STATE OF CONNECTICUT
PUBLIC UTILITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY

September 1, 2026
In reply, please refer to:
Docket No. 26-05-10

Re: Docket No. 26-05-10 – Application of the Connecticut Light and Power Company d/b/a Eversource Energy to Amend its Rate Schedules

Dear Docket Participants:

Due process entitles parties to an impartial adjudicator. Employees of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (Authority) may not participate in a matter if they have "any interest, financial or otherwise, direct or indirect . . . which is in substantial conflict with the proper discharge of his or her duties or employment in the public interest . . . ." General Statutes § 16-2(g); see also Conn. Agencies Regs. § 6-1-32 (adopting "[w]here applicable, the canons of professional ethics . . . ."). As a licensed Connecticut attorney, I am also required to adhere to the Rules of Professional Conduct.[1]

Immediately prior to my new role as the Agency Legal Director of the Authority, I served as the Director of the Office of Education, Outreach, and Enforcement (EOE). When I began my role as Agency Legal Director on July 24, 2026, I considered the degree to which I could remain impartial in proceedings that were open and pending during my tenure with EOE and would remain open and pending during my tenure in my new role with the Authority. I have chosen not to participate in any proceeding before the Authority in which I participated personally and substantially as a lawyer for EOE and/or in a supervisory capacity to EOE staff attorneys or EOE staff who directly engaged in the proceeding.[2]

In my role as EOE Director, I participated in procedural matters and conferences in this docket prior to Connecticut Light and Power Company d/b/a Eversource Energy (Eversource or Company) filing their rate amendment application in this proceeding on July 14, 2026. I contributed to the EOE correspondence dated May 29, 2026, related to Eversource's proposals regarding high volume redactions, the Appearance of Counsel filed by EOE on June 8, 2026, and Motion No. 6 requesting a notice for an EOE consultant, filed on June 8, 2026. Additionally, I participated in the June 16, 2026, procedural conference on behalf of EOE. Once I accepted the new position of Agency Legal Director, though had not yet assumed the role, I withdrew my appearance of counsel for EOE via correspondence on July 13, 2026. Eversource filed their rate amendment application in this docket on July 14, 2026. I will also note for the record

[1] See., e.g., Rule 3.5 ("Impartiality and Decorum", noting that "a lawyer is required to avoid contributing to [improper influence]").
[2] See e.g., Docket No. 25-11-13, Remand of the Application of Southern Connecticut Gas Company to Amend its Rate Schedules, and Docket No.25-11-14, Remand of the Application of Connecticut Natural Gas Corporation to Amend its Rate Schedules, Correspondence re Withdrawal of Appearance of Counsel and Non-Participation of Attorney Lopez, dated August 24, 2026.

that while I was involved in the perfunctory drafting of a motion for the Authority to provide notice and an opportunity to comment on EOE's request for a consultant, I was not involved in any request for proposal (RFP) selection process for retaining a consultant, and to my knowledge, EOE had not completed its RFP selection process prior to my withdrawal of appearance of counsel on July 13, 2026. Additionally, I sent a communication to all EOE staff on July 13, included as an attachment, directing them to not include me in any conversations or meetings related to the Company's rate case. Despite my participation for EOE in this docket prior to July 14, 2026, I do feel that I can maintain appropriate impartiality and decorum and participate in this proceeding in my role as Agency Legal Director for the remainder of this proceeding.

I will earnestly and carefully consider any concerns as to my participation in this proceeding in my new role as Agency Legal Director, and stakeholders are encouraged to raise such concerns at any time.

Sincerely,

Thomas Lopez

Thomas Lopez
Agency Legal Director
Public Utilities Regulatory Authority