

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

DG 23-067

LIBERTY UTILITIES (ENERGYNORTH NATURAL GAS) CORP. d/b/a LIBERTY

Request for Change in Distribution Rates

Procedural Order Re: Department of Energy Settlement Status Update

Reference is made to the status update filing provided by the New Hampshire Department of Energy (DOE) in this docket on August 16, 2024, regarding the Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty (Liberty Gas) rate case. In its status update, the DOE advised the Commission of the following: "Since the June 4 status conference, the parties to this case have met to discuss a comprehensive settlement of all issues in this case, similar to what Liberty [Gas] reported to the Commission in Liberty's electric case on July 30, 2024...In DE 23-039, Liberty [Gas] will provide a status update on the settlement discussions no later than August 30, 2024...The parties to this gas case recommend that a similar status update be filed in the gas case on September 27, 2024, and that the stay in this case be extended until October 15, 2024."

On August 30, 2024, Liberty Utilities (Granite State Electric) Corp. d/b/a Liberty (Liberty Electric) filed a status update in its rate case, in Docket No. DE 23-039, stating that settlement discussions were ongoing among the parties. Near-concurrently, also on August 30, 2024, Liberty Electric filed a status report in Docket No. DE 23-081, a Revenue Decoupling Adjustment Factor (RDAF) review proceeding for Liberty Electric, stating that "the parties expect that the remaining issues in this docket related to the 2022-2023 RDAF year will be addressed and resolved in the comprehensive settlement agreement being negotiated in [Liberty Electric's] pending rate case, Docket No. DE 23-039."

In light of these developments, and in advance of the Commission ruling on the DOE's request for an extended stay in this instant DG 23-067 rate proceeding, the DOE is requested to report to the Commission, no later than September 10, 2024, as to whether the parties expect that a forthcoming settlement in this case would address any outstanding issues in the following dockets involving Liberty Gas's decoupling adjustment rates, and related rates: DG 22-041; DG 22-045; DG 23-076.

So ordered, this third day of September, 2024.



Daniel C. Goldner
Chairman



Pradip K. Chattopadhyay
Commissioner

Service List - Docket Related

Docket#: 23-067

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