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September 1, 2017

NHPUC 15EP'17PM3:46

Via Hand Delivery and Electronic Mail

Debra A. Howland, Executive Director
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, New Hampshire 03301-2429

Re: Docket No. DG 16-852; Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities

Petition for Expansion of Franchise to the Town of Hanover and City of Lebanon, New Hampshire

Dear Ms. Howland:

Enclosed for filing in the above docket please find an original and six copies of a Settlement Agreement among Commission Staff, the Office of Consumer Advocate, and Liberty Utilities.

Because this Settlement Agreement is being filed less than five days before the September 7, 2017, hearing, *see* Puc 203.20(e), Liberty Utilities respectfully asks the Commission to accept this late-filed settlement pursuant to Puc 203.20(f), which provides:

(f) The commission shall accept late-filed stipulations and settlements when such acceptance: (1) Promotes the orderly and efficient conduct of the proceeding; and (2) Will not impair the rights of any party to the proceeding.

This Settlement Agreement "promotes the orderly and efficient conduct of the proceeding" because it significantly streamlines the conduct of the hearing. The Settlement Agreement "will not impair the rights of any party to the proceeding" because the non-settling still have the opportunity to be heard at the hearing.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. Sheehan", is written over a light blue circular stamp.

Michael J. Sheehan

Enclosures

cc: Service List