

1 **Testimony of Douglas B. Jester and Benjamin A. Stafford on Behalf of Conservation Law**
2 **Foundation, Sierra Club, Natural Resources Defense Council and People's Power and**
3 **Light In Support of the Proposed Settlement**
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7 **Q. Please state for the record your names.**

8 A. Two of us are testifying as a panel. One of us is Douglas B. Jester. I am a Partner of 5
9 Lakes Energy LLC, a Michigan limited liability corporation, located at Suite 710, 115 W
10 Allegan Street, Lansing, Michigan 48933. The other of us is Benjamin Stafford, a Senior
11 Consultant with 5 Lakes Energy LLC. We both previously submitted testimony in one of
12 these dockets, the PST Docket, # 4780.

13 **Q. On whose behalf is this testimony being offered?**

14 A. Conservation Law Foundation, Sierra Club, Natural Resources Defense Council, and
15 People's Power & Light.

16 **Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?**

17 A. We are testifying in support of the proposed settlement in the combined Dockets ## 4770
18 and 4780.

19 **Q. Specifically with regard to those portions of the settlement pertaining to Advanced**
20 **Metering Infrastructure (AMI), do you believe they are beneficial and advance the**
21 **state's power sector transformation goals?**

1 A. Yes, we do.

2 **Q. Mr. Jester, please explain the basis for that conclusion.**

3 A. In my previous testimony, I testified (pages 10-11) about the importance of AMI in the
4 context of broader Power Sector Transformation (PST). The terms of the proposed
5 settlement recognize properly the importance of AMI to PST and include an aggressive
6 schedule for completion of an AMI study that is expected to lead to an appropriate time
7 line for implementation of Time of Use rates. The settlement also includes provisions
8 that I previously testified in favor of on pages 29 to 31 of my previous testimony. In my
9 opinion, the AMI provisions in the proposed settlement will advance PST, grid
10 modernization, and the conclusions of the PUC's Docket # 4600 Guidance Document.

11 **Q. Specifically with regard to those portions of the settlement pertaining to electric**
12 **vehicles (EVs), do you believe they are beneficial and advance the state's power**
13 **sector transformation goals?**

14 A. Yes, we do.

15 **Q. Mr. Jester, Please explain the basis for that conclusion.**

16 A. In my previous testimony, I testified at length (pages 31 – 48) about the importance of
17 EV adoption in Rhode Island. The terms of the proposed settlement recognize the
18 importance of EV adoption in achieving Rhode Island's Zero Emissions Vehicle (ZEV)

1 and greenhouse gas reduction goals and will provide wide-ranging benefits to ratepayers
2 and Rhode Islanders more broadly. The settlement affirmatively addresses many of the
3 recommendations I made in my testimony, which I continue to believe will strengthen the
4 suite of electric transportation-related offerings and increase its benefits.

5 **Q. Specifically with regard to those portions of the settlement pertaining to beneficial**
6 **electrification in the heating sector, do you believe they are beneficial and advance**
7 **the state's power sector transformation goals?**

8 A. Yes, we do.

9 **Q. Mr. Stafford, please explain the basis for that conclusion.**

10 A. In my previous testimony, I testified at some length (pages 8 -13) about the importance of
11 high-efficiency electric heat pumps. The terms of the proposed settlement recognize the
12 importance of strategic electrification of home heating in Rhode Island and include a
13 helpful plan for increasing access to efficient electric home heating. The settlement also
14 reflects modifications that are consistent with the priorities identified in my testimony,
15 which I believe will increase the benefits of the electric heating proposal consistent with
16 the state's power sector transformation goals.

17 **Q. Does this conclude your testimony?**

18 A. Yes, it does.