## STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

October 26, 2021-1:04 p.m.
[Hybrid hearing conducted via Webex]

RE: DG 21-128
LIBERTY UTILITIES (ENERGYNORTH NATURAL GAS) CORP., D/B/A LIBERTY Petition for Property Tax Adjustment Mechanism - Tax Year 2020 Reconciliation and Rate Adjustment Filing (Hearing)

PRESENT: Chairwoman Dianne H. Martin, Presiding Commissioner Daniel C. Goldner

Doreen Borden, Clerk Corrine Lemay, PUC Remote Hearing Host

APPEARANCES: Reptg. Liberty Utilities: Michael J. Sheehan, Esq.

Reptg. N.H. Dept. of Energy: Paul B. Dexter, Esq.

Court Reporter: Susan J. Robidas, NH LCR No. 44

I N D E X
WITNESS: DAVID B. SIMEK

## EXAMINATION

PAGE
Direct Examination by Mr. Sheehan 5

Cross-examination by Mr. Dexter 11

Redirect Examination by Mr. Sheehan 36

CLOSING STATEMENTS:
Mr. Dexter37

Mr. Sheehan 39

## EXHIBITS

1 Testimony of David B. Simek with attachments

Supplemental tariff pages
PREMARKED
Technical statement of
PREMARKED David B. Simek with attachments
(RESERVED) FOR RECORD REQUEST:32

Clarify whether the $\$ 89,248,118$ figure used in calculating the percentage rate increase is based on actual or weather-normalized revenue

5 (RESERVED) RECORD REQUEST: Property tax filed 10/27/21, Tab 13 in docket

6 (RESERVED) RECORD REQUEST: 35 Revenue per customer summary showing base RPC and all incremental RPT filed 10/27/21, Tab 13 in docket

PROCEEDINGS
CHAIRWOMAN MARTIN: Let's go on the record. We're here this afternoon in Docket DG 21-128 for the Liberty property tax adjustment mechanism, Tax Year 2020 reconciliation and rate adjustment filing.

Let's take appearances, starting with Mr. Sheehan.

MR. SHEEHAN: Good afternoon. Mike Sheehan for Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas).

CHAIRWOMAN MARTIN: Okay. And Mr. Dexter. [connectivity issue]

CHAIRWOMAN MARTIN: I think you're on mute. Still can't hear you for some reason.

Let's go off the record for a second and check.
(Pause in proceedings)
CHAIRWOMAN MARTIN: Let's go back on the record. Go ahead.

MR. DEXTER: Good afternoon, Commissioners. Paul Dexter, appearing on behalf of the New Hampshire Department of

Energy. Joining me today in the attendees pool is Jay Dudley, analyst, with the Department of Energy.

CHAIRWOMAN MARTIN: Okay. Thank you.

For exhibits, I have Exhibits 1
through 3 prefiled and premarked for identification. Anything else on exhibits?

MR. SHEEHAN: Not from the Company.
MR. DEXTER: Nothing from the
Department of Energy.
CHAIRWOMAN MARTIN: All right. And
I have just one witness, Mr. Simek.
MR. SHEEHAN: Correct.
CHAIRWOMAN MARTIN: All right.
Let's have him sworn in then.
(WHEREUPON, DAVID B. SIMEK was duly
sworn and cautioned by the Court
Reporter.)
DAVID B. SIMEK, SWORN
CHAIRWOMAN MARTIN: Okay, Mr.
Sheehan.
MR. SHEEHAN: Thank you.

## DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. SHEEHAN :
Q. Mr. Simek, please introduce yourself and your position with Liberty.
A. David Simek, manager of rates and regulatory affairs.
Q. Mr. Simek, did you draft the testimony that's been marked as Exhibit 1 that opened this docket back in September?
A. Yes, I did.
Q. Do you have any corrections to that testimony and attachments?
A. I have no corrections, no. Just we did file an updated technical statement and attachments --
Q. And the technical statement updated some of the numbers that were initially in your testimony; is that correct?
A. Correct.
Q. Other than those updates, you have no corrections to make; is that correct?
A. Correct.
Q. Do you adopt your testimony that's been marked as Exhibit 1 as your testimony here
this afternoon?
A. Yes, I do.
Q. Let's just go through the exhibits briefly. Exhibit 2, could you tell us what that is?
A. Sure. Exhibit 2 is a new tariff Page 103A that the Company is proposing to include in our tariff which describes the property tax adjustment mechanism.
Q. So is it fair to say that this is the language that sets forth what the mechanism is rather than numbers that come out of the mechanism?
A. Yes.
Q. And Exhibit 3 has been marked as your technical statement with attachments. Can you please -- let me first say, did you prepare that technical statement?
A. Yes, I did.
Q. And do you have any corrections to that?
A. I do not.
Q. Although it's not testimony, do you adopt that technical statement this afternoon?
A. I do.
Q. So briefly, Mr. Simek, we're here today on this property tax mechanism. As a way of background, the mechanism was required by statute. Is that your understanding?
A. Yes, it is.
Q. And the specifics of the EnergyNorth mechanism was addressed and approved in the rate case that we concluded this summer; is that correct?
A. Yes, it is.
Q. And we also included in the rate case a number that represents the amount of property taxes that is currently in EnergyNorth's rates; is that correct?
A. Yes.
Q. So can you tell us what it is we're here for today?
A. Yes. What we're here for today is the Company is proposing to increase revenue $\$ 1,972,667$. And what that relates to is the difference of the billed municipal property taxes from April 2020 through March 2021 of \$10,897,564. So that's the billed amount. And the amount that was included in our rate
case and in the Settlement of municipal property taxes already included in rates through March 31st, 2021, was $\$ 8,924,897$. So the difference between the amount that was billed, actual billed, and the amount that was actually included in rates is the \$1, 972, 667 .
Q. And your -- does your technical statement describe how that $\$ 1.9$ million gets filtered into rates?
A. Yes.
Q. And can you just give us a high-level description of the process you go through to convert that $\$ 1.9$ to a change in rates?
A. Yes. Well, first of all, it's broken out between two pieces. A portion of it, the majority portion, is related to the base rates, and a small portion is related to the Gas Assistance Program Recovery. That would be related to an increase in base rates. So the Company went through on a scale and calculated that the overall rate increase -- well, let me take a step back for a second. That $\$ 1,943,506$ would be includednto rates?
in the base rate increase, and then the calculated $\$ 29,161$ is the piece that would be collected through the GAP.

If we -- so what the Company did is it does a weighted average calculation and calculated that in order to uniformly spread this increase of $1,943,506$ to each rate class, we did a weighted average by class, and that was a 2.18 percent increase.
Q. And then that increase is applied to each rate class to adjust their specific rates.
A. Correct.
Q. And can you tell us what changed from the -what was the update from the original testimony, Exhibit 1, to the technical statement, Exhibit 3?
A. There were a few updates. The first had to do with a final audit report and the findings in that report. The audit had recommended that the Company reduce the total revenue increase by $\$ 4,794$, and we did make that update within the attachments that were included with the technical statement.
[Court Reporter interrupts.]
A. The next update was that we calculated the amount that would be collected through the Gas Assistance Program, as I mentioned a couple minutes ago, the 29,161. We did incorporate that into this updated filing. We also updated the billing determinants that were used to calculate the total revenue and allocated on a weighted basis from using calendar year 2019 billing determinants, and the revised filing uses calendar year 2020 billing determinants.

The next update that we did was that we included with the filing the incremental revenue per customer calculation.

And then, of course, we included with the updated filing the new, clean and red-lined proposed tariff pages.

And then last, we did just do a couple titles and headers, made the wording a little more clear.
Q. So in this case, is it fair to say the Company's requesting approval of those updated tariff pages which contains all of the rates that came out of your calculations?
A. Yes.
Q. And what is the proposed effective date for this rate change?
A. November 1st.
Q. And is that the date that was part of the Settlement Agreement that was approved this summer? That was actually a question.
A. Yeah. Honestly, I don't recall if that was in the Settlement Agreement or not.
Q. Fair enough.

MR. SHEEHAN: Those are all the questions I have. Thank you.

CHAIRWOMAN MARTIN: Okay. Mr.
Dexter.
MR. DEXTER: Thank you, Madam Chairwoman.

CROSS-EXAMINATION
BY MR. DEXTER:
Q. So I have a couple things I want to ask about. Some of it might be a bit repetitive from what we just heard, but we'll take it from there.

Mr. Simek, you indicated that the proposed taxes that are proposed to be
[WITNESS: DAVID B. SIMEK]
collected through this base rate increase were for what period?
A. These were the taxes that were related for billed municipal property taxes from April 2020 through March of 2021.
Q. And when you say "billed municipal taxes," is it correct that state taxes are not going to be collected through this mechanism?
A. That is true.
Q. And that's consistent with the Settlement Agreement that we reached in 20-105 and the Commission approved; is that right?
A. Yes, it is.
Q. And you mentioned, or counsel mentioned, that this mechanism came about pursuant to a recent statute. And I have it written down as RSA 72:8-d and e. Does that sound right?
A. Yes. Yeah. What was -- I'm sorry. What was referenced in our Settlement Agreement for the statute was RSA 72:8-e.
Q. And that statute set up a sort of a formulaic approach for municipalities to value utility property. Would you agree with that?
A. For municipalities to value utility property?
[WITNESS: DAVID B. SIMEK]
Q. Sure. For purposes of taxation. In other words, there's now a formula that's set forth in the statute that the municipalities will follow when they come up with their valuation.
A. Yes, I agree.
Q. And that formula, probably an oversimplification, but it basically relies more on the Company's book value of the property -- I'm sorry -- not more than. Let me rephrase that.

Isn't it correct that that formula relies on the book value of the utility's property?
A. I believe you're correct. Yes.
Q. And would you also agree that that formula phases in over time? In other words, a municipality's valuation, based on the formula, doesn't happen all in one year; it all happens over a period of four or five years. Does that sound right?
A. That sounds right, yes.
Q. And the statute had a definition of -- has some exclusions from the Company's property
that wouldn't be covered by the formula.
Would you agree with that?
A. If I recall correctly, yes.
Q. Yeah. Things like, if I recall correctly, I think land and buildings were excluded from the formula?
A. I'd agree.
Q. And in the course of settling the rate case, it was agreed that this mechanism would not divide the Company's property into two classes, if you will. In other words, this mechanism would cover all the property that the utility has; is that right?
A. Again, I'm only going from memory, but I believe that's correct.
Q. This settlement in this rate case, the 20-105, called for base rate increases to implement this method; is that right?
A. Yes.
Q. And in this instance, you've indicated that -- let me rephrase that.

You had indicated to counsel that, in this instance, the base rate increase to collect these taxes, allowing for the small
piece that's going through the LDAC, is 2.18 percent; is that right?
A. Yes.
Q. And if we go to Exhibit 3, Bates Pages 6 through 8, we've got all different rate classes and all the various adjustments set forth in the middle column on those pages; correct?
A. Correct.
Q. And starting at the bottom of 6 and all the way through 7, and all the way through 8, 1 see a 2.1 percent increase. Would you agree?
A. Yes.
Q. But at the top of Page 6, for the residential classes I actually see increases that are higher than that and some that are lower and some that are zero. Can you explain why those are not at 2.18 percent?
A. Correct. For each of the rate classes, it was an overall increase of 2.18 percent. For the residential customers, we had agreed in DG 20-105 to keep the fixed -- or the customer charge fixed. So in order to keep the customer charge fixed, yet to increase
the revenue overall for each of the residential classes by 2.18 percent, we needed to increase the volumetric piece by something more than 2.18 percent. And that's what we show here.
Q. Okay. And the 2.18 percent was mentioned in get at is the 2.18 percent would have a numerator and a denominator, if I understand things. And I believe those two figures are in your testimony, which is Exhibit 1, Page 5. Can you turn to that for a minute?
A. Sure.
Q. Actually, Bates Page 7. It's Page 5 of your testimony, but Exhibit 1, Bates Page 7.
A. Sure.
Q. Do you have that in front of you?
A. I do.
Q. Oh, okay. Good. So the top line talks about a 2.2 percent increase. And I understand this has been updated. And it talks about an amount of taxes to be collected of $1,977.461$. That number has been updated slightly in the technical statement, which is Exhibit 3;get at is the 2.18 percent would have a
numerator and a denominator, if I understand
things. And I believe those two figures are
in your testimony, which is Exhibit 1, Page
5. Can you turn to that for a minute?
correct?
A. Correct.
Q. And the new number I believe you said was 1,972,667 --
A. Correct.
Q. -- is that right? Okay.

Now, to look at the calculation of that number, find out more about it, and I know you touched on this briefly, but $I$ believe if we go to Exhibit 3, Bates Page 3, we'll see how that number was calculated; is that right?
A. $1,972,667$ ?
Q. Yes.
A. Yes.
Q. And so I have that schedule in front of me,
and it looks to me like the top third of that schedule is detailing what's already included in base rates. Like Lines 1 through 12 tell you through the various rate cases and CIBS adjustments and things like that, step adjustments, that tells you how much property taxes were being collected in base rates; is that right? .
A. Correct. The $\$ 8,924,897$ on Line 12 is the amount that was approved in the DG 20-105 rate case.
Q. Okay. Good. And there's a schedule that looks just like this in the rate case settlement, correct, except it's an example because it doesn't have the actual taxes?
A. Correct.
Q. And that was Appendix, $I$ think it was...
A. It was Appendix 3.
Q. Appendix 3, yeah, in the rate case settlement.

So that tells us how much is in base rates. And as you said, what we're trying to do here is collect the difference between taxes that the Company paid and what's already recovered in base rates. So the amount that the Company paid seems to be detailed on Lines 14 through 17; is that right?
A. Correct.
Q. And I'm looking in particular at Line 17. I see a figure of $10,897,564$. Do you see that?
A. Yes, I do.
[WITNESS: DAVID B. SIMEK]
Q. Now, that figure is detailed town by town on Pages 4 and 5 of this exhibit. Would you agree?
A. Yes.
Q. So let's just turn to that for a second, if we could. And we'll just start with the first line. We'll pick a large town with a big number. Let's see. How about Merrimack, Line 33. Could you tell us what these numbers represent for Merrimack on Line 33?
A. Sure. The 180,814 was the amount that was paid for the first installment, and the 202,185 is the amount that was paid for the second installment.
Q. And the next column just adds the two of them together?
A. Correct. And it's all related to tax year 2020 municipal taxes obviously paid to Merrimack. And these were the amounts that also were audited by Audit Staff, Energy Audit Staff.
Q. Yeah. And if you go all the way to the bottom, I see the total in the right-hand column, the same number we were talking
about, 10,897,564.
A. Correct.
Q. Although I have to say I didn't notice this before, but I'm confused by the total under the column "Installment 1." That number doesn't look right to me. Is that right? Or is that -- oh, I'm sorry. Let me withdraw that question. I was looking for decimal places instead of... those two numbers in the Total column add up to 10,897,564; correct?
A. Correct.
Q. Okay. So we have a town-by-town breakdown.

And we go back to Page 3, and we see the amount collected is simply the difference between what was built in in base rates and what the Company paid in tax year 2020, and that difference is shown on Line 23 of Page 3; is that right?
A. Yes.
Q. So that explains in detail the numerator in this calculation, the 2.18 percent.

Now for the denominator, I'm going to go back to Exhibit 1, which is your testimony, Bates Page 7, and I'm going to go to Line 2.

And I see a figure of 89,889,944.
A. Yeah.
[Court Reporter interrupts.]
Q. So it's 89,889,944.
A. Yeah.
Q. Can you explain what that number is?
A. That was the calculated current revenues based on test year 2019 billing determinants.
Q. Now, has that number been updated in the filing?
A. Yes, it has.
Q. And what's the new number?
A. Just give me a moment. The number can be found... it was included in the filing as a spreadsheet, part of the model that was included. And it is outside of the print range in Attachment DBS-3.
Q. Is it part of one of the exhibits that we have here, Exhibit 1, 2 or 3?
A. No, because it's outside of the print range of one of the ones that -- [connectivity issue]
A. It's outside of the print range of the model that was included in Exhibit 3.

## [WITNESS: DAVID B. SIMEK]

Q. Mr. Simek, I actually didn't hear. Outside the print range of the model that was included at?
A. Exhibit 3
Q. Could you give me the page number in Exhibit 3 where it would be if the print range was larger?
A. Yes. It's where we were just talking about the 2.8 percent. But I'll grab that for you -- 2.18 percent.

So if we look at the pages, it would be Pages 6 through 8. And these rates that are calculated on here, again, we did provide the model as part of the filing. This is all derived through Excel. And as we look at this, we can see that there's the first column which shows the rate and the customer charge for therms, then the next column shows what the current rates are. We show what the increase is by rate class. And then go over to the proposed rates. And then if we continued on this page of the Excel model and went to the right, there's a bunch more columns over there that show how all these
numbers were derived.
Q. Is there a total number that equates to the $\$ 89$ million figure that was in your testimony that you could put on the record now?
A. Yes. It's 89,248,118.
Q. And could you tell me how that figure was derived?
A. I took the calendar year 2020 billing determinants and multiplied them by current rates.
Q. And current rates would be rates as of what date?
A. August 1st.
Q. August 1st, 2021?
A. Correct.
Q. And if I were to divide those two numbers, then $I$ would get the 2.18 percent?
A. Correct.
Q. Now, you mentioned in questioning from counsel that there are new tariff provisions that are included. I found new tariffs on Exhibit 2, Bates Page 4. That's just a one-page tariff. That's the new mechanism that we're talking about; correct?
A. Correct.
[connectivity issue]
MR. DEXTER: Sorry. I muted.
Q. I also found a number of tariff pages in Exhibit 3, starting around Page 20, I believe. Is that right? Page 21.
A. Yeah. Correct.
Q. And the purpose of those tariffs, as counsel indicated, was just to show the new rates resulting from this. For example, if I were to go to Bates Page 24, I'd see the new residential non-heating rate; correct?
A. Correct.
Q. So there's additional language on all these pages that start on Page 22. It's just a mechanism for collecting the rate; correct?
A. Correct. My tariff page there was new -[connectivity issue]
[Court Reporter interrupts.]
A. I'm sorry. The only tariff page that's new is the one that's shown on Exhibit 2.
Q. And as I read the statute that set up this mechanism, it doesn't last forever; in other words, it has a sunset provision. Would you
agree?
A. I don't really recall. And again, I don't have the statute in front of me.
Q. Sure. Well, my recollection was that this mechanism phases out once the formula is completely in place, the valuation formula.

So assuming that we're right and we had to do away with this mechanism in four or five years, all that would be required for the Company would be to remove this new tariff page in Exhibit 2; correct?
A. I believe so.
Q. And then you would just stop filing for base rate increases once that -- related to property taxes -- once that mechanism was rescinded; agreed?
A. Agreed.
Q. Now, you mentioned a couple of times that the Audit Department reviewed the Company's filing and filed an audit report that recommended a downward adjustment to the mechanism amount of about $\$ 4700$; correct?
A. Correct.
Q. And in fact, you attached that audit report
to your Exhibit 3. I believe it's Appendix 6; correct?
A. Correct.
Q. You mentioned that one of the things that you filed in the updated filing were updated revenue per customer targets for purposes of decoupling; is that right?
A. Correct.
Q. And I believe those can be found in Exhibit 3 at Page 20; is that right?
A. Yes.
Q. I want to turn to that for a minute. Could you tell me briefly how these were derived?
A. Sure. Well, the permanent revenue per customer was derived from the DG 20-105. So all we're really doing here is calculating the incremental difference related to the property tax adjustment mechanism.

So what we did is we calculated what -there's actually a couple, two tabs that make up the PTAM piece of the model that was submitted. And the one tab actually ties out to the revenue that was calculated based on the PTAM filing; in other words, the rates
that are used there include discounted $R-4$, and it includes MEP. And then the next tab, the revenue is calculated by using the low-income and the MEP rates at the parent rate, as was authorized and approved in DG 20-105. And then that tab, where we're actually calculating the low-income discount and the MEP rates at a parent rate is what's used to recalculate the incremental revenue per customer related to this mechanism. So we calculate that revenue and then we just divide it by the number of customers and then that's how we come up with the incremental piece -- [connectivity issue]
[Court Reporter interrupts.]
A. -- that was included in the summary that we included in this filing.
Q. And updating revenue per customer targets for purposes of decoupling is something that's going to need to be done with each base rate case; is that correct?
A. Correct.
Q. Each base rate change I should have said. And that's consistent with the language
in the rate case settlement from 20-105; correct?
A. Correct.
Q. Okay. I wanted to ask about how property tax abatements would be handled in this mechanism. And to do that, I'd like to go back to Exhibit 3, Page 3.

I sort of glossed over this before. But when we were talking about the actual property taxes that were paid and we tied it to the town-by-town schedule, we glossed over Line 16 on Exhibit 3, Page 3, which says "Actual abatements or other adjustments, zero." Could you explain what would be in that line if there were abatements or other adjustments?
A. It would be a reduction to the amount that was billed.
Q. Okay. So does this mean that there were no -- because there's a zero here, does that mean there were no abatements to property tax year 2020?
A. Correct.
Q. And if an abatement comes in, how does that
work? I mean, does it -- let me rephrase the question.

Is it possible that tax year 2020 abatements might come later on, say next year or the following year?
A. I asked that same question to our tax team, our property tax team, and finance, and they said no. If it doesn't come in the actual year, then we're not going to get one.
Q. And what are the other adjustments that are contemplated in that line? Is there anything in particular that that's intended to cover?
A. No, there's nothing specific. We just wanted to point out that anything that the Company received back would be deducted from this amount.
Q. And the line above that, Line 15 , was the Audit recommendation. Do you recall what gave rise to the $\$ 4,794$ ?
A. I do. There was two towns -- I believe one of them was Keene. I'm not sure of the other -- that included -- I believe that Keene included a small dollar amount of state education tax that didn't belong. Actually,
[WITNESS: DAVID B. SIMEK]
we do have the audit report here, so I can -we can read that real quickly.

It was a relatively small amount, and it was obviously related to taxes that didn't belong. And a piece of it had to do with the education tax. Looking over the report quickly. I'm not... I think it was from the Town of Gilford. Looks like part of that 4,724 was related to the Town of Gilford as well.

MR. DEXTER: Okay. Madam Chair, before I say "no further questions," I'd just like to take a five-minute recess to confer with Mr. Dudley.

CHAIRWOMAN MARTIN: Okay. We will take a break until 1:50. Off the record. (Brief recess was taken at 1:44 p.m, and the hearing resumed at 1:51 p.m.) CHAIRWOMAN MARTIN: Back on the record. Mr. Dexter.

MR. DEXTER: Thanks. I have one additional question.

BY MR. DEXTER:
Q. Mr. Simek, when we were talking about the
2.18 percent increase and the numerator and the denominator, you had indicated that the denominator of $\$ 89$ million was derived from calendar year 2020 billing determinants times current rates.

My question is: Were those billing determinants weather-normalized, or were they actual?
A. I don't know. I'd have to ask the person who put those together. I would assume they were weather-normalized, but I don't know that for sure. No, actually, they should be actual. But I'd have to confirm with Mr. Bonner who puts that stuff together.

MR. DEXTER: I'm sorry. Can you folks hear that background noise on my side?

CHAIRWOMAN MARTIN: No.
MR. DEXTER: Okay. Good.
BY MR. DEXTER:
Q. Mr. Simek, you had indicated, before the update, there was a figure in your testimony that was called "Current Revenues." Do you know if that was weather-normalized or whether that was actual?
[WITNESS: DAVID B. SIMEK]
A. No. That was using the billing determinants that were approved in the DG 20-105 rate case. So I would assume that that -- I just don't know that answer either. Sorry.

MR. DEXTER: Okay. Madam Chair, that's all the questions I have. I think it would be helpful to the record to know whether or not the -- [connectivity issue]
[Court Reporter interrupts.]
MR. DEXTER: Madam Chair, what I was going to say was I think it would be helpful for the record to know whether that 89,248,000 figure was based on actual or weather-normalized billing determinants. So I would request that the Bench request that data if they also believe it would be useful. And I don't have any further questions.

CHAIRWOMAN MARTIN: I was going to do that.

Mr. Sheehan, if you could take that as a record request. (Exhibit 4 reserved for record request as described.)

MR. SHEEHAN: Yes. I will say that
[WITNESS: DAVID B. SIMEK]

Mr. Bonner is far away on vacation this week. But I will do my best to track down somebody else who could give us that answer.

CHAIRWOMAN MARTIN: Okay. If you can't get it in, $I$ know these are for effect November 1, would you just let us know by tomorrow?

MR. SHEEHAN: Sure.
CHAIRWOMAN MARTIN: Okay.
Commissioner Goldner.
COMMISSIONER GOLDNER: Yes. Really just to follow up on the same vein. Mr. Dexter has walked us through, along with Mr. Simek, an understanding of the numerator, of the percentage. And I think that that's clear.

The denominator, there's nothing in the record that allows us to move it forward because the denominator is not supported. It's off the spreadsheet and it's not in the record. So I'll just sort of amplify the record request. I think in order for us to be able to approve the percentage, we would want, you know, sort of what $I$ would call a
[WITNESS: DAVID B. SIMEK]
one-page reconciliation that gets us to the 89 million and change that's being requested. So, you know, it's not just the weather piece. There's nothing in the record that shows the 89 million, based on the evidence before us.

MR. SHEEHAN: Sure. I can offer that attached to Mr. Simek's technical statement that we filed were the two Excel files Mr. Simek was mentioning. I did not mark them as an exhibit, which was my oversight. I have them teed up and ready to go and can file them immediately to make them -- to move them into the record so the number would be there. And I can ask Mr. Simek to pull up the spreadsheet and give you the site now, so that when you open it you can see it's on Tab $\mathbf{X}$ and Line 7, if that would help.

COMMISSIONER GOLDNER: Okay. Yeah.
We just need something that shows us evidence of what the denominator is. So that would be fine.

CHAIRWOMAN MARTIN: Okay. So just
[WITNESS: DAVID B. SIMEK]
for clarification, are we having the weather-normalization versus actual as a record request and something additional, or are you satisfied with them submitting -What are you going to do? Just point to the location of it, or are you going to submit an additional exhibit and response?

MR. SHEEHAN: My proposal was we have 1 through 3. Between the record requests and those two spreadsheets that have already been filed, I'll mark those two as 3, 4, 5 -- or 4, 5, 6. And then Mr. Simek today can put on the record where it is to help you find it when you open those up.

CHAIRWOMAN MARTIN: Okay. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER GOLDNER: Thank you. (Exhibits 5 and 6 reserved for record requests as described.)

CHAIRWOMAN MARTIN: Do you have other questions?

COMMISSIONER GOLDNER: No. Thank you.

CHAIRWOMAN MARTIN: Okay. Great.
[WITNESS: DAVID B. SIMEK]

I don't have any questions either.
So Mr. Sheehan, do you have any follow-up?

MR. SHEEHAN: Sure. I hope Mr.
Simek can do what $I$ just offered he could do. REDIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. SHEEHAN:
Q. So of the two documents, the two Excels that were attached to the technical statement, can you tell us which one would have the \$89 million number that was referenced?
A. Yes. $89,248,118$ can be found in Cell H129 of the Rate Change tab with the spreadsheet titled "Attachments" DBS-1 through DBS-5.

MR. SHEEHAN: And for the Commission's benefit, that would be the first of the two that $I$ would mark. So the weather-normalization in Exhibit 4, that would be Exhibit 5.

CHAIRWOMAN MARTIN: I'm going to
ask you if you can include that information when you make the filing. That would be very helpful.

MR. SHEEHAN: Okay.

BY MR. SHEEHAN :
Q. The only other question $I$ had for you, Mr . Simek, is could you clarify a little the audit findings that Mr. Dexter went over.
A. Yes, I can. The total audit find that requested the reduction of 4,794 was related to findings for two different towns: The Town of Nashua, which was $\$ 4,379$, and embedded in one of the bills was a state education tax that we removed; and then for the Town of Gilford, there was $\$ 415$ that was removed related to a payment being classified as "utility property."

MR. SHEEHAN: Thank you. With that, I have no further questions.

CHAIRWOMAN MARTIN: All right.
Thank you.
Without objection, we'll strike I.D. on Exhibits 1 through 3 and admit those three as full exhibits and hold the record open for Exhibits 4, 5 and 6 for the record requests.

And we will take closing arguments, starting with Mr. Dexter.
[WITNESS: DAVID B. SIMEK]

MR. DEXTER: Thank You, Madam Chairwoman. Again, $I$ just want to ask, can anyone hear that background noise that's going on at my house?

CHAIRWOMAN MARTIN: No.
MR. DEXTER: Okay. Good. Sorry about that if you can. I'll make this brief.

The Department of Energy supports the filing that the Company made. It appears to us to be accurately calculated and consistent with the Settlement Agreement in the last rate case where the mechanism was flushed out.

We want to emphasize that it is a big increase, almost $\$ 2$ million, a 2 percent base rate increase, but that is what the statute calls for. We hope, the Department of Energy, that by allowing the Company to periodically collect increases in property taxes, that this will result in less frequent base rate case filings. But I guess we'll have to see how that plays out. And we also believe that the intent of the legislation was to reduce contests or abatement -- the
[WITNESS: DAVID B. SIMEK]
need for abatement filings by a utility by going to a formulaic approach. And we hope that results in reduced legal and taxable costs on behalf of the Company that would be passed on to ratepayers. Those savings would be passed on in subsequent base rate findings.

Having said all that, in summary, as I said, the Department of Energy is supportive of the Company's filing.

CHAIRWOMAN MARTIN: Thank you, Mr. Dexter. And I do want to thank you. You did a nice job of walking us through that filing, and we appreciate it.

MR. DEXTER: Thank you very much, Madam Chair. I appreciate it.

CHAIRWOMAN MARTIN: Mr. Sheehan.
MR. SHEEHAN: Thank you. We appreciate Energy's support for this filing. We obviously concur that the filing is consistent with statute and that the numbers presented by Mr. Simek and, as you suggest, carefully walked through with Mr. Dexter, are accurate.
[WITNESS: DAVID B. SIMEK]

The specific requests for approvals today are for the tariff language implementing -- or setting forth a mechanism, which is Exhibit 2, and for the rate changes that are contained in the proposed tariff pages that are in Exhibit 3.

And with that, I have nothing further. Thank you for your attention. CHAIRWOMAN MARTIN: All right. Thank you, everyone. We will take this matter under advisement. And we'll look for those requests, and then we can issue an order. Have a good day.
(Whereupon the hearing concluded at 2:01 p.m.)
[WITNESS: DAVID B. SIMEK]


#### Abstract

C E R T I FICATE

I, Susan J. Robidas, a Licensed Shorthand Court Reporter and Notary Public of the State of New Hampshire, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate transcript of my stenographic notes of these proceedings taken at the place and on the date hereinbefore set forth, to the best of my skill and ability under the conditions present at the time.

I further certify that $I$ am neither attorney or counsel for, nor related to or employed by any of the parties to the action; and further, that $I$ am not a relative or employee of any attorney or counsel employed in this case, nor am I financially interested in this action. (ORIGINAL CERTIFICATION FILED WITH PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION)

Susan J. Robidas, LCR/RPR Licensed Shorthand Court Reporter Registered Professional Reporter N.H. LCR No. 44 (RSA 310-A:173)


DG 21-128 LIBERTY UTILITIES (ENERGYNORTH...) Tax Year 2020 Reconciliation and Rate Adjustment Hearing Petition for Property Tax Adjustment Mechanism


DG 21-128 LIBERTY UTILITIES (ENERGYNORTH...) Tax Year 2020 Reconciliation and Rate Adjustment Hearing Petition for Property Tax Adjustment Mechanism

| 8:14;11:3;27:23; | 39:20 | 4:17,20;5:5 | 27:1 | except (1) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 34:2;36:13 | confer (1) | day (1) | divide (3) | 18:6 |
| changed (1) | 30:13 | 40:13 | 14:10;23:16;27:12 | excluded (1) |
| 9:13 | confirm (1) | DBS-1 (1) | Docket (2) | 14:5 |
| changes (1) | 31:13 | 36:14 | 3:3;5:9 | exclusions (1) |
| 40:4 | confused (1) | DBS-3 (1) | documents (1) | 13:24 |
| charge (3) | 20:4 | 21:17 | 36:8 | Exhibit (33) |
| 15:23,24;22:18 | consistent (4) | DBS-5 (1) | dollar (1) | 5:8,24;6:4,6,15; |
| check (1) | 12:10;27:24;38:11; | 36:14 | 29:23 | 9:15,16;15:4;16:11, |
| 3:18 | 39:21 | decimal (1) | done (1) | 15,24;17:10;19:2; |
| CIBS (1) | contained (1) | 20:8 | 27:20 | 20:23;21:19,24;22:4, |
| 17:20 | 40:5 | decoupling (2) | down (2) | 6;23:22;24:5,21; |
| clarification (1) | contains (1) | 26:7;27:19 | 12:16;33:2 | 25:11;26:1,9;28:7, |
| 35:1 | 10:23 | deducted (1) | downward (1) | 12;32:22;34:11;35:7; |
| clarify (1) | contemplated (1) | 29:15 | 25:21 | 36:18,19;40:4,6 |
| 37:3 | 29:11 | definition (1) | draft (1) | exhibits (9) |
| class (4) | contests (1) | 13:23 | 5:7 | 4:6,6,8;6:3;21:18; |
| 9:8,8,11;22:20 | 38:24 | denominator (7) | Dudley (2) | 35:18;37:19,20,21 |
| classes (5) | continued (1) | 16:9;20:22;31:2,3 | 4:2;30:14 | explain (3) |
| 14:11;15:6,15,19; | 22:22 | 33:17,19;34:22 | duly (1) | 15:17;21:6;28:14 |
| 16:2 | convert (1) | Department (7) | 4:17 | explains (1) |
| classified (1) | 8:14 | 3:24;4:3,11;25:19; |  | 20:20 |
| $\begin{array}{r} 37: 12 \\ \text { clean }(1) \end{array}$ | corrections (4) 5:11,13,21;6: | $\begin{aligned} & 38: 8,17 ; 39: 9 \\ & \text { derived }(\mathbf{6}) \end{aligned}$ | E | F |
| 10:16 | correctly (2) | 22:15;23:1,7 | education (3) |  |
| clear (2) | 14:3,4 | 26:13,15;31:3 | 29:24;30:6;37:10 | fact (1) |
| 10:20;33:16 | costs (1) | describe (1) | effect (1) | 25:24 |
| closing (1) | 39:4 | 8:9 | 33:5 | fair (3) |
| 37:23 | counsel (4) | described (2) | effective (1) | 6:10;10:21;11:10 |
| collect (3) | 12:14;14:22;23:20; | 32:23;35:19 | 11:2 | far (1) |
| 14:24;18:15;38:19 | 24:8 | describes (1) | either (2) | 33:1 |
| collected (7) | couple (5) | 6:8 | 32:4;36:1 | few (1) |
| $9: 3 ; 10: 2 ; 12: 1,8$ | 10:4,18;11:19; | description (1) | else (2) | 9:17 |
| 16:22;17:23;20:14 | 25:18;26:20 | 8:13 | 4:8;33:3 | figure (7) |
| collecting (1) | course (2) | detail (1) | embedded (1) | 18:23;19:1;21:1; |
| 24:16 | 10:15;14:8 | $20: 20$ | $37: 9$ | 23:3,6;31:21;32:13 |
| column (7) | Court (1) | detailed (2) | emphasize (1) | figures (1) |
| 15:7;19:15,24; | 4:18 | 18:19;19:1 | 38:14 | 16:10 |
| 20:5,10;22:17,18 | cover (2) | detailing (1) | Energy (7) | file (2) |
| columns (1) | 14:12;29:12 | 17:18 | 4:1,3,11;19:20; | 5:13;34:13 |
| 22:24 | covered (1) | determinants (9) | 38:8,18;39:9 | filed (4) |
| Commission (1) | 14:1 | 10:6,9,11;21:8; | EnergyNorth (2) | 25:20;26:5;34:9; |
| 12:12 | CROSS-EXAMINATION (1) | 23:9;31:4,7;32:1,14 | 3:10;7:6 | 35:11 |
| Commissioner (5) | 11:17 | Dexter (25) | EnergyNorth's (1) | files (1) |
| 33:10,11;34:20; | current (6) | 3:13,22,23;4:10; | 7:13 | 34:10 |
| 35:17,22 | 21:7;22:19;23:9, | 11:14,15,18;24:3 | Energy's (1) | filing (19) |
| Commissioners (1) | 11;31:5,22 | $30: 11,20,21,23 ;$ $31 \cdot 15,18,19 \cdot 32 \cdot 5,10$ | 39:19 | 3:6;10:5,10,13,16; |
| 3:23 | currently (1) | 31:15,18,19;32:5,10; | enough (1) | 21:10,14;22:14; |
| Commission's (1) | $7: 13$ <br> customer | $33: 13 ; 37: 4,24 ; 38: 1$, 6;39:12,15,23 | $11: 10$ equates (1) | $\begin{aligned} & 25: 13,20 ; 26: 5,24 \\ & 27: 17 ; 36: 22 ; 38: 9 \end{aligned}$ |
| Company (14) | 10:14;15:23,24; | DG (6) | equates 23:2 | 39:10,13,19,20 |
| 4:9;6:7;7:19;8:21; | 22:17;26:6,15;27:10, | 3:4;15:22;18:2; | everyone (1) | filings (2) |
| $9: 4,20 ; 18: 16,18$ | $18$ | 26:15;27:5;32:2 | 40:10 | 38:21;39:1 |
| 20:16;25:10;29:14; | customers (2) | difference (6) | evidence (2) | filtered (1) |
| 38:9,18;39:4 | 15:21;27:12 | 7:21;8:4;18:15; | 34:5,21 | 8:9 |
| Company's (6) |  | 20:14,17;26:17 | EXAMINATION (2) | final (1) |
| 10:22;13:9,24; | D | different (2) | 5:1;36:6 | 9:18 |
| 14:10;25:19;39:10 |  | 15:5;37:7 | example (2) | finance (1) |
| completely (1) | data (1) | DIRECT (1) | 18:6;24:10 | 29:7 |
| 25:6 | 32:16 | 5:1 | Excel (3) | find (3) |
| concluded (2) | date (3) | discount (1) | 22:15,22;34:9 | 17:8;35:14;37:5 |
| 7:8;40:14 | 11:2,5;23:12 | 27:7 | Excels (1) | findings (4) |
| concur (1) | DAVID (3) | discounted (1) | 36:8 | 9:18;37:4,7;39:7 |

DG 21-128 LIBERTY UTILITIES (ENERGYNORTH...) Tax Year 2020 Reconciliation and Rate Adjustment Hearing Petition for Property Tax Adjustment Mechanism


DG 21-128 LIBERTY UTILITIES (ENERGYNORTH...) Tax Year 2020 Reconciliation and Rate Adjustment Hearing Petition for Property Tax Adjustment Mechanism

| much (3) | off (3) | 11:5;21:15,18; | 4:7 | 9:1,7,11;11:3;12:1; |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 17:22;18:13;39:15 | $\begin{aligned} & 3: 17 ; 30: 16 ; 33: 20 \\ & \text { offer (1) } \end{aligned}$ | 22:14;30:8 | prepare (1) | 14:8,16,17,23;15:5, |
| multiplied (1) |  | particular (2) | 6:18 | 19;17:20;18:3,5,1 |
| 23:9 | 34:7 | 18:22;29:1 | presented (1) | 22:17,20;24:12,16; |
| municipal (5) | offered (1) | passed (2) | 39:2 | 25:14;27:5,8,20,23; |
| 7:21;8:1;12:4,6; | 36:5 | 39:5,6 | p | 28:1;32:2;36:13; |
| 19:18 | e | Paul (1) | 21:16,20,23;22:2, | 38:12,16,21;39:6; |
| municipalities (3) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 25:5,14,15 } \\ & \text { one (12) } \\ & 4: 13 ; 13: 19 ; 21: 18, \\ & 21 ; 24: 21 ; 26: 4,22 ; \\ & 29: 9,20 ; 30: 21 ; 36: 10 ; \\ & 37: 9 \end{aligned}$ | 3:23 | probably (1) | ratepayers (1) |
| 12:22,24;13:3 |  | Pause (1) | 13:7 |  |
| municipality's (1) |  | 3:19 | proceedings | 39:5 |
| 13:18 |  | paymen | 3:19 | rates (26) |
| mute (1) |  | 37:12 | process | 5:5;7:14;8:2,6,10, |
| $3: 15$ |  | per (5) | 8:13 | 14,18,20;9:11;10:2 |
| muted (1) | one-page (2) 23.23.34:1 | 10:14;26:6,14; | Program (2) | 17:19,23;18:14,17; |
| 24:3 |  |  | 8:19;10:3 | 20:15;22:12,19,21; |
|  | ones (1) | percent (16) | property (23) | $\begin{aligned} & 23: 10,11,11 ; 24: 9 ; \\ & 26: 24 ; 27: 4,8 ; 31: 5 \end{aligned}$ |
| N | 21:21 | $\begin{aligned} & 9: 9 ; 15: 2,12,18,20 \\ & 16: 2,4,6,8,20 ; 20: 21 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 3: 4 ; 6: 8 ; 7: 2,12,21 \\ & 8: 2 ; 12: 4,23,24 ; 13: 10, \end{aligned}$ |  |
|  | only (3) |  |  |  |
| $\underset{37.8}{\operatorname{Nashua}}(\mathbf{1})$ | $\begin{aligned} & 14: 14 ; 24: 20 ; 37: 2 \\ & \text { open (3) } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 22: 9,10 ; 23: 17 ; 31: 1 \\ & 38: 15 \end{aligned}$ |  | 6:12 |
|  |  |  | $17: 22 ; 25: 15 ; 26: 18$ | reached (1) |
| Natural (1) | 34:17;35:14;37:21 opened (1) | $\begin{gathered} 38: 15 \\ \text { percentage (2) } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 28: 4,10,21 ; 29: 7 \\ & 37: 13 ; 38: 19 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 12: 11 \\ \text { read }(2) \end{array}$ |
| 3:11 |  | 33:15,23period (2) |  |  |
| need (3) | 5:8 |  | proposal (1) | 24:22;30:2 |
| 27:20;34:21;39:1 | order (4) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { period (2) } \\ & 12: 2 ; 13: 20 \end{aligned}$ | 35:8 | ready (1) |
| needed (1) | 9:6;15:23;33:22 | periodically (1) 38:19 | proposed (6) | 34:12 |
| $\begin{gathered} 16: 3 \\ \text { New (13) } \end{gathered}$ | $40: 13$ |  | 10:17;11:2,24,24; | real (1) |
|  | original (1) | permanent (1) | 22:21;40:5 | 30:2 |
| 3:24;6:6;10:16; | 9:14 | 26:14 | $\underset{6: 7 ; 7: 19}{\mid \operatorname{proposing}(2)}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { really (3) } \\ & 25: 2 ; 26: 16 ; 33: 11 \end{aligned}$ |
| 17:3;21:12;23:20,21, | out (9) | person (1) |  |  |
| $23 ; 24: 9,11,17,20$ | 6:12;8:15;10:24; |  | provide (1) | $\begin{gathered} \text { reason (1) } \\ 3: 16 \end{gathered}$ |
| $25: 10$ | 17:8;25:5;26:22; |  | 22:13 |  |
| next (6) |  | $13: 17 ; 25: 5$ | provision (1) | recalculate (1) |
| 10:1,12;19:15 |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { pick (1) } \\ 19: 7 \end{gathered}$ | $24: 24$ | $\begin{gathered} 27: 9 \\ \text { recall (5) } \end{gathered}$ |
| 22:18;27:2;29:4 | $\begin{array}{\|l\|} \hline \text { outside (4) } \\ 21: 16,20,23 ; 22: 1 \end{array}$ |  | provisions (1) |  |
| nice (1) | over (8) | piece (7) | 23:20 PTAM | $\begin{aligned} & 11: 8 ; 14: 3,4 ; 25: 2 \\ & 29: 18 \end{aligned}$ |
| 39:13 | 13:17,20;22:20,24 | 9:2;15:1;16:3; | PTAM (2) |  |
| noise (2) | 28:8,11;30:6;37:4 | $\begin{aligned} & 26: 21 ; 27: 14 ; 30: 5 \\ & 34: 4 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 26: 21,24 \\ & \text { pull (1) } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { received (1) } \\ 29: 15 \end{gathered}$ |
|  | overall (3) |  |  |  |
| non-heating (1)$24: 12$ | $8: 22 ; 15: 20 ; 16: 1$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { pieces (1) } \\ 8: 16 \end{gathered}$ | $34: 16$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { recent (1) } \\ 12: 16 \end{gathered}$ |
|  | oversight (1) |  |  |  |
| notice (1)$20: 3$ |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { place (1) } \\ 25: 6 \end{gathered}$ | $24: 8$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { recess (2) } \\ 30: 13,17 \end{array}$ |
|  |  |  | purposes (3) |  |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { November (2) } \\ \text { 11:4;33:6 } \end{gathered}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { places (1) } \\ 20: 9 \end{gathered}$ | 13:1;26:6;27:19 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { recollection (1) } \\ & 25: 4 \end{aligned}$ |
|  | P |  | $\begin{aligned} & 12: 15 \\ & \text { put (3) } \end{aligned}$ |  |
| 7:12;16:23;17:3,8, |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { plays (1) } \\ 38: 22 \end{gathered}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { recommendation (1) } \\ & 29: 18 \end{aligned}$ |
| 11;19:8,24;20:5; | Page (23) | $\begin{gathered} \text { please (2) } \\ 5: 3 ; 6: 17 \end{gathered}$ | 23:4;31:10;35:13 | recommended (2) |
| 21:6,9,12,13;22:5; | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 6:6;15:14;16:11 } \\ & \text { 14,14,15;17:10; } \end{aligned}$ |  | puts (1) |  |
| 23:2;24:4;27:12; |  | pm (3) | 31:14 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { reconciliation (2) } \\ & 3: 6 ; 34: 1 \end{aligned}$ |
| 34:15;36:11 | $\begin{aligned} & 20: 13,17,24 ; 22: 5,22 \\ & 23: 22 ; 24: 5,6,11,15 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 30: 17,18 ; 40: 14 \\ & \text { point }(\mathbf{2}) \end{aligned}$ |  |  |
| umbers (7) |  |  | Q | $\begin{aligned} & \text { record (21) } \\ & 3: 3,17,21 ; 23: 4 ; \end{aligned}$ |
| 20:9;23:1,16;39:21 | $\begin{aligned} & 17,20 ; 25: 11 ; 26: 10 \\ & 28: 7,12 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 29:14;35:6 } \\ & \text { pool (1) } \end{aligned}$ | quickly (2) | 30:16,20;32:7,12,21, |
| numerator (4) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { pages (10) } \\ & 10: 17,23 ; 15: 4,7 \\ & 19: 2 ; 22: 11,12 ; 24: 4, \\ & 15 ; 40: 6 \end{aligned}$ | $4: 2$ | 30:2,7 | $14 ; 35: 3,9,13,18$ |
| $\begin{aligned} & 16: 9 ; 20: 20 ; 31: 1 ; \\ & 33: 14 \end{aligned}$ |  | $8: 16,17,18$ | R |  |
|  |  | position (1) |  | recovered (1)$18: 17$ |
| 0 | paid (7) | $5: 4$ | R-4 (1) |  |
|  | 18:16,18;19:12,13, | $\begin{array}{\|c} \hline \text { possible (1) } \\ 29: 3 \end{array}$ | $\begin{gathered} 27: 1 \\ \text { range (5) } \end{gathered}$ | Recovery (1) |
| objection (1) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 18;20:16;28:10 } \\ & \text { parent (2) } \end{aligned}$ |  |  | 8:19 |
| 37:18 |  | prefiled (1) | 21:17,20,23;22:2, | REDIRECT (1) |
| obviously (3) | 27:4,8part (5) | $\begin{aligned} & 4: 7 \\ & \text { premarked (1) } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { rate }(\mathbf{3 7}) \\ & 3: 6 ; 7: 8,11,24 ; 8: 22 ; \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 36:6 } \\ & \text { red-lined (1) } \end{aligned}$ |
| 19:18;30:4;39:20 |  |  |  |  |

DG 21-128 LIBERTY UTILITIES (ENERGYNORTH...) Tax Year 2020 Reconciliation and Rate Adjustment Hearing Petition for Property Tax Adjustment Mechanism

| 10:17 | 24:10 | 23;5:2;11:11;32:20, | $5: 14,16 ; 6: 16,18$ | tariff (12) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| reduce (2) | results (1) | 24;33:8;34:7;35:8; | 23;8:8;9:16,23; | 6:6,8;10:17,23; |
| 9:20;38:24 | 39:3 | 36:2,4,7,15,24;37:1, | 16:24;34:9;36:9 | 23:20,23;24:4,17,20; |
| reduced (1) | resumed (1) | 14;39:17,18 | statute (10) | 25:11;40:2,5 |
| 39:3 | 30:18 | show (4) | 7:4;12:16,20,21; | tariffs (2) |
| reduction (2) | revenue (12) | 16:5;22:19,24;24:9 | 13:3,23;24:22;25:3; | 23:21;24:8 |
| 28:17;37:6 | 7:19;9:20;10:7,14; | shown (2) | 38:17;39:21 | $\boldsymbol{\operatorname { t a x }}$ (15) |
| referenced (2) | 16:1;26:6,14,23;27:3, | 20:17;24:21 | step (2) | 3:4,5;6:8;7:2; |
| 12:19;36:11 | 9,11,18 | shows (4) | 8:23;17:21 | 19:17;20:16;26:18; |
| regulatory (1) | revenues (2) | 22:17,18;34:5,21 | Still (1) | 28:4,21;29:3,6,7,24; |
| 5:5 | 21:7;31:22 | side (1) | 3:15 | 30:6;37:10 |
| related (12) | reviewed (1) | 31:16 | stop (1) | taxable (1) |
| 8:17,18,20;12:3; | 25:19 | Simek (18) | 25:13 | 39:3 |
| 19:17;25:14;26:17; | revised (1) | 4:13,17,20;5:3,5,7; | strike (1) | taxation (1) |
| 27:10;30:4,9;37:6,12 | 10:10 | 7:1;11:23;22:1; | 37:18 | 13:1 |
| relates (1) | right (23) | 30:24;31:20;33:14; | stuff (1) | taxes (18) |
| 7:20 | 4:12,15;12:12,17; | 34:10,16;35:12;36:5; | 31:14 | 7:13,22;8:2;11:24; |
| relatively (1) | 13:21,22;14:13,18; | 37:3;39:22 | submit (1) | 12:3,4,6,7;14:24; |
| 30:3 | 15:2;17:6,12,24; | Simek's (1) | 35:7 | 16:22;17:23;18:7,16; |
| relies (2) | 18:20;20:6,6,18; | 34:8 | submitted (1) | 19:18;25:15;28:10; |
| 13:8,13 | 22:23;24:6;25:7; | simply (1) | $26: 22$ | 30:4;38:20 |
| remove (1) | 26:7,10;37:16;40:9 | 20:14 | submitting (1) | team (2) |
| 25:10 | right-hand (1) | site (1) | 35:4 | 29:6,7 |
| removed (2) | 19:23 | 34:17 | subsequent (1) | technical (11) |
| 37:10,12 | rise (1) | slightly (1) | 39:6 | 5:14,16;6:16,18, |
| repetitive (1) | 29:19 | 16:23 | suggest (1) | 23;8:8;9:15,23; |
| 11:20 | RSA (2) | small (4) | 39:22 | 16:24;34:8;36:9 |
| rephrase (3) | 12:17,20 | 8:18;14:24;29:23; | summary (2) | teed (1) |
| 13:11;14:21;29:1 |  | 30:3 | 27:16;39:8 | 34:12 |
| report (6) $9 \cdot 18,19$ | S | somebody (1) | summer (2) | tells (2) |
| $30: 1,6$ | same (3) | sorry (8) | sunset (1) | test (1) |
| Reporter (6) | 19:24;29:6;33:12 | $12: 18 ; 13: 10 ; 20: 7$ | 24:24 | 21:8 |
| 4:19;9:24;21:3; | satisfied (1) | 24:3,20;31:15;32:4; | support (1) | testimony (13) |
| 24:19;27:15;32:9 | 35:4 | 38:6 | 39:19 | 5:7,11,18,23,24; |
| represent (1) | savings (1) | sort (4) | supported (1) | 6:22;9:15;16:7,11, |
| 19:10 | 39:5 | 12:21;28:8;33:21, | 33:19 | 15;20:23;23:3;31:21 |
| represents (1) | scale (1) | 24 | supportive (1) | Thanks (1) |
| 7:12 | 8:21 | sound (2) | 39:10 | 30:21 |
| request (6) | schedule (4) | 12:17;13:21 | supports (1) | therms (1) |
| 32:15,15,21,22; | 17:16,18;18:4; | sounds (1) | $38: 8$ | 22:18 |
| 33:22;35:3 | 28:11 | 13:22 | Sure (12) | third (1) |
| requested (2) | second (4) | specific (3) | $6: 6 ; 13: 1 ; 16: 13,16$ | 17:17 |
| 34:2;37:6 | 3:18;8:24;19:5,14 | 9:11;29:13;40:1 | $19: 11 ; 25: 4 ; 26: 14$ | three (1) |
| requesting (1) | seems (1) | specifics (1) | $29: 21 ; 31: 12 ; 33: 8$ | 37:20 |
| $10: 22$ | 18:18 | 7:6 | $34: 7 ; 36: 4$ | tied (1) |
| requests (5) | September (1) | spread (1) | sworn (3) | 28:10 |
| 35:10,19;37:22; | 5:9 | 9:6 | 4:16,18,20 | ties (1) |
| 40:1,12 | set (4) | spreadsheet (4) |  | 26:22 |
| required (2) | 12:21;13:2;15:6; | 21:15;33:20;34:16; | T | times (2) |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { 7:3;25:9 } \\ \text { rescinded (1) } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 24: 22 \\ \text { sets (1) } \end{array}$ | $36: 13$ spreadsheets (1) | tab (5) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 25:18;31:4 } \\ & \text { titled (1) } \end{aligned}$ |
| 25:16 | 6:11 | 35:10 | 26:22;27:2,6; | 36:14 |
| reserved (2) | setting (1) | Staff (2) | 34:18;36:13 | titles (1) |
| 32:22;35:18 | 40:3 | 19:20,21 | tabs (1) | 10:19 |
| residential (4) | Settlement (10) | start (2) | 26:20 | today (6) |
| 15:14,21;16:2; | 8:1;11:6,9;12:10, | 19:6;24:15 | talking (5) | 4:1;7:1,17,18; |
| 24:12 | 19;14:16;18:6,12; | starting (4) | 19:24;22:8;23:24; | 35:12;40:2 |
| response (1) | 28:1;38:11 | 3:7;15:10;24:5; | 28:9;30:24 | together (3) |
| 35:7 | settling (1) | 37:24 | talks (2) | 19:16;31:10,14 |
| result (1) | 14:8 | state (3) | 16:19,21 | tomorrow (1) |
| $38: 20$ | Sheehan (23) | 12:7;29:23;37:9 | targets (2) | 33:7 |
| resulting (1) | 3:8,9,10;4:9,14,22, | statement (11) | 26:6;27:18 | took (1) |

DG 21-128 LIBERTY UTILITIES (ENERGYNORTH...) Tax Year 2020 Reconciliation and Rate Adjustment Hearing Petition for Property Tax Adjustment Mechanism

| $\begin{aligned} & 23: 8 \\ & \operatorname{top}(\mathbf{3 )} \\ & 15: 14 ; 16: 19 ; 17: 17 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 12:22,24;14:13; } \\ & 37: 13 ; 39: 1 \\ & \text { utility's (1) } \\ & 13: 13 \end{aligned}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & 9: 9 ; 15: 2,18,20 ; \\ & 16: 2,4,6,8 ; 20: 21 ; \\ & 22: 10 ; 23: 17 ; 31: 1 \end{aligned}$ | 37:6 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Y |  | 5 |
|  |  | Year (14) | $\begin{aligned} & 22: 10 ; 23: 17 ; 31: 1 \\ & \mathbf{2 . 2}(\mathbf{1}) \end{aligned}$ | 5 (8) |
| $\begin{aligned} & 9: 20 ; 10: 7 ; 19: 23 ; \\ & 20: 4,10 ; 23: 2 ; 37: 4 \end{aligned}$ | V | 3:5;10:9,10;13:19; | 6: |  |
| touched (1) |  | $\begin{aligned} & 19: 17 ; 20: 16 ; 21: 8 ; \\ & 23: 8: 28: 22: 29: 3.4 .5 . \end{aligned}$ | 22:9 | $35: 12,12,18 ; 36: 19$ |
| 17:9 | vacation (1) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 23:8;28:22;29:3,4,5, } \\ & 9 ; 31: 4 \end{aligned}$ | 2:01 (1) | $\begin{aligned} & 35: 12, \\ & 37: 21 \end{aligned}$ |
| town (7) | $\begin{aligned} & 33: 1 \\ & \text { valuation (3) } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { years }(\mathbf{2}) \\ & 13: 21 ; 25: 9 \end{aligned}$ | 40:14 | 6 |
| 19:1,1,7;30:8,9; |  |  | 20 (2) |  |
| town-by-town (2) | $\begin{aligned} & 13: 5,18 ; 25: 6 \\ & \text { value (4) } \end{aligned}$ | $\mathbf{Z}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 20-105 (8) } \\ & \text { 12:11;14:17;15:22; } \end{aligned}$ | 6 (8) |
| 20:12;28:11 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 12:22,24;13:9,13 } \\ & \text { various (2) } \end{aligned}$ |  |  | 15:4,10,14;22:12; |
| towns (2) |  | zero (3) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 18:2;26:15;27:6; } \\ & 28: 1 ; 32: 2 \end{aligned}$ | 26:2;35:12,18;37:21 |
| 29:20;37:7 | vein (1) | 15:17;28:14,20 |  | 7 |
| 33:2 | 33:12 | 1 | $\begin{aligned} & 2019(2) \\ & 10: 9 ; 21: 8 \end{aligned}$ |  |
| true (1) | versus (1) |  | 202,185 (1) | 7 (5) |
| 12:9 | $\begin{aligned} & 35: 2 \\ & \text { volumetric (1) } \end{aligned}$ | 1 (13) | $19: 13$$2020(10)$ | 15:11;16:14,15; |
| trying (2) |  | $\begin{aligned} & 4: 6 ; 5: 8,24 ; 9: 15 ; \\ & 16: 11,15 ; 17: 19 ; 20: 5, \\ & 23 ; 21: 19 ; 33: 6 ; 35: 9 \\ & 37: 19 \end{aligned}$ |  | 20:24;34:18 |
| 16:7;18:14 |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & 2020 \text { (10) } \\ & 3: 5 ; 7: 22 ; 10: 10 ; \end{aligned}$ | 72:8-d (1) |
| turn (3) 16:12;19:5;26:12 | W |  | $\begin{aligned} & 12: 5 ; 19: 18 ; 20: 16 ; \\ & 23: 8 ; 28: 22 ; 29: 3 ; 31: 4 \end{aligned}$ | 72:8-е (1) |
| two (15) | ```walked (2) 33:13;39:23 walking (1) 39:13 way (4) 7:2;15:11,11;19:22 weather (1) 34:3``` | 1,943,506 (1) | $\begin{aligned} & 2021 \text { (4) } \\ & 7: 22 ; 8: 3 ; 12: 5 ; \end{aligned}$ | 12:20 |
| 8:16;14:10;16:10; |  | $9: 7$ | $\begin{aligned} & 7: 22 ; 8: 3 ; 12: 5 \\ & 23: 14 \end{aligned}$ | 8 |
| 26:20;29:20;34:9; |  | 1,972,667 (2) | 21 (1) |  |
| 35:10,11;36:8,8,17; |  | 1,977.461 (1) | $24: 6$$\mathbf{2 1 - 1 2 8}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 8(\mathbf{3}) \\ & \quad 15: 5,11 ; 22: 12 \end{aligned}$ |
| 37:7 |  | $1,16: 22$ |  |  |
| $\mathbf{U}$ |  | 1:44 (1) | $3: 4$ $22(1)$ | $\begin{aligned} & 15: 5,11 ; 22: 12 \\ & \mathbf{8 9}(\mathbf{2}) \end{aligned}$ |
|  |  | 1:50 (1) | 23 (1) | 89,248,000 (1) |
| under (2) | weather-normalization (2) | $1.50: 16$$1.51(1)$ |  | $\begin{gathered} 32: 13 \\ \mathbf{8 9 , 2 4 8 , 1 1 8}(\mathbf{2}) \end{gathered}$ |
| 20:4;40:11 | $\begin{aligned} & 35: 2 ; 36: 18 \\ & \text { weather-normalized (4) } \end{aligned}$ |  | 20:17 |  |
| uniformly (1) |  | $\begin{array}{r} \mathbf{1 : 5 1 ( 1 )} \\ 30: 18 \end{array}$ | 24 (1) | $\begin{aligned} & \mathbf{8 9 , 2 4 8 , 1 1 8 ( 2 )} \\ & 23: 5 ; 36: 12 \\ & \mathbf{8 9 , 8 8 9 , 9 4 4}(\mathbf{2}) \end{aligned}$ |
| 9:6 | 31:7,11,23;32:14 | 10,897,564 (3) | 24:11 |  |
| up (10) | $\begin{gathered} \text { week }(\mathbf{1}) \\ 33: 1 \end{gathered}$ |  | $\begin{array}{\|c} \mathbf{2 9 , 1 6 1}(\mathbf{1}) \\ 10: 4 \end{array}$ | $\begin{gathered} \mathbf{8 9 , 8 8 9 , 9 4 4}(\mathbf{2}) \\ 21: 1,4 \end{gathered}$ |
| 12:21;13:4;20:10; |  | $\begin{aligned} & 18: 23 ; 20: 1,10 \\ & \text { 103A (1) } \end{aligned}$ |  | $21: 1,4$ |
| $24: 22 ; 26: 21 ; 27: 13$ $33 \cdot 12 \cdot 34 \cdot 12,16$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { weighted (3) } \\ & 9: 5,8 ; 10: 8 \\ & \text { what's (4) } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 6: 6 \\ 12(2) \end{array}$ | 3 |  |
| 35:14 |  | $\begin{aligned} & 12 \text { (2) } \\ & 17: 19 ; 18: 1 \end{aligned}$ |  |  |
| update (5) | $\begin{aligned} & 17: 18 ; 18: 16 ; 21: 12 ; \\ & 27: 8 \end{aligned}$ | 14 (1) | 3 (26) |  |
| 9:14,22;10:1,12; |  | 18:19 | $4: 7 ; 6: 15 ; 9: 16$ |  |
| 31:21 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 27:8 } \\ & \text { WHEREUPON (2) } \end{aligned}$ |  | 15:4;16:24;17:10,10; |  |
| updated (11) | 4:17;40:14 | 15 (1) 29:17 | 18:10,11;20:13,18; |  |
| 5:14,16;10:5,6,16, | withdraw (1) | 16 (1) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 21:19,24;22:4,6; } \\ & 24: 5 ; 26: 1,9 ; 28: 7,7, \end{aligned}$ |  |
| 23;16:21,23;21:9; | 20:7 | 28:12 |  |  |
| 26:5,5 | within (1) | 17 (2) | 12,12;35:9,11;37:19; 40:6 |  |
| updates (2) | Without (1) | $\begin{array}{r} 18: 19,22 \\ \mathbf{1 8 0 . 8 1 4}(1) \end{array}$ |  |  |
| 5:20;9:17 |  |  | $\begin{gathered} 40: 6 \\ \text { 31st (1) } \end{gathered}$ |  |
| updating (1) | 37:18 | $\begin{gathered} \mathbf{1 8 0 , 8 1 4 ( 1 )} \\ 19: 11 \end{gathered}$ | 8:3 |  |
| 27:18 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { witness (1) } \\ & 4: 13 \\ & \text { wording (1) } \end{aligned}$ | 1st (3) | 33 (2) |  |
| used (3) |  | 11:4;23:13,14 | 19:9,10 |  |
| 10:7;27:1,9 useful (1) | wording (1) |  | 4 |  |
| 32:16 | words (5) | 2 |  |  |
| uses (1) | 13:2,17;14:11; | 2 (9) | 4 (7) |  |
| 10:10 | 24:24;26:24 | 6:4,6;20:24;21:19; | 19:2;23:22;32:22;35:12,12;36:18; |  |
| using (3) | work (1) |  |  |  |
| 10:8;27:3;32:1 | 29:1 | $\begin{aligned} & 23: 22 ; 24: 21 ; 25: 11 ; \\ & 38: 15 ; 40: 4 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 35: 12,12 ; 36: 18 ; \\ & 37: 21 \end{aligned}$ |  |
| Utilities (1) | $\begin{array}{\|c} \hline \text { written (1) } \\ 12: 16 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \mathbf{2 . 1 ( 1 )} \\ & 15: 12 \\ & \mathbf{2 . 1 8 ( 1 2 )} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{\|c} \text { 4,724 (1) } \\ 30: 9 \\ 4,794(1) \end{array}$ |  |
| 3:10 |  |  |  |  |
| utility (5) |  |  |  |  |

