2 consideration. It's under review. Nothing is final, I
3 should say.

4 MR. OREGAN: Is anything under consideration
5 under this consideration plan how technology, the solar
6 power, and, right now, we're using gas power and all
7 that and how you're going to change, make the
8 transition?

9 MS. CARLSON: You nailed it.

10 MR. OREGAN: Because they've had a lot of
11 debacles going on with Vermont Yankee, you know, and,
12 Oh, that's been inspected. No, it hasn't. I'm not an
13 environmental issue, or I'm not telling you too much,
14 but I used to sell money, okay, and different ideas,
15 like, you know, like, create pipelines, okay, for that
16 attorney I was telling you about. And I'm not bragging
17 on myself. It's just like I had a niche kind of for it
18 because I kind of like do things the old-fashioned way
19 and have passion, honesty, person, okay?

20 Someone asked me about that up in Claremont about
21 Lowe's. I said it won't fly. What do you mean? You
22 don't even live there. What are you talking about? I
23 said I remember going up there and everything smelled
24 funny, and I dug a little hole, and I found oil. Used
25 to be a junkyard. They'll never get that. Well,

1 they've got a Home Depot. They got -- I said, I give
2 it a year. So they did it. It just barely made a
3 year. I even applied for a job there just to prove my
4 point, okay? Sometimes I have to prove my point to
5 myself, my wife, and other people.

6 But I said, you know, you guys are spending, like,
7 \$60 million. It's not worth it. What do you mean? I
8 said, I used to sell mortgages and super shopping
9 centers, Super K-Mart's, and I know stuff like that. I
10 mean, it won't fly. What do you mean? It's
11 environmental issues. You know, you can only dig so
12 far down, and, you know, you've still got
13 contamination, and you're not taking it out. Someone
14 is getting paid off.

15 I don't know what happened, but it made it like a
16 year, you know, a month or so, like that, and I told
17 somebody close to me, I said, Told you so. You know, I
18 even worked Lowe's distribution store and had 800
19 stores that I worked with the CEO feed different
20 locations around the eastern seaboard, you know, right
21 after I worked at the casino because I love numbers, so
22 I got involved doing that. Oh, 800 stores, yeah,
23 inventory. That's a lot. That will keep you busy.

24 So that's what I did, but, like, going back, are
25 they considering that into the cause, the transition

1 technology where we're going now, and how do they
2 generate the power now?

3 MS. CARLSON: So that's a huge part of this
4 plan is, How do you enable people to self-generate but
5 do it in a way that is cost-effective and doesn't
6 create cost shifts for customers who aren't able to do
7 that? And part of this multi-year plan, again, this is
8 a proposal by GMP. It is going to go through a robust
9 regulatory review process. So what we propose might
10 not be what comes out the other side, but it is what we
11 feel is needed in this changing energy landscape. It's
12 to enable this transformation to enable more innovative
13 products and services, and this plan provides for that
14 flexibility and the ability to do that.

15 MR. OREGAN: With that would Green Mountain
16 Power be able to qualify, if it does go through, for
17 instance to demonstrate to the government or state
18 government to get funding, grant money, or tax
19 exemption in some way for doing that to create jobs?
20 You know, like, No, they're not going to move out.
21 Green Mountain -- you know? You know what I'm saying?

22 MS. CARLSON: That's an interesting idea.
23 That's not contemplated in this plan.

24 MR. OREGAN: No, of course not.

25 MS. CARLSON: Well, so I will tell you Green

1 Mountain Power employs about 520 folks. They're proud
2 of the work they do.

3 MR. OREGAN: You're pretty small.

4 MS. CARLSON: And that's on purpose, because
5 we want to operate as cost-effectively as possible, and
6 so --

7 MR. OREGAN: I worked at a place, like I
8 said, a casino, and they had, at one time, 28,000
9 people that worked there, and that's just one casino.
10 I worked at EB for just about little over two years.
11 They hired over 28,000, and the street right down the
12 road, Pfizer that makes aspirins and Bayer and all
13 that, they employed another 28,000. So and then I
14 worked for Connecticut Light & Power, and they had more
15 than that, you know? So not that I'm big time, you
16 know? Like, you know, like, I'm down to earth, you
17 know?

18 MS. CARLSON: Yeah.

19 MR. OREGAN: I don't like dirt and things
20 like eggplant. You know, I'm sure there's other people
21 that don't like eggplant, too, so --

22 MS. CARLSON: I like eggplant.

23 MR. OREGAN: My wife likes it. So how -- I'm
24 going to ask you all a personal question, and you don't
25 have to answer if you don't want to. How long have you

1 been doing what you're doing today that you did other
2 than yesterday?

3 MS. CARLSON: How long have I worked at Green
4 Mountain Power?

5 MR. OREGAN: Yes, in the capacity that you're
6 doing it now.

7 MS. CARLSON: Well, that's a great question.
8 In the capacity of what I'm doing now, probably about
9 four months, and I've worked at the company for four
10 years, and I grew up in and live in Vermont and have
11 worked in the state since I graduated from college.

12 MR. OREGAN: Okay. Do you have a degree or
13 anything like that?

14 MS. CARLSON: I have a college degree.

15 MR. OREGAN: In what?

16 MS. CARLSON: In, sorry, in broadcast
17 journalism and political science.

18 MR. OREGAN: Sounds good, yeah.

19 MS. CARLSON: Thanks.

20 MR. OREGAN: And you?

21 MR. HAND: I've been working with GMP for
22 about, well, in various capacities -- I'm an attorney,
23 and I actually don't work at GMP, but I work for them.

24 MR. OREGAN: My father was an attorney, and
25 I've worked with an attorney for a lot of years, and

1 I've been around attorneys just about a long, long
2 time.

3 MR. HAND: So I've worked with GMP on various
4 projects and on rate matters for about four years.

5 MR. OREGAN: Did you get your own pipeline,
6 or did the pipeline come to you, or do you bid on it,
7 like, I'll take that case on for \$500,000, plus
8 contingency?

9 MR. HAND: We don't do any contingency work
10 in our firm.

11 MR. OREGAN: Okay. Do you have -- what can I
12 call it -- an analyst, not an analyst, but people that
13 help you that you might employ to help you critique
14 your business or pipeline?

15 MR. HAND: We don't, I don't think. We have
16 a number of really wonderful staff who help us every
17 day, but we don't have somebody who does that.

18 MR. OREGAN: Okay. You?

19 CHAIRMAN ROISMAN: Let's see. I'm also an
20 attorney. I've been --

21 MR. OREGAN: Oh, I forgot to ask you, and
22 then I'm going to ask you, what kind of law were you?
23 Like, were you criminal justice? Were you an
24 entrepreneur, a real estate lawyer? There's different
25 types of lawyer. What kind of lawyer, and where did

1 you go to law school?

2 MR. HAND: I do mostly environmental and
3 energy-related law, and I went to law school here in
4 Vermont.

5 MR. OREGAN: Okay.

6 CHAIRMAN ROISMAN: And I also do or did
7 environmental and energy law. I've been the Chair of
8 the Commission for a little over one year, and prior to
9 that I was in private practice. I went to Harvard Law
10 School. I grew up in Oklahoma. I worked in Washington
11 DC for about 35 years. I moved up to New Hampshire in
12 1995 and moved into Vermont in 2014. I live in
13 Weathersfield.

14 MR. OREGAN: Okay. For 35 years, right?
15 What was that?

16 CHAIRMAN ROISMAN: Well, it was a lot of
17 different things. I started as a tax lawyer, and I did
18 that for almost four years. I worked for the
19 Department of Justice, and then I went into private
20 practice for about a year-and-a-half, still doing tax
21 law, and then I left to form my own law firm with two
22 other people, and we started doing environmental law,
23 consumer law, generally what was called public interest
24 law representing people who didn't otherwise have
25 representation.

1 MR. OREGAN: Did you ever work as a public
2 defender?

3 CHAIRMAN ROISMAN: No, I've done very little
4 -- they do criminal work, and I, I've once been tasked
5 by a court with taking on a criminal case. Lawyers are
6 --

7 MR. OREGAN: Right, I understand.

8 CHAIRMAN ROISMAN: -- are called on to do
9 that, but I don't do that as a matter of practice.

10 MR. OREGAN: Okay. I'm going to ask you what
11 kind of like back-and-forth all over and you, too,
12 again. Did you ever belong to the 4-H club, and did
13 you belong to the 4-H club or the Future Farmers of
14 America to be involved to be an attorney with
15 environmental issues? Did you ever say, Wow, that's
16 what I want to do. I want to be a Future Farmers of
17 America, FFA. Oh, I want to take 4-H club. Did either
18 one of you do that, or did you just like, Oh, I
19 graduated from high school. Now I want to be this?
20 Did you have an early childhood aspiration to do what
21 you're doing?

22 CHAIRMAN ROISMAN: I did. From, from when I
23 was in junior high school, which you now call middle
24 school, I decided I wanted to be a lawyer.

25 MR. OREGAN: Well, I'm 63, so --

1 CHAIRMAN ROISMAN: Well, you're a young man.

2 MR. OREGAN: Thank you. How about you?

3 MR. HAND: I've wanted to be a lawyer for a
4 long time. My granddad was a lawyer, and I was always
5 very interested in it, particularly environmental law,
6 and I've enjoyed doing energy-related work as well.

7 MR. OREGAN: Okay. So you didn't belong to
8 the --

9 MR. HAND: I did not belong to the 4-H club.

10 MR. OREGAN: Okay. Tell me something about
11 you.

12 THE REPORTER: Well, I can't talk and write
13 simultaneously, so I'm sorry.

14 MR. HAND: I wonder, Mr. Chairman -- I'm sure
15 we'd be happy to keep speaking with Ed -- if we want to
16 go off the record for some of this if we're done with
17 questions and we can continue to have a good
18 conversation.

19 MR. OREGAN: Yeah, good point. Thank you.

20 CHAIRMAN ROISMAN: Okay. I think that makes
21 sense.

22 MR. OREGAN: Yes, it does.

23 CHAIRMAN ROISMAN: All right. So is there
24 any other member of the public here who wishes to
25 speak? If not, I will consider this public hearing

1 closed. Ed, thank you for your comments, and I'm sure
2 there are many more questions you'll have. I do want
3 to let you know that -- you talked about seeing the
4 process.

5 MR. OREGAN: Yeah.

6 CHAIRMAN ROISMAN: Okay. This process is
7 completely in the public. I mentioned that the, the
8 ePUC, every document that the company submits to us
9 goes into the ePUC, and it's open to the public.

10 MR. OREGAN: Yeah, I understand that.

11 CHAIRMAN ROISMAN: And, as I mentioned,
12 whether you have a computer or not, if you come up to
13 Montpelier, we have a computer, and you can sit there,
14 and you can look at documents. All the hearings that
15 we'll hold, which will be evidentiary hearings --
16 witnesses will come up on the witness stand. They'll
17 be asked questions. They'll give answers. All of
18 that's public. That will, again, be held at our
19 offices in Montpelier.

20 MR. OREGAN: So there's nothing behind closed
21 doors? The public's informed 100 percent of the time?

22 CHAIRMAN ROISMAN: Exactly, except for the
23 Commission's deliberations.

24 MR. OREGAN: Oh, yeah? Okay.

25 CHAIRMAN ROISMAN: But, yes, everything else

1 is completely open. Occasionally, but I'm not
2 expecting in this case, the company may have something
3 that's considered confidential, business confidential,
4 but I don't expect that will happen in this case. So
5 everything is completely open, and, in fact, already
6 they have filed with us, well, like, a dozen witnesses.

7 MR. HAND: For this proceeding I think we
8 have four or five for this, for the reg plan
9 proceeding.

10 CHAIRMAN ROISMAN: Right, right.

11 MR. HAND: We have about ten in the rate case
12 proceeding.

13 CHAIRMAN ROISMAN: Right. And so they have
14 already filed testimony and attached exhibits and it's
15 all publicly available. If you, if you were interested
16 in reading about it, you, you could see it all there,
17 and that might cause you, if you read it, to identify
18 other questions, and then you can write those in to us.

19 MR. OREGAN: Can I get that on the computer
20 and punch it in and get a copy of it that way, or is
21 that --

22 CHAIRMAN ROISMAN: Yes.

23 MR. OREGAN: I'm computer illiterate. So is
24 there any way that I can get information sent to me
25 where I can read that stuff?

1 CHAIRMAN ROISMAN: Sure.

2 MR. OREGAN: Who would I ask about that?

3 CHAIRMAN ROISMAN: If you want information
4 that's in this public record?

5 MR. OREGAN: Yes, I do.

6 CHAIRMAN ROISMAN: Okay. You write to the
7 Clerk of the Public Utility Commission, and I think
8 that's on that sheet, and I'm, I'm guessing that all of
9 this material is also on the website for Green Mountain
10 Power.

11 MR. HAND: That's correct.

12 MS. CARLSON: And that's, the link is on the
13 handout which I gave.

14 CHAIRMAN ROISMAN: Okay, right. So there are
15 multiple ways that you can see this information, and my
16 guess is, correct me if I'm wrong, that here in
17 Brattleboro the, the public library has public
18 computers, right?

19 MR. ELWELL: Absolutely, yes.

20 MR. OREGAN: Yes, they do. I go in there
21 quite a bit.

22 MR. HAND: And I expect that they have
23 services to help someone with a disability access that.

24 MR. OREGAN: Yes, they do.

25 CHAIRMAN ROISMAN: Okay, great. Well, thank

1 you. Thank you for coming.

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6 (Whereupon at 7:39 p.m. the hearing was adjourned.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

1
2 I, Sunnie Donath, RPR, do hereby certify that
3 I recorded by stenographic means the Public Hearing re:
4 Petition of Green Mountain Power Corporation for
5 approval of a multi-year regulation plan pursuant to 30
6 V.S.A. Sections 209, 218, and 218(d), at the
7 Brattleboro Municipal Offices, 230 Main Street,
8 Suite 212, Brattleboro, Vermont, on July 26, 2018,
9 beginning at 7:00 p.m.

10 I further certify that the foregoing testimony was
11 taken by me stenographically and thereafter reduced to
12 typewriting and the foregoing 33 pages are a transcript
13 of the stenographic notes taken by me of the evidence
14 and the proceedings to the best of my ability.

15 I further certify that I am not related to any of
16 the parties thereto or their counsel, and I am in no
17 way interested in the outcome of said cause.

18 Dated at Westminster, Vermont, this 7th day of
19 August, 2018.

20
21 //Sunnie Donath, RPR
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