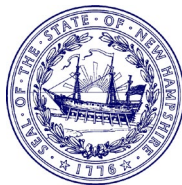


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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
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July 14, 2023

Daniel C. Goldner, Chairman
Public Utilities Commission
21 S. Fruit Street
Concord, NH 03301-2429

Re: Docket No. DW 23-027 Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty, Petition to Modify Cost of Gas Procedures, Liberty and DOE Status Report on Proposed Default Schedules and Guidelines, Submitted by the New Hampshire Department of Energy

Dear Chairman Goldner:

The Commission has directed the parties to this docket, Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty, (“Liberty Gas” or “the Company”); the New Hampshire Department of Energy (“the Department”) and the Office of the Consumer Advocate (“OCA”) to file a status report on July 14, 2023. Commission’s Procedural Order (June 8, 2023).

The status report is “to inform the Commission as to whether there is agreement on schedule and tariff changes necessary to implement a new procedure.” If there is agreement, the parties are to “ask the Commission to approve the new tariff language without a hearing. If the parties cannot agree, the parties will ask the Commission to schedule a hearing.” Id.

The Department has issued two sets of data requests and met with Liberty Gas for informal technical session on July 10, 2023 and July 14, 2023. After discussion and review, Liberty Gas and the Department have reached agreement on the attached Default Schedules and accompanying Guidelines. Default schedules are provided for EnergyNorth (ENNG) cost of gas (supply only); Liberty-Keene cost of gas Winter (supply only); Liberty-Keene cost of gas Summer (supply only) and for Liberty Gas’s local distribution adjustment clause (LDAC). The OCA was unavailable through July 11 and unexpectedly out of the office today. Therefore, OCA’s position is not known. This Status Report does not address Liberty’s proposed tariff language changes; that shall be addressed in a second status report, to be filed shortly.

Liberty Gas and the Department support a “two track” framework, with a separate LDAC proceeding to be filed August 20, 2021 and adjudicated to be effective February 1st. In the alternative, given the tight timeframe, and given that the Commission has stated it has no preference between a “two track” or unified ENNG LDAC/COG proceeding, the parties have also submitted a unified schedule.

The Department submits this *Status Report on Default Schedule and Guidelines*, on behalf of itself and Liberty Gas. In the opinion of Liberty Gas and the Department, the attached Default Schedules and

accompanying Guidelines may be approved without a hearing. Accordingly, the Department and Liberty Gas hereby ask the Commission to approve them. As stated above, the OCA's position is not known at this time.

Consistent with the Commission's current practice, this letter is being filed solely in electronic form.

Sincerely,

/s/ Mary E. Schwarzer

Mary E. Schwarzer
Staff Attorney/Hearings Examiner

cc: Service List

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