Date Filed: October 08, 2026

Witness: Brendan J. O'Brien, Garrett J. Murray, Leanne M. Landry and John G. Griffin
Request from: Office of Consumer Counsel

Question:

Drone Costs. Refer to the response to EOE-033.

a. Provide an explanation of the Creative Surveying Cost in 2025 and 2026.
b. Explain the large increase in this cost in 2025 and 2026 over the prior years.
c. State whether this cost is included in base rates or in the storm docket. If it is in base rates provide the amount included in the rate year and the revenue requirement schedule where it is located and explain why this expense is expected to occur annually.

Response:

Please refer to the Company's response to EOE-033-SP01[i].

Regarding part c, the original response to EOE-033[ii] incorrectly showed that Creative Surveying provided drone services in the test year.

Prior Referenced Responses:

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[i] EOE-033-SP01 Question:

(STORM – DRONE USAGE) Discuss the Company's use of drones in support of storm remediation efforts. As part of the response, identify when the Company first started using drones, explain the nature of these services as performed by either internal or external parties, and explain how these costs have impacted (i.e., reduced) other offsetting costs (i.e., patrols). Finally, provide a detailed listing of drone expenses by year (2018 through present), identify any drone-related capital additions (i.e., drone purchases), and identify where in the Company's application those costs are included.

EOE-033-SP01 Response:

The Company's original submission included a chart with inaccurate information. This supplemental answer provides corrected information.

Eversource has utilized drones for storm restoration support of electric distribution assets since 2019, when the Company first hired drone contractors. In 2020, the Company created an internal drone team and, since that time, the Company has utilized both contracted and internal resources for storm support. The Company's drone teams aid in storm restoration efficiency by delivering detailed images of aerial assets quickly and in a level of detail not typically

viewable from the ground, or in areas that cannot be traversed due to environmental factors. This capability allows the Company to better assess the circumstances of a particular damage location and to identify the work and materials that will be needed to address the damage, thereby improving the efficiency of the overall damage repair.

The chart below provides a listing of expenses and capital additions by year. The expenses in the test year were recorded to storm workorders and are, therefore, either deferred for future recovery ($293,774) or included in Exhibit CLP-REVEQ-2-A,B,C,D, Schedule C-3.28 (Storms: Non-Catastrophic / Pre-Staging Incremental Storm Expenses) ($153,000).

Purchases by the Service Company and the associated capital costs are billed to the Company as operating expense through: (1) EESCO Capital Return (Exhibit CLP-REVREQ-2-A,B,C,D, Schedule C-3.11; and (2) EESCO Depreciation expense (Exhibit CLP-REVREQ-2-A,B,C,D, Schedule C-3.35).

Expenses	**2018**	**2019**	**2020**	**2021**	**202.2**	**2023**	**2024**	**2025**	**2026**	**Total**
lnternaI Labor			19,605	10,082	18,588	54,771	50,157	29,704	7,556	190,463
Creative Surveying			18,084	29,709						47,792
Pinnaclx			5,366	1,950	13,099	11,872	11,259	5,943	12,993	62,482
VHB					3,209					3,209
Skyscape					15,847	6,924	28,827			51,598
TotalExpenses			**43,054**	**41,741**	**50,744**	**73,567**	**90,243**	**35,647**	**20,549**	**355,545**

[ii] EOE-033 Original Response:

Eversource has utilized drones for storm restoration support of electric distribution assets since 2019 when the Company hired drone contractors. In 2020, the Company created our internal drone team and since then, the Company has utilized both contracted and internal resources for storm support. The Company's drone teams aid in storm restoration efficiency by quickly delivering detailed images of aerial assets to a decision maker and identifying potential issues not typically seen from the ground, or in areas that cannot be traversed due to environmental factors. This in turn reduces costs by increasing reliability and reducing outages for our customers.

Refer to the charts below for a listing of expenses and capital additions by year. The expenses in the test year were recorded to storm workorders and are therefore either deferred for future recovery ($293,774) or included in Exhibit CLP-REVEQ-2-A,B,C,D, Schedule C-3.28 (Storms: Non-Catastrophic / Pre-Staging Incremental Storm Expenses) ($153,000). The assets are purchased by the Service Company and those capital costs are billed to the Company as operating expenses though (1) EESCO Capital Return (Exhibit CLP-REVREQ-2-A,B,C,D, Schedule C-3.11) and (2) EESCO Depreciation expense (Exhibit CLP-REVREQ-2-A,B,C,D, Schedule C-3.35).

Expenses	**2018**	**2019**	**2020**	**2021**	**2022**	**2023**	**2024**	**2025**	Jun YTD 2026	Total
Internal labor			19,605	10,082	18,588	54,771	50,157	29,704	7,556	190,463
Creative Surveying			18,084	29,709				446,774	555,644	1,050,210
Pinnaclx			5,366	1,950	13,099	11,872	11,259	5,943	12,993	62,482
VHB					3,209					3,209
Skyscape					15,847	6,924	28,827			51,598
Total Expenses			**43,054**	**41,741**	**50,744**	**73,567**	**90,243**	**482,421**	**576,193**	**1,357,963**

Capital Additions	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Jun YTD 2026	Total
Drones					583,392	291,391	173,095	459,639		1,507,517