Date Filed: September 24, 2026

Witness: Craig Dikeman, Matthew J. Correia, Brendan J. O'Brien and Garrett J. Murray
Request from: ALLCO

Question:
With respect to the approximately $3.1 million of rate case expense included in the proposed revenue requirement (Exhibit CLP-REVREQ-1; response to REVREQ-9), including the approximately $1.875 million estimate for Keegan Werlin LLP: (a) produce the engagement letter(s), fee agreement(s), rate schedules, and any budget or estimate for each outside firm and consultant included in rate case expense; (b) state the amounts billed and paid to date, by firm; (c) state whether the Company considered performing any of the rate case legal work with its internal legal function or solicited proposals from any other firm, and if not, why not; and (d) explain how the Company determined that the estimated amounts are reasonable for recovery from ratepayers.

Response:

(a) Refer to the following attachments for the engagement letter for rate case services:

- ALLCO-027 Attachment 1 CONFIDENTIAL, for Keegan Werlin LLP bid proposal.
- ALLCO-027 Attachment 2 CONFIDENTIAL, for Keegan Werlin LLP engagement letter notifying KW its bid was accepted.
- ALLCO-027 Attachment 3 for a listing of contracts with outside firms and consultants included in rate case expense
- ALLCO-027 Attachment 4 CONFIDENTIAL, for contracts listed in Attachment 3
- ALLCO-027 Attachment 5 CONFIDENTIAL, for contracts listed in Attachment 3

(b) Refer to ALLCO-027 Attachment 9 for the summary billed by vendor through June 2026.

- See also ALLCO-27 Attachment 10 CONFIDENTIAL for Keegan Werlin invoices through May 31, 2026.

(c) The Company considered the capabilities of its internal staff to perform the rate case legal work when making decisions whether to seek outside service providers. The decision was made to utilize internal staff for a portion of rate case work and to solicit proposals for an

outside vendor to assist with the other portion of rate case legal work.[1]. The Company does not maintain sufficient internal legal resources to fulfill the substantial work requirements of the ongoing typical workload of both CL&P and Yankee Gas Services Company d/b/a Eversource Energy, while also tending to high demand, unusual proceedings like a base rate because these types of proceedings occur at irregular intervals.

Therefore, the Company's legal staff contacted law firms that either had experience with utility rate matters or have attorneys on staff with rate making or rate case experience. The Company issued a request for proposal ("RFP") to three law firms for assistance with legal services for the rate case, presented in ALLCO-27 Attachment 6.

The responses to this RFP are provided in ALLCO-27 Attachment 7 CONFIDENTIAL, and ALLCO-027 Attachment 8 CONFIDENTIAL. See also ALLCO-27 Attachment 1 CONFIDENTIAL.

The Company selected Keegan Werlin because of its specialized expertise and resources in handling base-rate proceedings, its prior experience working with the Company, the large volume of legal work associated with a rate-case proceeding and Keegan Werlin's staffing to handle that work; the existing workload of in-house legal staff; and the firm's competitive pricing.

(d) The Company is aware of the requirement to contain costs for outside services providers and has taken steps to ensure costs are negotiated to the lowest levels possible while still receiving the highest quality of service. Initially, when the decision was made to use an outside service provider, the Company competitively bid these services as described above. Once an outside service provider is selected, the Company limits the total contract costs through mechanisms such as blended hourly fees, discounts and not-to-exceed levels.

Additionally, as discussed above, the rate case requires a large volume of legal work from highly experienced and specialized legal staff. All of this work is relevant and necessary to the preparation and presentation of the Company's rate case proceeding.

[1] The RFP states at page 2 "For planning purposes, approximately **75%** of the legal work for this rate case will be provided by the winning bidder of this RFP"