

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

DG 16-223

**LIBERTY UTILITIES (ENERGYNORTH NATURAL GAS)
CORP. d/b/a LIBERTY UTILITIES**

**Petition for License to Construct and Maintain a
Natural Gas Pipeline Beneath the Soucook River in Two Locations**

Summary of Order *Nisi* No. 25,925 Granting Water Crossing License

July 26, 2016

On July 26, 2016, the Commission approved a petition filed pursuant to RSA 371:17 by Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities (Liberty), for a license to construct and maintain a natural gas pipeline beneath the public waters of the Soucook River at two separate locations in Loudon, New Hampshire. New construction is needed to reinforce a 50-year old, 6-inch diameter gas main, by installing a new 12-inch diameter gas main.

The project is a 5.5-mile segment of the multi-year, long-term “Tilton Hi-Line Reliability Project” that runs from the existing 12-inch steel gas main at Josiah Bartlett Road along the east side of Route 106 for approximately 5 miles, then westerly on Shaker Road for another 3,200 feet, ending at a regulator station at Old Shaker Road in Loudon. The project will serve to improve reliability by reducing the need for pressure support during cold days, thus increasing winter reliability to Liberty’s customers, and it will also allow for future growth.

The Commission directed that Liberty operate and maintain the crossing in conformance with the applicable sections of 49 CFR Part 192 and New Hampshire Code Admin. Rules Puc 500 Rules for Gas Service. The Commission also directed Liberty to use above-ground pipeline markers for identification of the pipeline with appropriate warning and company contact information along the entire 5.5 mile project, including on each bank of the Soucook River crossings.

The petition and subsequent docket filings, other than any information for which confidential treatment is requested of or granted by the Commission, are posted to the Commission's website at <http://puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2016/16-223.html>.

The Commission granted Liberty's request for a license to cross the public waters of the Soucook River at the two proposed locations by Order *Nisi* dated July 26, 2016, subject to certain conditions related to the safe construction, installation, operation, and maintenance of the proposed crossings. The Commission granted the order on a *nisi* basis to ensure that the public receives notice of this docket and has an opportunity to request a hearing. All persons interested in responding to the Commission's action may submit their comments or file a written request for a hearing, which states the reason and basis for a hearing, no later than August 12, 2016. Any person(s) responding to such comments and requests for hearing shall do so no later than August 19, 2016.

Following consideration of any comments and requests for hearing received, the Commission may further extend the final effective date of its order. However, unless the Commission orders otherwise, the order *nisi* shall become final and effective on August 25, 2016.

SERVICE LIST - EMAIL ADDRESSES - DOCKET RELATED

Pursuant to N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.11 (a) (1): Serve an electronic copy on each person identified on the service list.

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