# **GREEN MOUNTAIN POWER MULTI-YEAR REGULATION PLAN**

Final Approved Plan, June 7, 2019 Amended September 3, 2020 (per PUC August 27, 2020 order in Case No. 20-1401-PET)

# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

I.	T	ERM	3
II.	S	UMMARY OF MULTI-YEAR REGULATION PLAN COMPONENTS	3
	A. B.	Fixed Components (collectively referred to as "Non-Power Costs")	6
	C.	Forecasted & Annually Updated Components	
	D. <u>8E.</u>	Other Plan Components	••••••
III	. Р	ROCESS FOR ESTABLISHING ANNUAL BASE RATES	12
	A.	Timing for Annual Base Rate Filing	12
	B.	Notice	
	C.	Review and Approval	
	D.	Schedule for Filings	13
IV	. C	OMPONENTS OF ANNUAL BASE RATES	13
	A.	Non-Power Costs (Forecast & Fixed For 3-Year Period)	14
	B.	Power Supply Cost And Retail Revenue (Forecasted And Updated Annually)	
	C.	Income Taxes & Related Costs (Forecasted And Updated Annually)	
	D.	Financing Costs - Return On Equity (Annual Update Based On Formula)	19
V.	D	DESCRIPTION OF RATE ADJUSTORS, FILING PERIODS, AND EFFECTIVE	
		PATES	20
	A.	Retail Revenue Adjustor & Power Supply Adjustor	20
	В.	Exogenous Change Adjustment	
	C.	Merger Savings Adjustment	
	D.	Earnings Sharing Adjustor Mechanism	
	E.	Emerald Ash Borer Assessment & Adjustor	
	F.	Rate Smoothing Adjustor	
	G.	Residual Adjustments	29

VI.	RECOVERY OF THE RETAIL REVENUE, POWER SUPPLY, AND M ADJUSTOR	
VII.	INNOVATION AND PERFORMANCE METRICS	31
A	A. Innovative Pilot Program	31
Е	B. Vermont Energy Plan Investment	31
	C. Service Choices	32
Γ	D. Service Quality	32
E	E. Innovation & Performance Measurement Metrics	32
VIII.	OTHER PLAN COMPONENTS	32
A	A. Low Income	32
Е	3. Plan Evaluation	
IX.	LIMITATIONS ON OTHER RATE CHANGES	33
X.	MISCELLANEOUS	33

# LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1	MYRP Summary of COS Treatment				
	(Rebuttal Revision)				
Attachment 2	Innovative Pilots				
Attachment 3	Annual ROE Indexing Methodology				
Attachment 4	Component A and B Power Supply Costs				
Attachment 5	Example RRA and PSA Calculation				
Attachment 6	Example ESAM Calculation				
Attachment 7	Innovation and Performance Metrics				
Attachment 8	MYRP Filing Schedule				

Final Multi-Year Regulation Plan

June 7, 2019

(as amended September 3, 2020 in Case No. 20-1401-PET)

Page 3 of 35

This Plan constitutes a form of regulation for Green Mountain Power ("GMP" or the "Company") under 30 V.S.A. § 218d. The Plan governs the manner in which the electric rates of GMP will be regulated by the Public Utility Commission (the "PUC" or "Commission") during the term of the Plan, and a record of filings of all adjustments occurring out of this Plan shall be filed as a compliance tariff.

#### I. TERM

The Plan shall take effect on June 1, 2019 for rates effective October 1, 2019 and shall terminate on September 30, 2022. The Plan shall be divided for reference herein into the following rate periods:

FY20	October 1, 2019–September 30, 2020
FY21	October 1, 2020–September 30, 2021
FY22	October 1, 2021–September 30, 2022

Rates incorporating adjustments allowed under this Plan shall continue beyond the termination date, as provided in Section V(G) below. The Plan may be terminated or modified upon request of the Company and/or the Department of Public Service ("DPS" or "Department") and subject to approval by the Commission. GMP shall file a traditional cost of service rate case prior to the termination of the Plan to cover rates for Fiscal Year 2023.

# II. SUMMARY OF MULTI-YEAR REGULATION PLAN COMPONENTS

The proposed Plan consists of several components, which together are designed to address each of the specific elements of GMP's overall cost of service. These include a mix of components that will be fixed for the term of the Plan based on a reviewed forecast at the beginning of the Plan, components that are adjusted based on a formula, and components where costs and revenues will be forecast annually and then adjusted to collect or return actual costs and revenues in each fiscal year, plus other miscellaneous provisions. The specific treatment of each aspect of the company's cost of service and rate base are identified in **Attachment 1**, which describes whether the component will be fixed,

Final Multi-Year Regulation Plan

June 7, 2019

(as amended September 3, 2020 in Case No. 20-1401-PET)

Page 4 of 35

forecasted and adjusted, or based upon a formula or calculation. The goal of the Plan is to develop a smoother rate path over three years, which will be accomplished by locking all non-power costs for the term of the Plan, and then only adjusting annual rates to incorporate any changes in power supply costs, revenue, and income taxes, changes in return on equity,

The primary components of this Plan are as follows:

# A. Fixed Components (collectively referred to as "Non-Power Costs")

and any specific adjustments approved by the PUC under this Plan.

#### 1. Infrastructure Costs

The first fixed component of the plan addresses infrastructure costs, including capital expenditures, depreciation expense, and property taxes. With respect to capital expenditures, the Plan requires GMP to forecast the anticipated costs for capital investments based on capital spending plans in each of GMP's departments. The Plan then requires GMP to recover no more than the amounts set out in the Plan for each fiscal year, subject to the modifications and procedures described below. Associated depreciation expense will be fixed for the term of the Plan based on projected plant in service balance at the beginning of the Plan, the plant additions cap by year, and the forecasted numbers for an anticipated updated depreciation study to be implemented in FY2021. Related property taxes have also been calculated and fixed by year based upon expected expenditures and historical trends in the yearly amounts set forth below. The Plan provides for three limited exceptions to the established capital investment caps, for: (1) capital expenditures associated with voluntary customer energy transformation projects that generate revenue for all GMP customers ("New Initiatives") that are above the base proposed capital spending for these programs; (2) unforeseeable events that either require greater capital investments than anticipated or present strategic investment opportunities that would benefit customers; and (3) if submitted and approved by the PUC, a Climate Resiliency Plan to mitigate the increasing impacts of climate change-driven storms on GMP's Transmission and

Final Multi-Year Regulation Plan

June 7, 2019

(as amended September 3, 2020 in Case No. 20-1401-PET)

Page 5 of 35

Distribution (T&D) systems. The details of these fixed capital expenditures, as well as

the method for obtaining PUC approval of exceptions for expenditures beyond the cap,

are addressed further in Section IV below.

2. O&M Costs

This component addresses GMP's operation and maintenance (O&M) costs. The

recovery of these costs during the term of the Plan shall be consistent with Merger

Savings mechanism established by the PUC in Docket 7770. Under this mechanism,

"Base O&M" costs for GMP are fixed based on set platform costs for the period of

FY20 through FY22 adjusted by the Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers,

Northeast Region ("CPI-U Northeast"). Thus, for the three years of this Plan, the "Base

O&M" costs will be fixed, and continue to benefit customers as required in the Docket

7770 Order by providing at least the \$144M guaranteed, over the ten-year term of the

Merger Savings platform that will end concurrently with this Plan. These savings shall

be accounted for and trued up through the associated Merger Savings Adjustor,

described in Section V(C) below. A limited number of "Non-base O&M" costs fall

outside of the O&M platform established in Docket 7770. For purposes of this Plan,

these Non-base O&M will also be fixed at the beginning of the Plan based on three-

year forecasts. The details of this component of the Plan are specified in Section IV

below.

3. Financing Costs (Debt)

This component of the Plan focuses on the cost of debt. The Plan requires GMP to

forecast anticipated debt costs at the start of the Plan and fix those costs for the term of

the Plan, subject to any changes in overall debt levels that may be authorized by the

Commission in conjunction with new capital investments approved under the limited

exceptions in the Plan.

# 4. Investments in and Earnings from Affiliates

The Plan proposes to fix equity-in-earnings, including continued investments in and distributions from existing affiliated companies, based on a three-year forecast at the beginning of the Plan. The Plan requires GMP to seek Commission approval for any equity contribution during the Plan term for investments in new affiliates that did not exist at the start of the Plan, as set forth in Section IV(A)(3) below. See Section II(E) for FY 2022 adjustments to investment in and earnings from Vermont Transco ("VT Transco").

### 5. Property & Non-Property Taxes (excluding revenue-based taxes)

The Plan requires GMP to fix all property taxes based on a three-year forecast at the beginning of the Plan. State & Federal Income taxes, Gross Revenue and Fuel Gross Receipts Taxes are excluded from this category and are addressed below.

#### 6. Other Costs & Revenues

This component of the plan addresses other cost and revenue items not captured above. The Plan requires GMP to forecast and fix recovery of the costs based on its three-year forecast at the start of the Plan, subject to the adjustors described below. The details of this process are addressed further in Section IV(A)(4) below.

#### B. Formulaic Components

#### 7. Financing Costs (Equity)

With respect to equity, the Plan requires GMP to fix its overall debt to equity ratio at 50/50 plus or minus 1% in each year over the life of the Plan. With respect to overall return on equity ("ROE"), the Plan indexes ROE every year, starting from the 2019 rate year ROE, which is set at 9.3% based on the PUC's Order in Case No. 18-0974-TF. The ROE will be adjusted annually using a formula which indexes the change in ROE to U.S. government bonds. The indexing mechanism is described further below.

# C. Forecasted & Annually Updated Components

# 8. Retail Revenue & Power Supply Costs

This component relates to power supply expenses, transmission costs, and revenue. This component will rely on an annual reviewed forecast of costs and retail revenue, and will be associated with two adjustors—a Retail Revenue Adjustor and a Power Supply Adjustor—which together would true up actual retail revenues and costs against the approved forecast for these items included in base rates, in a manner that would fully de-couple GMP from overall retail revenue while providing continued incentive for the Company to manage its power costs well. The forecasting methodology for this component is addressed in Section IV(B) below.

- The Retail Revenue Adjustor functions by tracking actual retail revenue every quarter against the forecasted amount for that quarter. Any variations between the forecasted retail revenue and the actual quarterly results are reported as an over or under collection at the end of each quarter. The quarterly Retail Revenue, Power Supply, and Major Storm Adjustors will be netted and collected from or returned to customers in accordance with the methodology described in Section VI. The details of this adjustment are addressed further in Section V(A)(1) below.
- The Power Supply Adjustor trues up actual power supply costs against forecasted costs on a quarterly basis, with a cost variance calculation and power cost efficiency band of +150,000 (retained by GMP) and -\$307,000 (absorbed by GMP) applied to a portion of the power costs as described below. As with the Retail Revenue Adjustor, the Power Supply Adjustor will compare actual costs during the quarterly measurement period against the same forecasted costs in the relevant quarterly period included in rates, and then will be netted against the quarterly Retail Revenue and Major Storm Adjustors and collected from or

Final Multi-Year Regulation Plan

June 7, 2019

(as amended September 3, 2020 in Case No. 20-1401-PET)

Page 8 of 35

returned to customers in accordance with the methodology in Section VI. The

details of this adjustment are addressed further in Section V(A)(2) below.

9. State & Federal Income Taxes, Accumulated Deferred Income Taxes (ADIT), and

Gross Revenue & Fuel Gross Receipts Taxes

The Plan requires GMP to annually forecast State and Federal Income Taxes, ADIT,

and Gross Revenue & Fuel Gross Receipt Taxes, because these components will be

impacted by other items that are annually adjusted (either return on equity, revenue, or

the Power Supply Adjustor). This annual estimate will be incorporated into the annual

base rate filing and adjusted each year to reflect changes in net income based on

formulaic adjustments to ROE (for Income Taxes and ADIT) or refreshed revenue and

power costs as appropriate (Gross Revenue & Fuel Gross Receipt Taxes).

D. Other Plan Components

10. Exogenous Change Adjustor

The Exogenous Change Adjustor has three parts. The first addresses non-storm

exogenous events outside the company's control, such as federal income tax changes.

The second component addresses Major Storm events that occur during the term of the

Plan and the third component addresses collection of Major Storm costs that were

incurred before the start of the Plan ("Prior Major Storm Costs").

A "Major Storm" is, as defined in the GMP Service Quality and Reliability Plan, an

event that exceeds \$1.2 million in maintenance costs, and there will also be a \$1.2

million deductible for the aggregate of all Major Storm exogenous events each fiscal

year, except that the \$1.2 deductible will not be applied twice to the same storm in the

event that collection for costs associated with that storm extends over two fiscal year

periods. There will also be a \$1.2 million threshold for any non-storm exogenous

events. With respect to Major Storm events that occur during the term of the Plan,

GMP will file a report on the qualifying exogenous Major Storm costs that have been

Final Multi-Year Regulation Plan

June 7, 2019

(as amended September 3, 2020 in Case No. 20-1401-PET)

Page 9 of 35

invoiced for each storm in the quarter following receipt of invoices. The quarterly

Major Storm Adjustor will be netted against the quarterly Retail Revenue and Power

Supply Adjustors and collected from or returned to customers in accordance with the

methodology in Section VI.

GMP will also collect \$8 million per year from customers through the Past Storm &

Power Fixed Charge on bills on a surcharge percentage basis to cover the costs of Prior

Major Storms incurred prior to the inception of the Plan which have been approved for

recovery by the Commission, but are not yet being collected from customers at the

inception of the Plan. The Plan therefore modifies the current regulation plan under

which the Company is operating by covering already-approved major storm costs

through an on-going collection allowed by this Plan, rather than requiring customers to

pay multiple, higher costs through separate surcharges approved under its current plan.

These Prior Major Storm costs currently total approximately \$24 million. The details

of these adjustments are addressed further in Section V(B) below.

11. Earnings Sharing Adjustment Mechanism

The Plan uses an Earning Sharing Adjustment Mechanism ("ESAM") to share actual

earnings above or below the approved rate of return on equity with customers. The

Plan provides a limited "dead band" for small changes in the earnings that do not result

in any adjustment, and then asymmetrical "sharing bands" of over or under earnings

between GMP and its customers. All earnings above or below the sharing band will be

refunded to or recovered from customers. The details of this mechanism are addressed

further in Section V(D) below.

12. Emerald Ash Borer Assessment & Adjustor

The Plan incorporates an assessment and associated adjustor to address costs related to

the infestation of the invasive Emerald Ash Borer ("EAB"), which has recently been

confirmed in Vermont. The EAB assessment and adjustor covers the cost of pro-active

removal of ash trees in power line corridors in geographic areas that are confirmed to

Final Multi-Year Regulation Plan

June 7, 2019

(as amended September 3, 2020 in Case No. 20-1401-PET)

Page 10 of 35

have EAB infestations or are at high risk of EAB infestation. Anticipated costs will be forecast for three years of the Plan and included in a separate line item assessment on bills, collected as a surcharge based on revenue, but will be subject to an adjustor to true up to actual costs incurred during the term of the Plan, based on any changes in the infestation spread rate. The details of this mechanism are addressed further in Section V(E) below.

#### 13. Rate-Smoothing Adjustor

The Plan includes an overarching adjustment to create as smooth a rate path as possible for customers during the term of the Plan. This adjustment is established at the beginning of the Plan, based on a three-year forecast of (1) non-power costs, (2) power supply costs and revenue, (3) income taxes, plus (4) an estimated return on equity for each year of the Plan. Based on this overall three-year forecasted cost of service a "Projected Smoothed Rate" will be developed, providing the projected average rate path target for each fiscal year in the Plan that would be required to collect the then-forecasted revenue requirement at a uniform projected rate change percentage over all three years. A regulatory asset or liability account will be established at the beginning of the Plan based on this forecast to account for any adjustments to the forecasted costs or revenues in each fiscal year that are necessary to establish the Projected Smoothed Rate. The regulatory asset or liability will reverse over the term of the Plan and will be zero at the end of the Plan. There will be no subsequent adjustments to the smoothing regulatory assets and liabilities identified at the inception of the Plan.

The Projected Smoothed Rate will set the actual rate change in Year 1 (FY20), and will provide a projection of rates for Year 2 (FY21) and Year 3 (FY22). Because non-power costs are locked at the beginning of the Plan based on a three-year forecast, any changes in the actual Year 2 or Year 3 rate from the Projected Smoothed Rate will be based only on changes in annual power supply costs or revenue forecasts, any adjustment to return on equity under the formula established in the Plan, and any change to other costs dependent on these adjustments (income taxes, ADIT, and Fuel Gross Receipt

Final Multi-Year Regulation Plan

June 7, 2019

(as amended September 3, 2020 in Case No. 20-1401-PET)

Page 11 of 35

taxes), plus any changes authorized by the PUC under other specific provisions in this

Plan. The details of this mechanism are addressed further in Section V(F) below.

14. Innovative Pilot Program

The Innovative Pilot provision of the prior regulation plan continues through this Plan,

as outlined in **Attachment 2**. New Innovative Pilots developed during the term of the

Plan which are not already included in base rates (whether as an existing Pilot or

subsequent tariff) shall not result in plant additions that result in any rate adjustments

under this Plan, except insofar as they are specifically requested to be included in base

rates under the New Initiatives exception in Section IV(A)(1)(iv). In addition, GMP

shall obtain PUC approval of any individual pilot program that is anticipated to exceed

\$5 million in capital investments prior to including any amount over \$5 million in rate

base. Changes in revenue or power supply cost that result from New Initiative

programs will be included in adjustments made pursuant to the Retail Revenue

Adjustor or the Power Supply Adjustor.

15. Climate Resiliency Plan (CRP)

Notwithstanding the other provisions of this Plan, GMP may file a CRP during the term

of the Plan proposing additional capital expenditures and/or targeted operational &

maintenance expenses for climate change mitigation or storm hardening of GMP's

transmission and distribution system.

16. Innovation and Performance Metrics

Finally, overarching this Plan is the measurement of specific Innovation and

Performance Metrics. These set forth clear metrics to measure GMP's performance on

issues that matter to customers. These are addressed in Section VII below.

E. Fiscal Year 2022 Modifications for Vermont Transco

VT Transco's FY 2022 forecast has been updated to reflect the following items which

will be incorporated into GMP's FY 2022 MYRP base rate filing:

# 17. VT Transco Members' Equity Investment

Along with other Vermont distribution utilities, GMP will be investing an additional \$31.2 million into VT Transco in December 2021. This update to GMP's FY 2022 MYRP base rate filling impacts rate base (through GMP's investment in VT Transco and accumulated deferred income taxes) and cost of service (through GMP's equity in earnings from VT Transco, transmission by others expense, return on rate base and income tax expense).

#### 18. Accumulated Deferred Income Tax Reconciliation

VT Transco is in the process of finalizing a reconciliation of its accumulated deferred income tax ("ADIT") balance and GMP will reflect the forecasted amount of this ADIT adjustment in its FY 2022 base rate Filing. This update to GMP's FY 2022 MYRP base rate filling impacts rate base (through GMP's ADIT and investment in VT Transco) and cost of service (through GMP's equity in earnings from VT Transco, transmission by others expense, return on rate base and income tax expense).

### 19. VT Transco Excess ADIT

VT Transco has updated its forecast for the anticipated 2021 approval by FERC to begin returning its excess ADIT. This update to GMP's FY 2022 MYRP base rate filling impacts rate base (through GMP's Excess ADIT Tax Credit and investment in VT Transco) and cost of service (through GMP's equity in earnings from VT Transco, transmission by others expense, return on rate base and income tax expense (amortization of Excess ADIT Tax Credit)).

If for some reason there is a delay in FERC approving VT Transco's request to return their Excess ADIT, GMP will also delay the amortization of its Excess ADIT Tax Credit. VT Transco's Excess ADIT and GMP's ADIT Tax Credit amortizations needs to occur simultaneously because of the impact VT Transco's

Final Multi-Year Regulation Plan

June 7, 2019

(as amended September 3, 2020 in Case No. 20-1401-PET)

Page 13 of 35

amortization has on GMP's transmission by others expense and equity in earnings

from VT Transco.

III. PROCESS FOR ESTABLISHING ANNUAL BASE RATES

A. Timing for Annual Base Rate Filing

GMP shall file the Initial Annual Base Rate for fiscal year 2020 (FY20) with the

Commission by June 1, 2019 or within two weeks of the PUC's approval of the Plan,

whichever is later. The Initial Annual Base Rate filing shall provide the Projected

Smoothed Base Rate for all three years of the Plan, utilizing the rate smoothing

methodology set out in Section V(F), below. This methodology shall set the annual

base rate for FY20, and provide the projected rate for FY21 and FY22, which will still

be subject to any annual adjustments authorized under the Plan in those years.

Subsequent base rate filings shall be made on June 1 of each year and include the

expected base rate adjustments for the following year of the Plan, based on any annual

adjustments authorized under the Plan. The Annual Base Rate Filing shall be

accompanied by a narrative explanation of information reasonably needed to assist in

understanding the filing.

B. Notice

The Annual Base Rate Filing shall be posted on the Company website at the time of

filing, and the Company shall provide individual customer notice through bill

notification of each period's Plan Base Rate Annual Adjustment when its request to

effectuate those changes is filed.

C. Review and Approval

The proposed Annual Base Rate filing shall be subject to DPS review and comment

(including independent expert review, as needed), and PUC approval. The Department

shall file comments on the Company's Annual Base Rate Filings within 60 days of the

Final Multi-Year Regulation Plan

June 7, 2019

(as amended September 3, 2020 in Case No. 20-1401-PET)

Page 14 of 35

filing. Final rates for the coming fiscal year shall be set by the PUC no less than 30

days prior to the start of the fiscal year.

D. Schedule for Filings

The schedule for all required filings under this Plan is outlined in Attachment 8,

including the Annual Base Rate filings discussed in this section, Adjustor filings

discussed in Section VI, and the Plan Evaluation discussed under Section VIII.

IV. COMPONENTS OF ANNUAL BASE RATES

GMP's annual base rates shall consist of a locked smoothed non-power cost component,

forecasted power supply, revenue and income tax components, which will each be

refreshed annually based on updated forecasts, and a return on equity component, which

will be adjusted annually based on an ROE formula set in the Plan.

At the beginning of the Plan, GMP will develop a Projected Smoothed Base Rate based on

forecasts of each of these four components. Although only the non-power cost component

will be locked, the purpose of this mechanism is to smooth out anticipated variation in

overall rates to the extent possible at the start of the Plan.

As part of GMP's Initial Annual Base Rate Filing, GMP shall calculate the Projected

Smoothed Base Rate for the term of the Plan. The Projected Smoothed Base Rate

represents the projected average rate path target for each fiscal year in the Plan that would

be required to collect the then-forecasted revenue requirement at a uniform projected rate

change percentage over all three years.

The three-year forecasted cost of service will consist of:

(1) Non-power cost forecast for FY20, FY21, & FY22;

(2) Power supply & revenue forecast for FY20, FY21, & FY22

(3) Income tax, ADIT forecast for FY20, FY21 & FY22, plus

(4) 3-year estimated ROE.

Final Multi-Year Regulation Plan

June 7, 2019

(as amended September 3, 2020 in Case No. 20-1401-PET)

Page 15 of 35

Non-power costs shall be locked for the term of the Plan, based on the three-year forecasts

provided with the Initial Annual Base Rate filing. The remaining costs shall be adjusted

annually according to the Plan.

For each year of the Plan, rates will be set as follows:

• For FY20, the Annual Base Rate will equal the Projected Smoothed Base Rate

for FY20.

• Annual Base Rate filings for FY21 and FY22 will then adjust the Projected

Smoothed Base Rate to account for annual adjustments authorized under the

Plan. The FY21 and FY22 Annual Base Rate filings will refresh the power

supply & revenue forecasts, income taxes & ADIT, and the adjustment for ROE

provided by the formula established in the Plan, plus any other changes

authorized by the PUC under the specific provisions of this Plan. These

adjustments to the Projected Smoothed Base Rate will establish the final annual

base rate for FY21 and FY22.

In setting the proposed Annual Base Rates for each fiscal year, the fixed and forecasted

components of GMP's cost of service shall be established as follows, consistent with

**Attachment 1**:

A. Non-Power Costs (Forecast & Fixed For 3-Year Period)

1. Infrastructure Costs (Capital Expenditures, Depreciation, Property Taxes)

i. <u>Capital Expenditures</u>

Overall capital expenditures that are closed to Plant In Service during each

fiscal year of the Plan shall be equal to the following amounts:

FY20 \$86.5 million

FY21 \$85 million

FY22 \$85 million

Final Multi-Year Regulation Plan

June 7, 2019

(as amended September 3, 2020 in Case No. 20-1401-PET)

Page 16 of 35

Subject to the exceptions identified below in Sections IV(A)(1)(iv)–(vi), GMP

shall only be entitled to include in rates and recover the amounts identified

above during the term of the Plan. GMP will limit annual capital expenditures

to the amounts listed above, although actual annual plant additions will vary

from this amount based upon the timing of capital project completions and the

closing of projects from the Construction Work in Progress balance and to the

Plant in Service balance. To allow for this annual variation between capital

spending and Plant in Service, cumulative plant additions will not exceed

\$256.5 million during the term of the Plan.

ii. <u>Depreciation Costs</u>

Depreciation costs shall be fixed for the term of the Plan based upon the

projected plant in service balance at the beginning of the Plan, the expected

annual plant additions, known retirements and changes in depreciation accrual

rates resulting from a Depreciation Study. The depreciation amounts for FY21

and FY22 will include a forecast for changes associated with an updated

depreciation study, which will be implemented in FY21.

iii. Property Taxes

Property taxes fixed based on a three-year forecast of expected property taxes,

taking into account the fixed capital expenditures identified above. To the

extent relevant, this forecast may only be adjusted to reflect any allowed capital

expenditure exceptions approved by the PUC under Section IV(A)(1)(iv)–(vi).

iv. New Initiative Capital Expenditures

To the extent that GMP proposes capital investments for New Initiative projects

above the annual \$5M cap in the coming fiscal year, it shall file known and

measurable documentation, including appropriate financial analysis, for the

proposed expenditures in its Annual Base Rate filing. These projects shall be

limited to transformative customer-facing energy projects that require an initial

Final Multi-Year Regulation Plan

June 7, 2019

(as amended September 3, 2020 in Case No. 20-1401-PET)

Page 17 of 35

upfront capital investment by GMP and are forecasted to contribute a net

positive benefit to non-participating customers through new sources of revenue

and/or cost savings over the life of the program. They may include investments

for programs authorized as an Innovative Pilot, traditional tariffed offerings, or

other capital projects that qualify under this provision.

GMP shall petition the Commission, file support, and receive approval before

spending more than \$5M on any individual Innovative Pilot initiative that

involves an anticipated commitment of capital it intends to include in rate base.

v. <u>Unexpected Circumstances and Strategic Opportunities</u>

GMP may petition the PUC for approval at any time during the Plan to spend

above the authorized capital expenditure levels listed above and to include such

expenditures in rates when unexpected circumstances require capital

expenditures that are above the authorized level and when increased capital

expenditures beyond the cap are needed to pursue new strategic opportunities

that would provide material benefit to customers.

Strategic opportunities here may include, but are not limited to, categories of

investments that serve to better monitor, manage, and operate the distribution

system for more effective integration of distributed energy systems and loads

that were not reasonably anticipated at the onset of the GMP Plan, but help to

advance the objectives of GMP's system to better serve customer objectives for

lower cost service and better integration of distributed energy resources.

In its petition for relief, GMP will bear the burden of demonstrating that the

proposed departure from the established capital expenditure limits is in

customers' best interests and will result in just and reasonable rates. Base rates

may be adjusted at the next quarter after any approval for spending under this

provision, or at the next Annual Base Rate filing, unless otherwise ordered by

the Commission.

# vi. <u>Climate Resiliency Plan</u>

Notwithstanding the other provisions of this Plan, GMP may file a CRP during the term of the plan proposing additional capital expenditures and/or operational & maintenance expenses for climate change mitigation or storm hardening of GMP's transmission and distribution system. In the event that GMP proposes such a plan during the term of the MYRP, it would be supported by analysis demonstrating why the additional expenditures are necessary, appropriate, and in the best interests of customers.

#### 2. Operations & Maintenance Costs

GMP's Base O&M costs, as defined in Docket 7770, shall be recovered under this Plan consistent with the PUC order in Docket 7770. This amount shall be set at the beginning of the Plan, in the Initial Annual Base Rate filing by applying the CPI-U Northeast inflation factor to the platform Base O&M costs for FY20, and an estimate of the CPI-U Northeast for FY21 and FY22. Non-platform O&M Costs as defined in Docket 7770 shall be set for the term of the Plan based on a three-year forecast of costs.

# 3. Financing Costs (Debt)

#### i. Debt Costs

GMP's debt costs shall be fixed based on a three-year forecast of anticipated debt balances and costs for each fiscal year. The cost of debt will be based on forecasted long-term and credit facility borrowing balances and reflect any change in the average long-term debt interest rate due to redemption of existing bonds and issuance of new bonds. The average credit facility debt interest rate will be forecasted based on terms of GMP's credit facility. These estimated debt costs will be fixed for the term of the Plan, subject to any changes in debt levels necessitated by the PUC's approval of strategic investments or new innovative programs authorized under the Plan, which will be incorporated in the next Annual Base Rate update.

# ii. <u>Debt to Equity Ratio</u>

GMP shall utilize a 50/50 debt to equity ratio plus or minus 1% in all forecasting under the Plan and shall also endeavor to adhere to that ratio in its operations. To the extent its actual operating ratio differs, GMP shall be subject to the Earnings Sharing Mechanism described below.

#### 4. Earnings in Affiliates

Equity-in-earnings, continued investments in, and distribution of earnings, will be fixed based on a three-year forecast for the following Affiliated Companies that are currently in rates:

- Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation;
- Maine Yankee, Connecticut Yankee and Yankee Atomic;
- Green Lantern;
- NE Hydro Trans and NE Hydro Trans Electric;
- VELCO;
- VT Transco;
- JV Solar-Battery; and
- JV Solar

See Section II(E) for an Earnings in Affiliates – VT Transco adjustment that will be reflected in the FY 2022 base rate filing.

Any proposal to invest in new affiliates during the term of the Plan will require specific PUC approval. The request for approval will include a summary of the cost of service impacts and/or benefits of the proposed new affiliate investment.

#### 5. Other Costs & Revenues

Categories of non-power costs and revenues not addressed by the components addressed in Sections IV(A)(1-4) shall be set for the term of the Plan based on the reviewed three-year forecast of those costs and revenues, as set forth in **Attachment 1**.

#### B. Power Supply Cost And Retail Revenue (Forecasted And Updated Annually)

Final Multi-Year Regulation Plan

June 7, 2019

(as amended September 3, 2020 in Case No. 20-1401-PET)

Page 20 of 35

GMP's annual forecast of retail revenue and forecast of power costs shall be established using the following methodology: annually, a third-party vendor (Itron, Inc., or a similar outside consultant with expertise in the field of energy forecasting both throughout the country and within Vermont) will provide GMP with a weather-normalized retail revenue forecast and GMP will prepare a power supply forecast based upon the provided retail revenue forecast. The revenue forecast will take into account such factors as historical data, projections about economic growth and efficiency improvements, company tariffs, impacts on retail revenue due to greater solar net-metering, and any other known changes for the upcoming year. The power supply forecast will include expected expenses associated with serving the retail revenue load, including costs and wholesale market revenues related to energy, capacity, transmission, ancillary services, renewable energy credits, and Renewable Energy Standard compliance. These forecasted net expenses will reflect both GMP's production and purchased contract costs, along with interchanges with the wholesale power market. GMP shall provide to the Department of Public Service the retail

#### C. Income Taxes & Related Costs (Forecasted And Updated Annually)

GMP will annually forecast State and Federal Income Taxes, ADIT, and Gross Revenue & Fuel Gross Receipt Taxes based on the other authorized adjustments in overall income or power costs. The forecast of these costs will be updated annually and filed with the Annual Base Rate Filing.

revenue forecast and the power supply forecast promptly upon completion and at least

30 days prior to GMP's Annual Base Rate filing to facilitate the Department's review.

# D. Financing Costs - Return On Equity (Annual Update Based On Formula)

GMP's return on equity will be updated annually based on the formula established in this Plan. In FY20, GMP's ROE shall be indexed off of the ROE for the 2019 rate period in Case No. 18-0974-TF which was set by the Commission at 9.3%. In each ensuing year, indexing shall occur off of the ROE in effect for the current year. The

indexing shall be consistent with **Attachment 3.** Calculations showing the appropriate adjustment will be filed annually with the Annual Base Rate Filing.

# V. DESCRIPTION OF RATE ADJUSTORS, FILING PERIODS, AND EFFECTIVE DATES

The following rate adjustors, filing periods, and effective dates shall be applied during the term of the Plan.

# A. Retail Revenue Adjustor & Power Supply Adjustor

# 1. Retail Revenue Adjustor

The Retail Revenue Adjustor shall collect or return to customers, on a bills-rendered basis as described below, the difference between the actual retail revenue every Measurement Quarter and the forecasted retail revenue amount included in base rates for that quarter (the "Quarterly Retail Revenue Variance Amount"). The measurement periods and filing dates are as follows:

Retail Revenue Adjustor	Measurement Period	Filing Date	30 Day Review Period End Date	
FY 2020 - 2022				
Q1	Oct 1 Dec 31	Jan 30	Mar 1	
Q2	Jan 1 Mar 31	Apr 30	May 30	
Q3	Apr 1 - Jun 30	Jul 30	Aug 30	
Q4	Jul 1 Sept 30	Oct 30	Nov 30	

### 2. Power Supply Adjustor

The Power Supply Adjustor shall collect or return to customers, on a bills-rendered basis as described below, the difference between the actual power supply costs every

Measurement Quarter and the forecasted power supply costs included in base rates for that quarter, as adjusted by Power Supply Efficiency Calculation set forth below. The resulting figure is the "Quarterly Power Supply Variance Amount." The measurement periods and filing dates are as follows:

Power Supply Adjustor	Measurement Period	Filing Date	30 Day Review Period End Date
FY 2020 - 2022			
Q1	Oct 1 Dec 31	Jan 30	Mar 1
Q2	Jan 1 - Mar 31	Apr 30	May 30
Q3	Apr 1 - Jun 30	Jul 30	Aug 30
Q4	Jul 1 Sept 30	Oct 30	Nov 30

The Power Supply Adjustor Calculation shall be made as follows:

# i. Component A Quarterly Variance

The Component A Quarterly Variance for each Measurement Quarter, is the dollar amount of any variation between (a) actual Component A Costs for the Measurement Quarter, and (b) the Component A Costs included in the Company's base rates for the corresponding quarter, and shall be summed with:

#### ii. Component B Quarterly Variance

Calculated as follows:

a. The Component B Quarterly Variance for each Measurement Quarter is the dollar amount of any variation between (1) actual total Component B Costs for the Measurement Quarter, and (2) forecasted total Component B Costs included in the cost of service underlying the Company's base rates for the corresponding quarter, summed with the result of the Component B Cost Variance calculation.

Final Multi-Year Regulation Plan

June 7, 2019

(as amended September 3, 2020 in Case No. 20-1401-PET)

Page 23 of 35

b. The Component B Cost Variance calculation compares (a) the cost per

kWh achieved during the Measurement Quarter (actual Component B

Costs for the Measurement Quarter divided by actual retail kWh sales

volumes, in kWh for that quarter) with (b) the cost per kWh benchmark

(forecasted Component B costs for the Measurement Quarter divided by

forecasted retail kWh sales volumes for that quarter) and multiplies the

resulting variance (in \$ per kWh) by actual retail sales in kWh for the

Measurement Quarter. The Component B Cost Variance is then modified

by the amounts that GMP will absorb or retain—specifically, all

Component B Cost Variance up to the Component B Efficiency Band of

+\$150,000 (retained by GMP) and -\$307,000 (absorbed by GMP), plus

10% of any Component B Cost Variance outside of that Component B

Efficiency Band.

A list of the Company's Component A and Component B power supply costs

is attached as Attachment 4.

The Company shall maintain separate accounts for Component A and

Component B costs. The Power Supply Adjustor shall be reported as described

below, and then collected or returned to customers through an adjustment in

rates in the quarter following each report filing.

3. Return/Collection of the Retail Revenue Adjustor and Power Supply Adjustor

The quarterly adjustment associated with both the Retail Revenue Adjustor and the

Power Supply Adjustor shall be filed as described above in Section V(A). These

adjustors will be calculated separately, as described above, but the return/collection of

these adjustments to/from customers will be based on the methodology described in

Section VI below.

An example of how the Retail Revenue Adjustor and the Power Supply Adjustor will

be calculated, is attached as Attachment 5. The calculated variance for these two

Final Multi-Year Regulation Plan

June 7, 2019

(as amended September 3, 2020 in Case No. 20-1401-PET)

Page 24 of 35

Adjustors will be netted against the Major Storm Adjustor, and collected from or

returned to customers through a separate line item ("Current Energy/Major Storm

Adjustor") on the customers' bills in accordance with the methodology in Section VI.

B. Exogenous Change Adjustment

The Exogenous Change Adjustment has three components, (1) Non-Storm Exogenous

Changes (2) Exogenous Major Storm Changes during the Plan, and (3) collection of

Prior Major Storm costs, which were incurred before the start of the Plan. Each item

is described separately below.

1. Exogenous Non-Storm Changes

Exogenous Non-Storm Changes shall consist of material cost or revenue changes from

the Annual Base Rate filing. Exogenous Non-Storm Changes shall be measured over

each fiscal year. Cost or revenue changes are material if the aggregate amount in any

measurement period exceeds \$1.2 million, and they relate to the following:

1. Changes in tax laws that impact the Company.

2. Changes in Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.

3. Any Federal Energy Regulatory Commission or New England Independent System Operator rule, tariff or other changes affecting the Company and not a

part of the Power Supply Adjustor.

4. Other regulatory, judicial or legislative changes affecting the Company.

5. Net loss of major customer(s) load not related to weather and not a part of the

Retail Revenue Adjustor.

6. Major unplanned maintenance costs or investments, such as those incurred due to unexpected major maintenance (unrelated to storms) and major repairs to

to unexpected major maintenance (unrelated to storms) and major repairs to

Company-owned power plants and not a part of the Power Supply Adjustor.

The \$1.2 million for Exogenous Non-Storm changes is a threshold not a deductible. If

the threshold is met the total incremental impact of the Exogenous Non-Storm Change

will be reported 60 days after the end of each fiscal year, along with a proposal to

Final Multi-Year Regulation Plan

June 7, 2019

(as amended September 3, 2020 in Case No. 20-1401-PET)

Page 25 of 35

collect costs or return revenues to customers. This may include proposing to offset the

costs, or apply the revenue against, other annual adjustors in this Plan, or propose a

plan to collect from, or return these benefits to customers separately through a line-

item credit, as it has done for federal tax reform benefits as approved by the

Commission in 2018 and the Company's 2019 base rate filing in Case No. 18-0974-

TF.

Within 60 days after the end of each measurement period, the calculation associated

with Exogenous Non-Storm Change Adjustor shall be filed and subject to review and

comment by the Department. The Commission shall approve the proposed adjustments

no later than 45 days prior to April 1 of the following year, so that the Exogenous Non-

Storm Change Adjustor can be reflected as a separate line item on customer bills for

the ensuing 12 months, unless otherwise as ordered by the Commission, commencing

April 1 of each year.

2. Exogenous Major Storm Changes

Exogenous Major Storm Changes shall consist of increased costs experienced by the

Company relating to the incremental maintenance expenses incurred for Major Storms

(as defined in the Company's Service Quality & Reliability Performance, Monitoring

& Reporting Plan (the "SQRP")), and further defined as a storm that causes the

Company to incur incremental maintenance expenses in excess of \$1.2 million.

This per-storm \$1.2 million in maintenance costs is a threshold, which defines what

qualifies as a "Major Storm," and is not a per-storm deductible.

To the extent the Company experiences one or more "Major Storms," in a fiscal year it

may recover those costs from customers, minus a one-time annual \$1.2 million

deductible which is deducted from the total aggregate cost associated with all

qualifying Major Storms in any given fiscal year, except that the deductible shall not

be applied twice to costs associated with any individual storm in the event that

collection for those costs extend into a second fiscal year period. Once this annual \$1.2

Final Multi-Year Regulation Plan

June 7, 2019

(as amended September 3, 2020 in Case No. 20-1401-PET)

Page 26 of 35

million deductible is met in any fiscal year, GMP will collect costs associated with

Major Storms that occur during the term of the Plan in accordance with the

methodology described in Section VI below. In the quarter following the qualifying

storm, GMP will file a report documenting the invoiced costs associated with all Major

Storm costs above the \$1.2 million annual deductible that occurred in that quarter. (i.e.,

invoices for a storm occurring in January that are received by March 31 would be

reported 30 days from end of first quarter. Any invoices for this storm received after

March 31 would be reported in the next quarter (July 1).

3. Prior Major Storm Costs & Pre-MYRP Net Power Adjustments

Existing Exogenous Major Storm Costs for storms occurring prior to the start of the

Plan presently total approximately \$24 million ("Prior Major Storm Costs"). GMP will

collect these Prior Major Storm Costs through the Past Storm & Power Fixed Charge

on the bill on a surcharge percentage basis, in a total amount of \$8 million annually

from customers in all customer classes, in order to retire the existing balance by the

end of the 3-year Plan. Pursuant to an Order issued by the PUC on August 27, 2020

approving modifications to the Plan, GMP will also collect \$630,010 per year from

October 1, 2020 through the end of the Plan in the Past Storm & Power Fixed Charge

line item to cover the cost of power supply adjustors that pre-date the Plan.

C. Merger Savings Adjustment

The Merger Savings Adjustment shall reflect the rate treatment of the merger savings

O&M platform approved by the Commission in Docket 7770 and incorporated into the

three-year forecast of all non-power costs set at the beginning of this Plan. The

Company shall file the Merger Savings Report with supporting cost documentation, 60

days following the end of the fiscal year, and any over or under collection of actual

savings will be returned or collect as ordered by the Commission.

The Merger Savings Adjustment Report shall be filed no later than 60 days after the

end of the fiscal year.

Final Multi-Year Regulation Plan

June 7, 2019

(as amended September 3, 2020 in Case No. 20-1401-PET)

Page 27 of 35

# D. Earnings Sharing Adjustor Mechanism

Commencing on October 1, 2019, the Company's rates will be subject to an Earnings Sharing Adjustor for each rate period during the Plan term. No later than 60 days after the end of each fiscal year ("ESAM Measurement Period"), the Company shall file with the Commission and Department its Actual Earnings for the ESAM Measurement Period, the proposed Earnings Sharing Adjustor calculation and supporting information. The Earnings Sharing Adjustor will be returned to/collected from customers in an adjustment as described below that goes into effect April 1 of each rate period as a separate line-item on customer bills. Actual Earnings will be calculated on a regulatory basis based on the same methodology as the earnings cap calculation reflected in the PUC's Order in Docket Nos. 6946/6988 (i.e., exclude the Company's disallowed costs and results of unregulated operations (but business services shall be included in cost of service)). Actual Earnings shall include the earnings impact of the adjustments under this Plan but shall not include the earnings impact of shareholder merger-related adjustments to Base O&M Costs. The Variance Amount (as defined below) shall be deferred and amortized during the following base rate year ("ESAM Adjustment Period").

The Earnings Sharing Adjustor shall be calculated as follows:

#### 1. Calculation of Variance Amount:

- i. If Actual Earnings reflect an ROE that is within a range equal to 50 basis points below and 50 basis points above the Commission-approved ROE during the ESAM Measurement Period, there will be no Earnings Sharing Adjustor. This +/- 50 basis point band is the ESAM Efficiency Band.
- ii. If Actual Earnings reflect an ROE that is 50 to 125 basis points above or 50 to 150 basis points below Commission-approved ROE, 75% of the revenue benefit of the higher earnings is returned to, or 50% of the revenue impact of the lower earnings is collected from, customers in the Earnings Sharing

Final Multi-Year Regulation Plan

June 7, 2019

(as amended September 3, 2020 in Case No. 20-1401-PET)

Page 28 of 35

Adjustor. These + 50 to +125 basis points and -50 to -150 basis points bands

are the ESAM Sharing Bands.

iii. If Actual Earnings reflect an ROE that is 126 or more basis points above or

151 or more basis points below the Commission-approved ROE, the entire

revenue benefit or impact flows to customers in the Earnings Sharing Adjustor.

2. Calculation and Collection of Earnings Sharing Adjustor:

i. The Earnings Sharing Adjustor shall be a positive or negative fraction equal to:

a. the total dollar Variance Amount derived in Section V(D)(1) above,

divided by

b. projected revenues from Company charges during the ESA Adjustment

Period, based on the Forecast Methodology.

ii. The Earnings Sharing Adjustor fraction shall be applied to the revenue from

each rate element for each rate class.

iii. Over/under-collections of the Earnings Sharing Adjustor, due to a variance

between projected and actual revenues, shall be deferred and included in the

next base rate filing.

A sample calculation is attached as **Attachment 6**.

Within 60 days after the end of each measurement period, the calculation associated

with the Earning Sharing Adjustor shall be filed and subject to review and comment by

the Department. The Commission shall approve the proposed adjustment no later than

45 days prior to April 1 of the following year, so that the Earnings Sharing Adjustor

amount can be reflected as separate line item on customer bills for the ensuing 12

months, unless otherwise ordered by the Commission, commencing April 1 of each

year.

Final Multi-Year Regulation Plan

June 7, 2019

(as amended September 3, 2020 in Case No. 20-1401-PET)

Page 29 of 35

E. Emerald Ash Borer Assessment & Adjustor

The Plan establishes a separate line item assessment and associated adjustor to collect costs related to addressing reliability and safety issues caused by the infestation of the invasive Emerald Ash Borer, which has recently been confirmed in Vermont. GMP will be implementing an EAB Mitigation Plan to proactively remove ash trees in power line corridors that are confirmed to have EABs infestations or are at high risk of EAB infestation. The annual assessment to cover this work will be \$1.2 million in each fiscal year, which will be collected through a separate line item on customer bills, based on a surcharge as a percentage of revenue. Within 60 days following each fiscal year, GMP shall file an annual report on actual EAB expenditures under the mitigation plan, and identify any returns or collections necessitated by changes in the infestation spread rate which will be collected or returned through an adjustment to the EAB line item assessment. This adjustment shall be subject to DPS review and PUC approval prior

The \$1.2 million annual assessment will go into effect starting with rates in FY20 through a separate line item on customer bills. Within 60 days following each fiscal year, GMP shall file an annual report on actual EAB expenditures under the mitigation plan, and identify any returns or collections necessitated by changes in the infestation spread rate which will be collected or returned through an adjustment to the EAB line item assessment. This adjustment shall be subject to DPS review and PUC approval prior to implementation, and would be incorporated into rates following PUC approval and thirty-day notice to customers.

to implementation, and would be incorporated into rates immediately upon PUC

F. Rate Smoothing Adjustor

approval.

The Rate Smoothing Adjustor ("RSA") shall be established at the beginning of the Plan based on a three-year forecast of (1) non-power costs, (2) power supply costs and revenue, and (3) income taxes, and (4) an estimated return on equity for each year of the Plan. Based on this forecast, The RSA shall establish an annual amount that is

Final Multi-Year Regulation Plan

June 7, 2019

(as amended September 3, 2020 in Case No. 20-1401-PET)

Page 30 of 35

either added to or subtracted from the forecasted revenue requirement of FY20, FY21,

or FY22, in order to set a Projected Smoothed Base Rate for each fiscal year. The

Projected Smoothed Base Rate represents the projected average rate path target for each

fiscal year in the Plan that would be required to collect the then-forecasted revenue

requirement at a uniform projected rate change percentage over all three years.

Together with the RSA, a regulatory asset or liability account will be established at the

beginning of the Plan based on this forecast to account for any adjustments to the

forecasted costs or revenues in each fiscal year that are necessary to establish the

Projected Smoothed Rate. The regulatory asset or liability will reverse over the term

of the Plan and will be zero at the end of the Plan.

G. Residual Adjustments

The collection/return of all Adjustors under this Plan shall continue beyond the term of

the Plan as allowed by this Plan or otherwise ordered by the Commission. Any

over/under collection for any Adjustor under this Plan remaining at the end of its term

and not yet subject to a Commission order regarding its collection or return shall be

deferred and addressed in a future regulation plan or rate filing.

VI. RECOVERY OF THE RETAIL REVENUE, POWER SUPPLY, AND MAJOR STORM

ADJUSTORS

The recovery of the Retail Revenue, Power Supply, and Major Storm Adjustors will be in

accordance with the following methodology:

• For each measurement quarter, the quarterly retail revenue and power supply

variance amounts and the quarterly qualified major storm amount will be netted.

This netted balance shall be referred to as the "Quarterly Net Adjustment."

• If the Quarterly Net Adjustment for the current measurement quarter is in the

opposite direction of the Quarterly Net Adjustment for the prior measurement

quarter (i.e. the current quarter nets to a return and the prior quarter netted to a

collection), then the amounts of the two quarters will be netted against each other and the resulting remaining Quarterly Net Adjustment amount will be carried forward to the next quarter as a regulatory asset or liability.

• If the Quarterly Net Adjustment for the current measurement quarter is in the same direction as the Quarterly Net Adjustment from the prior measurement quarter, then the remaining Quarterly Net Adjustment from the prior measurement quarter will be collected /returned to customers starting on the first day of the next quarter over the subsequent 12 months unless otherwise requested or ordered by the Commission. This adjustment will be calculated such that the street lighting rate class continues to be excluded from any surcharge collections or returns associated with the Retail Revenue and Power Supply Adjustors.

An illustration of this methodology is as follows:

		Adjustor Qtrly	Over/(Under) C	Over/(Under) Collection Net Quarterly		Net Adjustment Colle	Collection	Recovery Request	Recovery Reques	1	
		Filing Date	PSA and Revenue	Storm	Adjustment	Awaiting Recovery	Trigger	Amount	Filing Date	Recovery Period	
Scenario 1											
10/1/XX to 12/31/XX	Q1FYX1	30-Jan	1,000,000	1,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000					
1/1/X1 to 3/31/X1	Q2FYX1	30-Apr	(500,000)		(500,000)	1,500,000					
4/1/X1 to 6/30/X1	Q3FYX1	30-Jul	1,000,000		1,000,000	2,500,000					
7/1/X1 to 9/30/X1	Q4FYX1	30-Oct	1,000,000	1,250,000	2,250,000	4,750,000	Q4 Results	2,500,000	October 30th	January 1 - December 31	
10/1/X1 to 12/31/X1	Q1FYX2	30-Jan	750,000	1,000,000	1,750,000	4,000,000	Q1 Results	2,250,000	January 30th	April 1 - March 31	
1/1/X2 to 3/31/X2	Q2FYX2	30-Apr	(1,000,000)		(1,000,000)	750,000					
4/1/X2 to 6/30/X2	Q3FYX2	30-Jul	250,000		250,000	1,000,000					
7/1/X2 to 9/30/X2	O4FYX2	30-Oct	(1,000,000)		(1,000,000)	_					

Within 30 days of the end of each quarter GMP will file a report summarizing the results of the quarter, along with the net amount to be returned to or collected from customers, if any, under the provisions of this Section and a proposed a line item charge for that amount based on a percentage of retail revenue to collect or return this amount over a 12-month period on a bills rendered basis beginning the first day of the next quarter (i.e., the second quarter after the triggering event quarter), unless otherwise requested or ordered by the Commission. This filing is subject to DPS review and PUC approval.

Final Multi-Year Regulation Plan

June 7, 2019

(as amended September 3, 2020 in Case No. 20-1401-PET)

Page 32 of 35

For accounting purposes, these quarterly variance amounts shall be deferred and

amortized in the Return/Collection Period in an amount equal to the revenue increases

or decreases that recover or repay the amortized amount.

This methodology was approved by PUC Order dated August 27, 2020 and is effective

as of October 1, 2020 with the first review period of the Q3FY2020 measurement

quarter (April 1, 2020 to June 30, 2020, reported July 30, 2020.)

At the end of the Plan any net deferred balances not yet approved for collection/return

to customers will be handled consistent with Section V(G) Residual Adjustments.

VII. INNOVATION AND PERFORMANCE METRICS

A. <u>Innovative Pilot Program</u>

The Innovative Pilot provision of the prior regulation plan continues through this Plan,

as outlined in Attachment 2. New Innovative Pilots developed during the term of the

Plan that are not already included in base rates (whether as an existing Pilot or

subsequent tariff) shall not result in any plant additions that cause rate adjustments

under this Plan, except insofar they are specifically requested to be included in base

rates under the New Initiatives exception in Section IV(A)(1)(iv). Any changes to

revenue or power supply cost that result from New Initiative programs will be included

in adjustments made pursuant to the Retail Revenue Adjustor or the Power Supply

Adjustor.

B. Vermont Energy Plan Investment

The Company shall continue to support Vermont's statewide energy goals by

advancing promising technologies (e.g. electric vehicles, heat pumps, energy storage,

solar power, etc.) and by exploring new services to facilitate efficient, low carbon

energy choices by electric customers and consistent with least cost principles.

C. Service Choices

The Company will continue to work with the Department to explore and implement

additional innovative service choices, including as the result of the implementation of

advanced automated meter reading technologies and infrastructure.

D. Service Quality

The Company's Service Quality & Reliability Performance Monitoring and Reporting

Plan ("SQRP"), as it may be amended from time to time, is hereby incorporated into

and made a part of this Plan.

E. Innovation & Performance Measurement Metrics

The Company shall measure and annually report on the Innovation and Performance

Metrics identified in **Attachment 7**. These metrics shall be measured on a fiscal year

basis and will be provided for purposes of tracking only. There will be no penalties or

incentives associated with tracking these metrics during the term of the Plan. An annual

report on these metrics shall be provided by at the same time as GMP's annual Plan

Evaluation under Section VIII(B) below.

VIII. OTHER PLAN COMPONENTS

A. Low Income

The Company shall match contributions by its customers to the Company's Warmth

Program, and the amount of the Company's match shall not be included in rates. In

addition, The Company will contribute 5% of any excess earned utility net income

above the allowed utility net income to its low-income customer support programs, after

consultation with the Department of Public Service and its Consumer Affairs division.

B. Plan Evaluation

Beginning January 30, 2021 and each year thereafter under the Plan, the Company shall

file a report with the Commission and Department evaluating the effectiveness of the

Final Multi-Year Regulation Plan

June 7, 2019

(as amended September 3, 2020 in Case No. 20-1401-PET)

Page 34 of 35

Plan's performance in achieving the goals of 30 V.S.A. § 218d. The evaluation shall

include the performance of the Plan relative to the innovative and performance metrics

set out in Section VII, and an update to the Action Plan included in the most recently

filed Integrated Resource Plan ("IRP"). In advance of filing the reports, the Company

shall confer with the Department with respect to the measurement criteria to be used in

the reports. The Company will continue to use the criteria jointly agreed-upon with the

Department in the annual reports assessing the Plan's effectiveness.

IX. LIMITATIONS ON OTHER RATE CHANGES

No general rate adjustment other than described herein will be implemented between

October 1, 2019 and September 30, 2022, except that the Company may seek temporary

rate increases pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 226(a) and the Company may file modified or new

tariffs for new services and adjustments on a revenue-neutral basis subject to Commission

approval pursuant to 30 V.S.A. §§ 225, 226, 227. The Company may also file non-tariffed

proposals for Innovative Pilot products or services beyond the basic sale of electricity that

are consistent with Vermont state energy policy, subject to Commission approval pursuant

to the process set out in **Attachment 2**. Nothing herein shall preclude the Department from

requesting a Commission Order requiring that a new or existing Innovative Pilot be offered

through a tariff.

X. MISCELLANEOUS

A. During the term of the Plan, the application of Title 30, including 30 V.S.A. §§ 218(a),

225, 226, 227 and 229, to GMP shall be modified by the provisions of the Plan and the

Commission order approving the Plan.

B. The Company shall continue to file concurrently with each Adjustor filing the type of

documentation it has previously filed under prior regulation plans with respect to each

type of filing.

Final Multi-Year Regulation Plan

June 7, 2019

(as amended September 3, 2020 in Case No. 20-1401-PET)

Page 35 of 35

C. The Company shall describe the Plan in a separate mailing at least one month prior to

the first rate adjustment under the Plan and shall work with the Department in the

development of customer communications and materials to be provided to customers.

The Company will also hold twice yearly meetings with customers, one in its northern

service territory and one in its southern service territory, to answer questions and

review its performance under the Plan, including a discussion of the innovation and

performance metrics tracked under the Plan.

D. Nothing in the Plan will be interpreted as preventing the Department from requesting a

Commission investigation into the Company's rates or the Commission from

undertaking such an investigation. The retroactive effect of any such investigation,

shall be consistent with 30 V.S.A. § 227(b).