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THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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COMMISSIONERS

Mark W. Dell'Orfano

Interim Chairman

Pradip K. Chattopadhyay



**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

21 S. Fruit St., Ste. 10  
Concord, NH 03301-2429

November 12, 2025

Her Excellency, Governor Kelly A. Ayotte  
and the Honorable Executive Council  
State House  
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

**REQUESTED ACTION**

The New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission requests **RETROACTIVE** authority to continue its membership and participation in the New England Conference of Public Utilities Commissioners (NECPUC) Vendor #162916, for an amount of \$24,000, effective upon Governor and Executive Council approval for the period October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2026. **100% Other (Utility Assessment).**

Funding is available in the account: Adjudicative Commissioners, Organizational Dues, as follows:

<u>Account</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>FY 2026</u>
02-52-55-550010-18920000-026-500251	Membership Fees	\$24,000

**EXPLANATION**

NECPUC is a non-profit organization comprising the utility regulatory bodies of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont. Established in 1947, NECPUC was incorporated in 1976. Every New England utility commissioner is a member of NECPUC for the duration of his or her tenure.

NECPUC provides regional regulatory assistance on matters of common concern to the six New England states, addressing issues challenging the electricity, gas, telecommunications, and water industries. NECPUC has no independent regulatory authority. RSA 374-F:8 requires that "The commission shall participate in the activities of the New England Conference of Public Utility Commissioners, and the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners," which requires membership in NECPUC.

In addition to funding the position of NECPUC Executive Director and the organization's administrative costs, NECPUC dues from each member state are used for regional activities

involving matters such as consumer protection, electric markets, and, more recently, utility cybersecurity. NECPUC also sponsors training programs for member states.

The Commission's request for approval is retroactive because the NECPUC membership invoice was received after the start of the membership year. A copy of the invoice is attached for your review.

Listed below are the Commission's responses to the standard questions required by the Governor and Council for organization dues and membership approval submissions:

- 1. How long has this organization existed, and how long has this agency been a member?** NECPUC has existed since 1947. The New Hampshire Public Service Commission was a founding member of NECPUC. Before and after its name change to the "New Hampshire Public Service Commission" in 1951, the Commission and New Hampshire's utility customers have benefited from the Commission's continued membership in NECPUC.
- 2. Is there any other organization that provides the same or similar benefits to which your agency belongs?** No. NECPUC is the only entity that provides regional education and coordination on issues of common concern, such as electricity, gas, water, and telecommunications.
- 3. How many other states belong to this organization, and is your agency the sole New Hampshire state agency that is a member?** The six New England states, Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont, are members of NECPUC. The Commission is the only New Hampshire agency in the organization.
- 4. How is the dues structure established? (Standard fee for all states, based on population, based on other criteria, etc.)** Each of the six states pays the same standard fee.
- 5. What benefit does the state receive from participating in this membership?** NECPUC provides regional regulatory assistance on matters of common concern to the utility commissions of the six New England states. Increasingly, utility policies are determined at the regional and national levels. New Hampshire's participation in NECPUC has successfully changed or prevented regional policies adverse to the interests of New Hampshire's utility customers.
- 6. Are training or educational/research materials included in the membership? If so, is the cost included? Explain in detail.** Yes. NECPUC sponsors training sessions to educate commissioners and commission staff. NECPUC also coordinates conference call briefings on federal and regional developments that affect New Hampshire.

7. **Is the membership required to receive any federal grants or required in order to receive or participate in licensing or certification exams? Explain.** No. Neither federal grants nor any licensing or certification exams depend on NECPUC membership. However,
8. **Is there any travel included with this membership fee? Explain in detail any travel to include the number of employees involved, the number of trips, destination if known and purposes of membership supported trips.** No. No travel is included in the Commission's NECPUC membership fee.
9. **Which state agency employees are directly involved with this organization? (Indicate if they are members, voting members, committee members, and/or officers or the organization.)** Interim Chairman Mark W. Dell'Orfano and Commissioner Pradip K. Chattopadhyay are directly involved with NECPUC, each serving on the NECPUC board of directors. Each New Hampshire commissioner serves on NECPUC's Board of Directors for the duration of their commissions. The NECPUC presidency rotates among the six New England states' commissions annually. A New Hampshire commissioner is next scheduled to serve as a NECPUC officer, specifically, as vice president, during the 2028-2029 membership year. Commission staff also participate in NECPUC activities and training.
10. **Explain in detail any negative impact to the State if the Agency did not belong to this organization.** New Hampshire benefits from the coordinated activities, regional advocacy, and staff training provided through the Commission's NECPUC membership. Many of New Hampshire's regulated utilities and energy suppliers also operate in one or more of the other five New England states. The Commission's ability to discuss issues, coordinate positions, and exchange information with its sister-state peers is invaluable to ensuring that New Hampshire ratepayers are protected from positions or policies that negatively impact their utility rates and services. Lastly, termination of the Commission's NECPUC membership, whether through non-payment of membership fees or otherwise, would violate state law. *See* RSA 374-F:8 ("The commission *shall* participate in the activities of . . . [NARUC] as the New Hampshire member agency[.]" (emphasis added)).

The Commission appreciates your thoughtful consideration of its request.

Her Excellency, Governor Kelly A. Ayotte and the Honorable Executive Council  
Re: Approval of NECPUC Membership Fees  
Date: November 12, 2025 | Page: 4

Faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Dell'Orfano', written in a cursive style.

Mark W. Dell'Orfano  
Interim Chairman  
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission

Attachment: NECPUC Invoice



New England Conference of Public Utilities Commissioners  
**necpuc**

Philip L. Bartlett, II, President  
Carrie Gilbert, Treasurer

October 1, 2025

Interim Chairman Mark Dell'Orfano  
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission  
21 South Fruit St., Suite 10  
Concord, NH 03301-2429

*via email*

Re: Invoice for NECPUC Dues for October 1, 2025 to September 30, 2026

Dear Interim Chairman Dell'Orfano:

On September 18, 2025, the NECPUC Board of Directors approved the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget for the New England Conference of Public Utilities Commissioners (NECPUC). As a result, dues in the amount of \$24,000 per state are payable for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, for which an invoice is enclosed. Please let me know if you have any questions, and thank you for your continued participation in NECPUC.

Very truly yours,

/s/ George Twigg  
Executive Director



*New England Conference of Public Utilities Commissioners*  
**necpuc**

Marissa Paslick Gillett, President  
Carrie Gilbert, Treasurer

**INVOICE #2025-05**  
**NECPUC Dues for Fiscal Year 2025-2026**  
**New Hampshire PUC**

Date: October 1, 2025

Bill To: Interim Chairman Mark Dell'Orfano  
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission  
21 South Fruit St., Suite 10  
Concord, NH 03301-2429

Terms: Due on receipt  
Check Payable to **NECPUC**  
Tax ID # 05-0376760

Description: Organizational dues for regional activities and coordination

**Amount due: \$24,000**

Please mail your check, payable to **NECPUC** at:

George Twigg  
NECPUC  
PO Box 9111  
Essex, VT 05451

Direct electronic transfer to a NECPUC bank account is also an acceptable payment method.  
Please contact us at [info@necpuc.org](mailto:info@necpuc.org) with any questions.

## SERVICES RENDERED BY NECPUC

The **New England Conference of Public Utilities Commissioners, Inc. (NECPUC)** is a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation comprising utility regulatory bodies of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont. NECPUC was established in 1947 and incorporated in 1976. Each New England utility commissioner is a member of NECPUC for the duration of his or her tenure. The presidency rotates among the six states on an annual basis.

NECPUC provides regional regulatory assistance on matters of common concern to the six New England states. NECPUC has no independent regulatory authority. It addresses issues challenging the electricity, gas, telecommunications, and water industries. NECPUC meets regularly throughout the year and sponsors an annual symposium on utility issues.

Services provided by NECPUC include:

- 1) Represent the joint interests of the members of the six public utility commissions and regulatory bodies in New England (Commissions) in regional utility and regulatory matters;
- 2) Provide information and training to the Commissions on regulatory matters;
- 3) Act as a liaison between the six states on regulatory matters;
- 4) Act as a liaison between Commissions and Federal regulatory agencies and utility trade organizations on regional utility matters;
- 5) Organize and assist in the conduct of regional meetings, inquiries, investigations and the hiring of necessary consultants and legal assistance on utility matters of common interest to the Commissions;
- 6) Render assistance to, and respond to the requests of Commission members and staff for information, data and analysis of regional regulatory utility issues; and
- 7) Follow and report on significant developments occurring at the federal and state levels on utility issues affecting the Commissions.