

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: 04/23/2020

ORDER RE FILING OF NOTICES OF APPEAL DURING COVID-19 OUTBREAK

Both the State of Vermont and the federal government have declared a state of emergency due to the outbreak of the new coronavirus known as COVID-19. The Vermont Public Utility Commission (“Commission”) recognizes the importance of helping to slow the spread of COVID-19 in Vermont.

While the Commission is continuing to conduct business, as of March 26, 2020, all Commission employees are working remotely. Regular mail sent to the Commission’s office is only being picked up by a Commission employee once a week. In addition, because the Commission’s building is closed to the public, FedEx, UPS, and courier services are not able to deliver to the Commission’s offices.

For these reasons, the Commission is directing parties filing a notice of appeal from a final decision of the Commission to the Vermont Supreme Court on or after April 20, 2020, and through June 1, 2020, to file the notice of appeal via email sent to puc.clerk@vermont.gov. The Commission will consider the date the appeal was filed to be the date the document was emailed to the clerk. The subject line of all such emails sent to the clerk must start with the words “Notice of appeal attached” and must include the case number in which the order (or orders) being appealed was issued.

A paper copy of the notice of appeal must still be mailed to the Commission, and entry fees must still be paid in the manner set forth in Rule 3 of the Vermont Rules of Appellate Procedure or as otherwise determined by the Vermont Supreme Court.¹


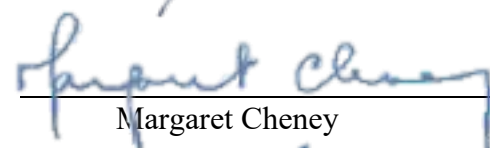
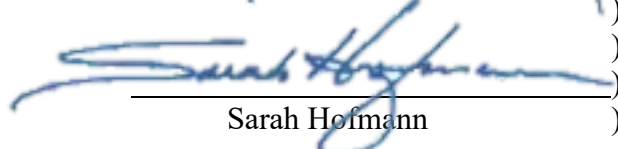
¹ Section XII.(d) of the Commission’s “Standards and Procedures Applicable to Electronic Filing Using ePUC” requires that notices of appeal “must be filed with the Clerk of the Commission by non-electronic means.”

The Commission will continue to monitor the situation related to the COVID-19 pandemic to determine whether the temporary requirements for filing notices of appeal with the Commission need to be extended beyond June 1, 2020.

The Commission encourages stakeholders to subscribe to this case in ePUC to receive automatic notifications of any future orders issued by the Commission related to changes to its operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Instructions on how to subscribe to a case in ePUC are available at: <https://puc.vermont.gov/epuc-information/subscribe-case>. If you need further assistance, please contact the ePUC system administrator at puc.ePUCadmin@vermont.gov.

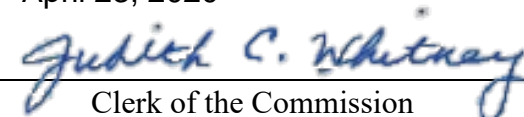
SO ORDERED.

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 23rd day of April, 2020.

 _____ Anthony Z. Roisman)	PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF VERMONT
 _____ Margaret Cheney)	
 _____ Sarah Hofmann)	

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

Filed: April 23, 2020

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)

Appeal of this decision to the Supreme Court of Vermont must be filed with the Clerk of the Commission within 30 days. Appeal will not stay the effect of this Order, absent further order by this Commission or appropriate action by the Supreme Court of Vermont. Motions for reconsideration or stay, if any, must be filed with the Clerk of the Commission within 28 days of the date of this decision and Order.