

August 28, 2019

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
Request for Proposals for Pilot Programs to
Support Beneficial Electrification of the
Transportation Sector
(P.L. 2019, ch. 365, § 5)

ORDER APPROVING
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

BARTLETT, Chair; WILLIAMSON and DAVIS, Commissioners

I. SUMMARY

Through this order, the Commission approves and issues the attached Request for Proposals for Pilot Programs to Support Beneficial Electrification of the Transportation Sector (the RFP). The issuance of this RFP initiates the process for soliciting and reviewing proposals under P.L. 2019, ch. 365, § 5.

II. BACKGROUND

During its First Regular Session, the 129th Maine Legislature enacted An Act to Support Electrification of Certain Technologies for the Benefit of Maine Consumers and Utility Systems and the Environment, P.L. 2019, ch. 365, § 5 (the Act). The Act directs the Commission to seek proposals for pilot programs to support the beneficial electrification of Maine's transportation sector.¹

The Act defines "beneficial electrification" as electrification of a technology that reduces the use of a fossil fuel, including electrification of a technology that would otherwise require energy from a fossil fuel, and that provides a benefit to a utility, a ratepayer, or the environment (without causing harm to any of those) by improving the efficiency of the electricity grid or reducing consumer costs or emissions, including carbon emissions. P.L. 2019, ch. 365, § 1. The Act requires the Commission to seek "pilot programs that are limited in duration and scope" to meet these goals. *Id.* § 5.

III. DECISION

The RFP requires that pilot-program proposals be submitted to the Commission no later than Wednesday, November 20, 2019, and provides that the Commission will select proposals no later than March 1, 2020. The RFP lays out the definition of and

¹ The Act provides for a 2019 RFP release and a 2021 RFP release. This order and RFP pertain to the 2019 release only.

NOTICE OF RIGHTS TO REVIEW OR APPEAL

5 M.R.S. § 9061 requires the Public Utilities Commission to give each party to an adjudicatory proceeding written notice of the party's rights to review or appeal of its decision made at the conclusion of the adjudicatory proceeding. The methods of review or appeal of PUC decisions at the conclusion of an adjudicatory proceeding are as follows:

1. Reconsideration of the Commission's Order may be requested under Section 11(D) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (65-407 C.M.R. ch. 110) within **20** days of the date of the Order by filing a petition with the Commission stating the grounds upon which reconsideration is sought. Any petition not granted within **20** days from the date of filing is denied.
2. Appeal of a final decision of the Commission may be taken to the Law Court by filing, within **21** days of the date of the Order, a Notice of Appeal with the Administrative Director of the Commission, pursuant to 35-A M.R.S. § 1320(1)–(4) and the Maine Rules of Appellate Procedure.
3. Additional court review of constitutional issues or issues involving the justness or reasonableness of rates may be had by the filing of an appeal with the Law Court, pursuant to 35-A M.R.S. § 1320(5).

Note: The attachment of this Notice to a document does not indicate the Commission's view that the particular document may be subject to review or appeal. Similarly, the failure of the Commission to attach a copy of this Notice to a document does not indicate the Commission's view that the document is not subject to review or appeal.