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**Witness: Christopher E. Colorio, Mark P. Baldwin, John G. Griffin, Leanne M. Landry, Craig Dikeman and Matthew J. Correia**
**Request from: Office of Education, Outreach, and Enforcement**

**Question:**

(MS24A-VENDOR-LINE) Refer to Exhibit ACCT-2 CLP-1 and Confidential Exhibit ACCT-2 CLP-1A-20, pp. 119-138. The Company reported an incremental charge of $313,757 for the Vision Utilities Inc vendor. Respond to the following:

a. Referring to pp. 121 and 125, explain the specific work that was performed in support of the storm event. As part of the response, please clarify if the crews' activity was limited to standby or if they failed to fully complete the timesheets as outlined within the Eversource Contractor Storm Daily Time & Work Report Procedure provided at EOE-022, Att. 5.

b. Explain why the invoice (i.e., p. 119) includes two categories of standby billing when the vendor's pricing schedule (i.e., OCC-044, Att. 2 Confidential, p. 6886) identifies only a single classification of standby at a lower rate than billed. As part of the response, please identify the cumulative impact of permitting the vendor to bill at the higher standby rate versus the lower standby rate included within the pricing schedule. To the extent that certain hours were billed at the correct rates and others were billed at the incorrect rates, please provide an unlocked Excel spreadsheet demonstrating the calculation and cite the relevant documents.

c. Referring to OCC-044, Att.2 (Confidential), p. 6876-6924, confirm that the vendor's Exhibit A Pricing Schedule contains the Company's standard provisions, including "Standby Rates apply to labor resources only" (i.e., p. 6883). If not confirmed, cite the revised Exhibit A Pricing Schedule that was executed (signed) for 2024 and 2025 that excludes the standard provisions.

d. If subsection (c) is confirmed, identify the total impact of equipment charges that were billed during standby activities.

**Response:**

a. Vision Utilities Inc. performed storm work during MS24A, as confirmed by the multiple OMS tickets assigned to this contractor during their shift on January 10, 2024 (see table below). The notes from these numerous events include extensive tree clearing, re-hanging a considerable amount of wire, and replacing transformers. Once a contractor begins a shift, the applicable working rate remains in effect for the duration of that shift.

| Parent Event Number | Event Number | Begin Time | Crew |
|---|---|---|---|
| 5234516 | 5234516 | 1/10/2024 10:26:18 AM | VUI11-OH-MACINTYREB2 |
| 5234515 | 5234515 | 1/10/2024 10:25:59 AM | VUI11-OH-WYNDERE4 |
| 5234508 | 5234508 | 1/10/2024 10:21:52 AM | VUI11-OH-MELMICOVED3 |
| 5234504 | 5234504 | 1/10/2024 10:19:48 AM | VUI11-OH-COLLINSM5 |
| 5234331 | 5234331 | 1/10/2024 9:09:08 AM | VUI12-DD-MAULDIN J6, VUI12-OH-JETTJ1 |
| 5234216 | 5234216 | 1/10/2024 8:30:50 AM | EHP_Z1-RS-CUMMINGS, WBY-UG-KALANQUIN, VUI14-OH-HORTONS3, VUI14-OH-MOOREB5 |
| 5234161 | 5234161 | 1/10/2024 8:11:29 AM | EHP_Z1-RS-LEFEBVRE, VUI14-OH-LEONEA2, VUI12-OH-MARTING4, VUI12-OH-CLONTSR3, VUI12-DD- |
| 5233921 | 5233921 | 1/10/2024 6:36:24 AM | VUI11-OH-MELMICOVED3, VUI11-OH-WYNDERE4 |
| 5233905 | 5233905 | 1/10/2024 6:29:24 AM | VUI11-OH-COLLINSM5, VUI11-OH-MACINTYREB2 |
| 5233896 | 5233896 | 1/10/2024 6:22:20 AM | VUI11-DD-WILLIAMS M6, VUI11-OH-BREWER M1, ATE11-TR-CROSSMANK3 |
| 5233813 | 5233813 | 1/10/2024 5:36:15 AM | VUI14-OH-YAHNC4, VUI14-OH-QUINN S1, ATE1H-TR-YORGENSENN2, VUI14-OH-HORTONS3 |
| 5233794 | 5233794 | 1/10/2024 5:26:17 AM | VUI14-OH-YAHNC4, VUI14-DD-GAREYS6, ATE11-TR-CROSSMANK3 |
| 5233646 | 5233646 | 1/10/2024 4:30:51 AM | VUI13-OH-VOSSD1, VUI13-OH-DAVISJ3 |
| 5233595 | 5233595 | 1/10/2024 3:46:32 AM | VUI14-OH-MOOREB5 |
| 5233548 | 5233548 | 1/10/2024 3:18:25 AM | VUI13-OH-NICKELSONJ4, VUI13-OH-GIPSONM5, VUI13-OH-DAVISJ3 |
| 5233406 | 5233406 | 1/10/2024 2:18:17 AM | ATE1C-TR-MCGONIGALA1, VUI14-OH-LEONEA2, VUI14-OH-HORTONS3 |
| 5233334 | 5233334 | 1/10/2024 1:36:26 AM | ATE1C-TR-ADGALANISJ8, VUI12-OH-CLONTSR3 |
| 5233329 | 5233329 | 1/10/2024 1:33:57 AM | VUI13-OH-GIPSONM5 |
| 5233318 | 5233318 | 1/10/2024 1:29:56 AM | ATE1C-TR-WARFIELDL4, VUI12-OH-WALKERK5, VUI12-OH-MOOREJ2, EHP-OH-SCHERP, VUI12-OH-JETTJ1 |
| 5233264 | 5233264 | 1/10/2024 1:15:15 AM | VUI12-OH-JETTJ1, VUI12-DD-MAULDIN J6, VUI14-OH-QUINN S1, VUI14-OH-LEONEA2, ATE11-TR-KIRYCHUKD2, VUI14-OH-MOOREB5 |
| 5233239 | 5233239 | 1/10/2024 1:09:27 AM | ATE1C-TR-LYFORDC5, LCT12-TR-DEANGLEOS7, VUI13-OH-RACEG2, VUI13-DD-THOMPSONC6, VUI13- |
| 5233197 | 5233197 | 1/10/2024 1:06:04 AM | ATE1C-TR-PADUAH6, VUI12-OH-MARTING4 |
| 5232884 | 5232884 | 1/9/2024 10:57:21 PM | EH-OH-Ducharme, VUI13-OH-DAVISJ3 |

b. Contractors submit timesheets documenting a general description of the work activities performed during each shift. If a contractor indicates “standby” as their activity, this does

not necessarily mean that the contractor is being compensated at the standby rate. A contractor may use the term "standby" on their timesheet to indicate that they were awaiting dispatch or a new assignment during their shift. However, once the contractor' shift has commenced, the applicable working rate remains in effect for the full duration of the shift.

c. This is confirmed. The vendor's Exhibit A Pricing Schedule, contains the Company's standard provision stating that "Standby Rates apply to labor resources only."

The Company reiterates that the term "standby" may also appear on a contractor's timesheet as a description of the activity or status of a resource during a particular period. For example, a contractor may use "standby" to describe time between assigned tickets, time prior to receiving a ticket, or time following completion of a ticket while awaiting further direction from the Company.

The use of the term "standby" on a timesheet does not, by itself, indicate that the contractor is entitled to bill that time at the contractual standby rate. In many such circumstances, the contractor's resources have already mobilized to an assigned on-set or staging location, are fully prepared and available to perform work, and are awaiting further direction or assignment from Eversource. Such time may therefore be compensable at the applicable working rate depending on the circumstances, notwithstanding the contractor's use of "standby" as a descriptive notation on its timesheet.

d. Equipment was charged in the total amount of $8,352.