

June 22, 2019

Debra Howland Executive Director and Secretary
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord New Hampshire 03301

RE: DG 17-198 Granite Bridge Pipeline and LNG liquefaction and storage facility

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

RE: DG 17-152 Least Cost Integrated Resource Plan

Dear Ms. Howland,

Thank you for accepting my comments and questions on the Granite Bridge pipeline project and associated LNG facility to be sited in Epping, NH and Liberty's Least Cost Integrated Resource Plan (LCIRP).

I am a member of Mothers Out Front New Hampshire. As mothers and caretakers, Mothers Out Front are committed to mobilizing for a livable future for our children. Mothers Out Front is a non-partisan organization started barely six years ago in Massachusetts. Since 2013, we have grown to over 23,000 members in ten states. We are proud to report that Mothers Out Front – Monadnock has been active for almost two years.

Our membership includes an impressive number of scientists, lawyers, entrepreneurs, military, engineers, finance experts, and health professionals, who also happen to be moms. Whatever our backgrounds or affiliations, we all agree on one thing; if we are to put the brakes on the climate crisis, it starts by stopping any further expansion of fossil fuel infrastructure. We concede the need for maintenance of the existing system so that it is safe and reliable until it can be replaced with cleaner fuel options, but those repairs and replacements should be at least cost and prioritized by severity. In order to satisfy increased demand by utility customers, we support utility investment in weatherization services and alternative energy solutions for ratepayers in targeted areas of bottleneck as Non-Pipeline Alternatives, NPA, to be financed and incentivized just like pipeline infrastructure.

The NY PUC has issued an RFP for trillions of BTUs of non-pipeline alternatives just this year. In MA, a bill in the legislature called the FUTURE Act proposes replacing leak prone gas pipe with renewable thermal alternatives. One such alternative replaces gas pipe with water pipe to build a geothermal powered district energy system as described in this recent [article](#). There is clearly business and job growth opportunity for NH in pursuing clean energy solutions.

Liberty Utilities has an opportunity here to be a climate champion and offer a model for other New England gas utilities to follow, much as Liberty's electric utility has done. The New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission is compelled to consider all costs and risks when making any investment of ratepayer funding, and this includes emerging information on the climate crisis.

Several asset management and insurance companies are backing away from fossil fuel infrastructure investments and the utilities that promote them. The good news is that investment in clean energy technologies are sought after. These changes might at first seem difficult, but we can work cooperatively to realize a clean energy future, or watch companies go bankrupt, ratepayers left scrambling to find alternatives, and the safety decline of abandoned infrastructure to all New Hampshire citizens.

Sincerely,

Patricia A Martin
17 Farrar Road
Rindge, NH 03461