



April 15, 2020

BY E-MAIL

Mark D. Marini, Secretary  
Department of Public Utilities  
One South Station, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Boston, MA 02110

Re: Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil  
DPU 15-121 - Annual Grid Modernization Factor Filing

Dear Secretary Marini:

By Order dated February 7, 2019 in the above referenced docket, the Department determined that Unitil shall submit its annual Grid Modernization Factor ("GMF") filing by April 15th, for rates effective on June 1st. Previously, the Department determined that the annual GMF rate adjustment and reconciliation filings shall be comprised of: (1) actual, eligible preauthorized expenditures from the prior grid modernization plan investment year; and (2) a reconciliation component in the second year and beyond.

Overall, the Company is making significant progress towards the design and implementation of its Grid Modernization plan. The Company's efforts to date are better described as analysis, evaluation, specification, RFP, evaluation, initial purchase, and scope of work development. This approach has proven beneficial to our grid modernization efforts. The Company's analysis and design work has identified efficiencies such as combining Volt/VAR Optimization (VVO) functionality with the Advanced Distribution Management System (ADMS) and adjusting the schedule to align the Field Area Network (FAN), VVO, ADMS and Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) projects. Although a considerable amount of effort has been expended, Unitil has not closed any grid modernization projects in 2019. As a result, we do not seek to put a GMF in place for 2020.

If you should have any questions or comments, please contact me directly.  
Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary Epler".

Gary Epler  
Attorney for Unitil

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Gary Epler  
Chief Regulatory Counsel  
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Hampton, NH 03842

cc: Tina W. Chin, Hearing Officer (e-mail)  
Sarah Spruce, Hearing Officer (e-mail)  
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