

Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities

DG 15-289

Petition for Approval of a Gas Franchise for Lebanon and Hanover, New Hampshire

Ariel Arwen's Data Requests - Set 1

Date Request Received: 9/25/15
Request No. Arwen 1-10

Date of Response: 10/5/15
Respondent: Michael Licata

REQUEST:

Ref NH Climate Action Plan. Please explain how the proposed expansion is consistent with the goals of reducing overall greenhouse gas emissions, including but not limited to carbon dioxide and methane, "over the next one to two decades while positioning the residents, government, businesses, industries, and not-for-profits to achieve still greater future reductions as technological, economic, political and social changes allow". Specifically, using the CO₂-equivalent metric and considering the entire life cycle greenhouse gas emissions from well head to burner tip, how will the greenhouse gas footprints of the proposed anchor customers be affected by a change to natural gas?

RESPONSE:

The proposed expansion of EnergyNorth's distribution system in Hanover and Lebanon will allow the residents and businesses in those municipalities to select natural gas as a fuel source, which produces approximately 30% less carbon dioxide emissions when combusted compared to the fuels currently being utilized in the communities¹. The Company is also exploring utilizing methane currently begin collected and flared at the Lebanon Landfill as an additional supply option. Initial estimates show that methane collected at the landfill could initially provide approximately 100,000 dekatherms of supply annually. In addition the Company is also exploring the feasibility of capturing methane from the City Wastewater Treatment Plant, via the installation of an anaerobic digester. The Company has had initial discussions with municipal officials regarding these options and the Company's chosen facility location was, in part, driven by its desire to utilize the methane, currently being flared at the Lebanon Landfill.

In addition to the direct emissions reductions associated with the combustion of a less carbon intensive fuel, potential customers will be able to access energy efficiency programs as described in the Company's response to Arwen 1-8.

Replacement of CO₂ intensive fuels like propane and oil with natural gas, coupled with the utilization of renewable landfill and biogas and the increased accessibility and adoption of energy efficiency programs are consistent with the New Hampshire Climate Action Plan

¹ U.S. Energy Information Administration Carbon Dioxide Emissions Coefficients
- http://www.eia.gov/environment/emissions/co2_vol_mass.cfm

Recommended Action 1.1 – Maximize Energy Efficiency in New Construction, Recommended Action 1.2 – Maximize Energy Efficiency in Existing Residential Buildings, Recommended Action 1.3 – Maximize Energy Efficiency in Existing Commercial, Industrial, and Municipal Buildings, Recommended Action 2.1 – Create Incentive Programs to Install Higher-Efficiency Equipment, Processes, and Systems, Recommended Action 3.1 – Increase Renewable Energy and Low-CO₂e Thermal Energy Systems and Recommended Action 2.4 – Encourage the Use of Biogenic Waste Sources for Energy Generation.

The Company is unable perform a comparative analysis of the complete natural gas supply chain that would be used to serve the communities, as such an analysis is largely dependent on accurate emissions data from the specific sites where the commodity would be extracted, as well as comparable data from the propane and heating oil suppliers and wells that are currently being utilized to serve the community and anchor customers. The Company has previously stated that it intends to procure the supply needed to serve the communities through an RFP process that could result in the commodity being procured from a number of different locations.

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Petition for Approval of a Gas Franchise for Lebanon and Hanover, New Hampshire

Ariel Arwen's Data Requests - Set 3

Date Request Received: 12/7/15
Request No. Arwen 3-1

Date of Response: 12/15/15
Respondent: Michael Licata

REQUEST:

In the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services' "NH Climate Action Plan", targets are set of reducing greenhouse gas emissions 20% below 1990 levels by 2025 and 80% by 2050. If these goals remain in place, how does Liberty Utilities expect to provide service that would comply with these goals, even after taking into consideration the lower carbon footprint (at combustion) of gas over fuel oil and coal? Please specifically refer to the 2025 target and separately to the 2050 target.

RESPONSE:

Please see response to Arwen 1-10.

DG 15-155
Valley Green Hanover-Lebanon Franchise Petition
Data Requests from Commission Staff
Staff Set 3 to Valley Green Natural Gas, LLC

Date Request Received: 11/20/15
Request No. Staff 3-10

Date of Response: 12/7/15
Witness: James W. Campion, IV

REQUEST: Ref. Staff DR 1-2. Please calculate the revenue requirement and rates using the attached Excel format and a 40 year average service life to calculate depreciation on structures. Please provide the response in both hard copy and electronic (Microsoft Excel) formats, with all data and formulas intact.

RESPONSE: See CONFIDENTIAL Supplemental Staff 1-2, attached.

Valley Green understands Staff seeks to have Valley Green provide information for future test years 2017 and 2020 and complete Schedule 1, Revenue Requirement; Schedule 2, Revenue, Expenses, and Income; Schedule 3, Working Capital, Rate Base; and Schedule 4, Rate of Return.