
From: Jeanne Dietsch <jeanne.a.dietsch@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2017 4:44 PM
To: PUC - Executive.Director
Subject: Regarding DG 17-068

July 24, 2017

Debra Howland Executive Director and Secretary

New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission

21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10

Concord New Hampshire 03301

RE: DG 17-068

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

Petition for Declaratory Ruling

Dear Ms. Howland:

Liberty Utilities has asked for a Declaratory Ruling on their franchise request for Keene, NH without a full hearing and input from the community. I recommend that the PUC deny the Liberty Utilities request to avert the public's right to present information and to explain concerns for and against the project.

The Keene project budget does not include Social Costs – impacts on consumers -- of the project, which the PUC is required to consider. As you are aware, Social Costs include environmental degradation, not only at the site of distribution facilities, but at the source of the fracked gas being delivered. Social Costs include the Greenhouse Gas Emissions from fossil fuels.

But there are also economic costs not being modelled into the price equation. Because the Keene project will increase demand for natural gas in the region, it will increase the likelihood of price spikes on cold days when fuel is in short supply. These price spikes will then be used to justify risky infrastructure investment in a pipeline monopoly that will be used to lower the marginal cost of fracked gas in comparison to alternatives with far lower total costs (delivered cost + social costs). For example, decreasing the marginal cost of fracked gas

will lower demand for solar energy. This, in turn, will slow the rate at which solar becomes price competitive since fewer solar panels will be built.

Such issues deserve a full airing. I respectfully request that the PUC deny Liberty Utilities' request for a declaratory hearing.

Best regards,

Jeanne Dietsch

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