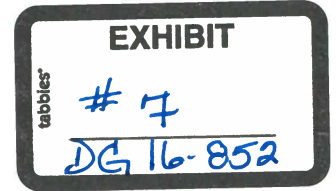


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BEFORE THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION



In the Matter of:
Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp., d/b/a Liberty Utilities
DG 16-852
Petition for Franchise Authority in Hanover and Lebanon

Direct Prefiled Testimony

of

Julia N. Griffin
Town Manager, Town of Hanover, NH

July 17, 2017

RECEIVED

TOWN OF HANOVER

JULIA N. GRIFFIN, TOWN MANAGER

TESTIMONY

DG 16-852

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

Petition for Franchise Authority in Hanover and Lebanon

1 **Q. Please state your name, occupation and business address.**

2 **A.** My name is Julia N. Griffin and I am employed by the Town of Hanover as Town
3
4 Manager. My business address is 41 South Main Street, Hanover, NH 03755
5

6 **Q. Please summarize your educational and professional experience.**

7
8 **A.** I joined the Town of Hanover as Town Manager in 1996. Prior to 1996 I served as the
9
10 City Manager for the City of Concord from 1991-1996, the Assistant City Manager for
11
12 the City of Concord from 1990-1991, a Senior Management Analyst for the City of
13
14 Santa Monica in the City Manager's Office from 1985-1990 and as a Budget Analyst for
15
16 the Office of Management and Budget for the City of New York from 1984-1985. I have
17
18 a B.A. in Political Science from Wesleyan University, a Master's Degree in International
19
20 Relations from Yale University and a Master's in Public and Private Management from
21
22 the Yale School of Management.
23

24 **Q. What is the purpose of your testimony in this proceeding?**

25
26 **A.** The purpose of my testimony is to provide information regarding the Town of Hanover's
27
28 interest in utilizing natural gas in municipal facilities in the event Liberty is granted a
29
30 franchise to provide natural gas and constructs a pipeline located within the limits of the
31
32 Town of Hanover.
33

34 **Q. What is the Town of Hanover's intention regarding use of natural gas in municipal
35 facilities owned and operated by the Town?**

36
37 **A.** In May of 2017, Hanover's Town Meeting voted to become a Sierra Club "Ready for 100

1 Action” Community, committing to transitioning the community to 100% use of
2
3 renewable sources of electricity by 2030 and to 100% use of renewable sources of fuel
4
5 for heating and transportation by 2030. The Hanover Select Board, Town staff and an
6
7 active group of local volunteers recommended that the Town of Hanover vote to do so
8
9 after extensive discussions with representatives of the Sierra Club as well as local
10
11 sustainability advocates and based on significant research conducted by Town staff.
12

13 Committing to this goal does not correspond with use of natural gas as a fuel
14
15 Source. The Town of Hanover intends to begin the community’s transition by shifting
16
17 Fuel use in all Town-owned properties from fuel oil and natural gas to biomass and to
18
19 solar powered heat pumps. All Town buildings will transition to these sources for
20
21 heating and cooling and funds are budgeted to begin that transition in FY 2017-18.
22

23 Without the Town of Hanover’s municipal facilities as natural gas customers and
24
25 without Dartmouth College as a customer, the Town questions the viability of a natural
26
27 gas pipeline extension into the Town of Hanover. The only other major institutional user
28
29 along either a Route 120 or Route 10 route into the downtown area is Hanover High
30
31 School and that facility is currently served by wood chip boiler. In addition, the
32
33 Richmond Middle School just north of the downtown area is served by a wood chip
34
35 boiler. While the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers’ Cold Regions Research and Engineering
36
37 Laboratory and Dartmouth Printing may be interested in natural gas to serve their
38
39 facilities along with Kendal at Hanover, the Town hopes to work with all three entities to
40
41 transition their facilities to biomass and solar as part of our community-wide goal of
42
43 being 100% reliant on renewable sources of fuel by 2050.
44

45 **A. Is this the end of your testimony?**

46
47 **B. Yes**
48