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Witness: Rice, Brian J
Request from: Public Utilities Regulatory Authority

Question:

Order No. 19 Compliance, July 30, 2026. Discuss the extent to which a lower number of NRES bids received decreases the staff time required for bid review, tariff agreement award and processing activities.

Response:

A lower number of NRES bids received may result in some reduction in the staff time required for bid review, tariff agreement award, and processing activities; however, Eversource does not expect the reduction to be material.

Eversource reviews and processes NRES bids in batches, and the review process requires staff to complete the same categories of screening and evaluation activities regardless of the number of bids received. Accordingly, a reduction in the number of bids does not result in a proportional reduction in the staff time required to conduct the review and processing activities. While fewer bids may reduce the amount of project-specific review and processing to some extent, the overall staff time required to complete the bid review and tariff agreement award and processing activities would generally remain similar.

Therefore, although a lower number of bids may slightly reduce staff time associated with these activities, the Company does not anticipate that lower bid volume would result in a material reduction in the overall staff time required for bid review, tariff agreement award, and processing.