Patricia Martin
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July 23, 2017

VIA E-MAIL
Debra Howland Executive Director and Secretary
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord New Hampshire 03301

RE: DG 17-068
Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities - Keene Division
Petition for Declaratory Ruling

Dear Ms. Howland:

I respectfully request that the Public Utilities Commission deny Liberty Utilities a Declaratory Ruling on their franchise request for Keene, NH. Granting a franchise without a full hearing and input from the community is unreasonable.

All weekend, NHPTV ran a documentary produced by Franklin Pierce University, "From Hurricane to Climate Change: A Region Responds." The documentary highlights the efforts made by the Monadnock Region, and Keene in particular, to develop climate resilience and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Any plans by Liberty Gas to make 20 to 50 year infrastructure investments for natural gas service in Keene ought to be scrutinized and weighed against other alternatives.

Although fracked gas is at record lows today, we must remember that the goal of the industry is not to continue pumping cheap gas; but to increase demand (and prices) via export facilities like Pieridae's Goldboro LNG terminal currently under construction in Nova Scotia. The Goldboro website reports that it will be fed via the Maritimes & Northeast pipeline which reversed its flow during the Atlantic Bridge project. The future of cheap fracked gas is uncertain, http://www.utilitydive.com/news/naruc-2017-are-the-days-of-cheap-natural-gas-numbered/447437/

It may well be that the Public Utilities Commission will refuse to consider the implications of climate change or the health impacts of a new decompression and regulator facility in Keene, but it should not deny the opportunity for people to express their concerns to the Commission and their neighbors.

Thank you very much for considering my comment on this matter.

Sincerely,

Patricia A Martin