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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10
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October 17, 2023

Daniel C. Goldner, Chairman
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
21 South Fruit Street
Concord, NH 03301

Re: DG 23-085 Northern Utilities, Inc., Petition for Approval of 2023-2024 Winter and 2024 Summer Cost of Gas and LDAC Rates; *DOE's Assented-To Request to Modify Procedural Order To Allow Position Statement to be filed October 20, 2023 instead of October 19, 2023*

Dear Chairman Goldner:

The New Hampshire Department of Energy ("DOE" or "the Department") asks the Commission to extend the deadline for the Department's statement of position in this docket by one day from October 19, 2023 to October 20, 2023. See Commencement of Adjudicative Proceeding and Notice of Hearing (October 4, 2023) at 4 (Directing the DOE to file its position on or before October 19).

The Department is seeking this relief because there are two cost of gas hearings already scheduled for October 19, 2023 in Dkt. No. 23-076 (Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) d/b/a Liberty) and Dkt. No. 23-084 (Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities- Keene Division). The DOE Gas Division will thus be focused on other gas dockets on Oct 19 and the preceding period. Extending the deadline by one day, to October 20, 2023, will permit the DOE to focus exclusively on the above referenced docket, which combines both Northern's proposed changes for that utility's local distribution adjustment clause (LDAC) and cost of gas (supply).

The Department's request for an additional day to file its position statement is consistent with the New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules Puc 202.04 because the change will not delay the proceeding and denying the request would likely cause "undue hardship or inconvenience." See Puc 202.04. In addition, by and through counsel, Northern Utilities, Inc. and the Office of the Consumer Advocate assent to the October 20, 2023 deadline for the Department's statement of position. See Puc 202.04.

Based on the foregoing, the Department respectfully requests that the Commission grant the relief requested: i.e., extending the Department's filing deadline to October 20, 2023.

Consistent with the Commission's current practices, this letter is being filed only in electronic form. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,
/s/ Mary E. Schwarzer
Mary E. Schwarzer, Esq.
Hearings Examiner

cc: Service List (Electronically)

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