

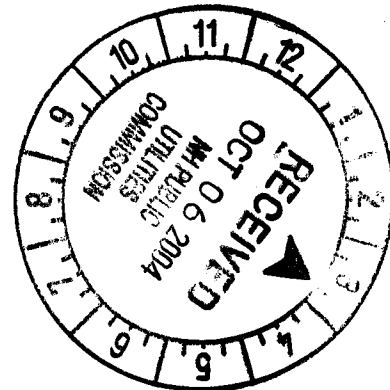


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October 5, 2004

**FEDERAL EXPRESS**

Debra A. Howland, Executive Director and Secretary  
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission  
21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10  
Concord, NH 03110



**Re: Proof of Publication - Docket No. DG 04-162**

Dear Ms. Howland:

In accordance with the NHPUC Order in DG 04-162, please find enclosed Northern Utilities' Original Affidavit of Publication and the copy of the notice that appeared in the following paper:

The Union Leader, September 24, 2004.

Sincerely,

*Susan B. Kullberg*  
Susan B. Kullberg  
Regulatory and Tariff Administrator

Enclosure

cc: Patricia French, Esq. Northern Utilities, Inc.  
File

## Affidavit of Publication

I, Susan B. Kullberg, Regulatory and Tariff Administrator, Northern Utilities, Inc., hereby certify that publication of the Order of Notice issued on September 21, 2004 in Docket No. DG 04-162, has been made and given as directed.

Susan B. Kullberg  
Susan B. Kullberg  
Regulatory and Tariff Administrator

On this 5<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2004, before me, the undersigned notary public, personally appeared Susan B. Kullberg, whose identity is personally known to me and is the person whose name is signed on this document, and who swore or affirmed to me that the contents of the document are truthful and accurate to the best of her knowledge and belief.

Stella Deiana  
Stella Deiana  
Notary Public

My Commission Expires:

**Legal Notice**

**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
DG 04-162**

**ORDER OF NOTICE**

On September 15, Northern Utilities, Inc. (Northern) filed with the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission (Commission) its Cost of Gas (COG) for the period November 1, 2004 through April 30, 2005 and its Local Delivery Adjustment Charges and Supplier Balancing Charges for the period November 1, 2004 through October 31, 2005. Northern also filed a Motion for Protective Order and Confidential Treatment. The proposed residential COG rate is \$0.0245 per therm, a \$0.0595 per therm decrease over the weighted Residential COG rate of \$0.0840 per therm for last winter. The proposed commercial/industrial low winter use COG is \$0.6736 per therm and the proposed commercial/industrial high winter use COG is \$0.9978 per therm.

The proposed surcharge to recover environmental remediation costs is \$0.0105 per therm, an increase of \$0.0019 per therm from the current environmental surcharge.

The proposed surcharge to recover the cost of the Wells Liquid Natural Gas tank exit fee is \$0.0068 per therm, an increase of \$0.0005 per therm from the current Wells surcharge of \$0.0063 per therm.

The proposed Conservation Charge for residential customers is \$0.0093 per therm, a decrease of \$0.0165 per therm from the current rate of \$0.0168 per therm. The proposed Conservation Charge for Commercial and Industrial (C&I) customers is a credit of (\$0.0058) per therm, a reduction of \$0.0252 per therm from the current rate of \$0.0194

ing charges, the charges that suppliers are required to pay Northern for balancing services as Northern attempts to meet the shifting loads for the supplier's customer pools. The proposed peak demand charge is an increase of \$0.00 per MMBtu from the current rate of \$0.70 per MMBtu and the proposed Peaking Demand Charge of \$18.00 per MMBtu of Peak Maximum Daily Quantity (MDQ) is an increase of \$0.93 per MMBtu from the current rate of \$17.07 per MMBtu of Peak MDQ. The charges for

The proposed capacity allocator percentages used to allocate pipeline, storage and local peaking capacity to a customer's supplier under New Hampshire's mandatory capacity assignment, required for firm

upcoming year. The estimated impact of the proposed firm sales cost of gas and revised surcharges on a typical residential heating customer is a decrease of approximately \$0.00 per therm.

The filing raises, inter alia, issues related to: RSA 378 relative to rates, forecasting of sales, supplier prices and transportation prices, purchasing decisions related to the current and past winter supplies and capacity, revenue projections related to transportation services and released capacity, the causes and treatment of substantial over and under recoveries, the reconciliation of prior period costs and revenues, and the prudence of environmental remediation costs for which recovery is being sought and not previously approved by the Commission.

based upon the foregoing, it is hereby ORDERED, that a Hearing be held before the Commission at 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire on October 19, 2004 at 10:00 a.m.; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that the Northern Staff of the Commission and intervenors hold a technical session at the Commission on October 7, 2004 at 10:00 a.m.; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that pursuant to N.H. Admin. Rules Puc 203.01 Northern this hearing by publishing a copy of this Order of Notice no later than September 25, 2004, in a newspaper of general circulation or of general circulation in those portions of the state in which the hearing is conducted, publication to be documented by affidavit filed with the Commission.

FURTHER ORDERED, that pursuant to N.H. Admin. Rules Puc 203.02, any party seeking to intervene in the proceeding shall submit to the Commission an original and eight copies of a Petition for Intervention on or before October 14, 2004, such Petition stating the facts demonstrating how its rights, duties, privileges, immunities or other substantial interests may be affected by the proceeding as required by N.H. Admin. Rules Puc 203.02

objecting to a party's intervention in said objection on or before September 20, 2004. By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this twenty-first day of September, 2004.

Debra A. Howland  
Executive Director & Secretary  
Individuals needing communication aids due to hearing impairment or other disability, should contact the Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator, NHPUC, 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire 03301-2429; 603-735-2964. TDD Access: Relay N.H. 800-833-6399. Notification of the need for assistance should be made one week prior to the scheduled event. (UL - Sept. 24)

foregoing notice  
HAMPSHIRE  
NH by The UJ  
Viz: Sept

(ed) Ell

(ed) September 27, 2004

by the said Ellen I Anzalone

me Therese M Landry  
Therese M Landry Notary Public

TERESE M. LANDRY, Notary Public  
My Commission Expires March 6, 2007