THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DG 10-249

NEW HAMPSHIRE GAS CORPORATION

2010-2011 Winter Period Cost of Gas Adjustment

ORDER OF NOTICE

On September 15, 2010, New Hampshire Gas Corporation (NHGC), a public utility providing propane air service to approximately 1,110 customers in Keene, New Hampshire, filed revisions to its tariff providing for its cost of gas (COG) rates for the winter period, November 1, 2010, through April 30, 2011. The proposed COG rate is \$1.5025 per therm, a \$0.0125 per therm increase from the weighted average COG rate of \$1.4900 per therm for last winter. NHGC also proposed a \$1.5225 per therm rate for its fixed price option program, a \$0.1823 per therm increase compared to the fixed price option rate of \$1.3402 per therm for last winter. On October 30, 2009, by Order No. 25,039, the Commission approved an increase in NHGC delivery rates to be phased in over three years. Accordingly, on November 1, 2010, the start of year two, the delivery rate will increase approximately five percent. In Order No. 25,118 (June 24, 2010), the Commission approved a surcharge to recover an under recovery during the temporary rate period and rate case expenses that will expire October 31, 2010. The cumulative effect of the aforementioned rate changes for a typical residential heating customer is that this winter's gas bill is expected to be \$2,396 compared to a total bill of \$2,393 for last winter. In addition, NHGC has requested a waiver from New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rule Puc 1203.05, in order to implement the rate change on a bills-rendered basis. The petition and subsequent docket filings, other than information for which confidential treatment is requested of or granted by the Commission, will be posted to the Commission's website at http://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docket/2010/10-249.htm.

The filing raises, <u>inter alia</u>, issues related to the reasonableness of rates and charges pursuant to RSA 378, including forecasting of sales, supplier prices and transportation prices, operational issues and reconciliation of prior period costs and revenues. Each party has the right to have an attorney represent them at their own expense.

Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby

ORDERED, that a hearing on NHGC's 2010-2011 winter COG filing be held before the Commission located at 21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire on October 14, 2010, at 1:30 p.m.; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that pursuant to N.H. Admin. Rules Puc 203.12, NHGC shall notify all persons desiring to be heard at this hearing by publishing a copy of this Order of Notice no later than September 24, 2010, in a newspaper with general circulation in those portions of the state in which operations are conducted, publication to be documented by affidavit filed with the Commission on or before October 14, 2010; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that pursuant to N.H. Admin. Rules Puc 203.17, any party seeking to intervene in the proceeding shall submit to the Commission seven copies of a Petition to Intervene with copies sent to NHGC and the Office of the Consumer Advocate on or before October 11, 2010, such Petition stating the facts demonstrating how its rights, duties, privileges, immunities or other substantial interest may be affected by the proceeding, as required by N.H. Admin. Rule Puc 203.17 and RSA 541-A:32, I(b); and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that any party objecting to a Petition to Intervene make said Objection on or before October 14, 2010.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this twentieth day of September, 2010.

Debra A. Howland Executive Director

Individuals needing assistance or auxiliary communication aids due to sensory impairment or other disability, should contact the Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator, NHPUC, 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire 03301-2429; 603-271-2431; TDD Access: Relay N.H. 1-800-735-2964. Notification of the need for assistance should be made one week prior to the scheduled event.

