STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DG 23-076

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

Winter 2023-2024 and Summer 2024 Cost of Gas and LDAC Filing

Procedural Order Re: Request for Remote Participation Filed by Liberty Utilities

On May 29, 2024, Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty (Liberty or the Company) filed a motion requesting that its witness, Mr. James Bonner, be permitted to participate remotely during the hearing on June 5, 2024, in the above-captioned docket. The Company indicated in its motion that the Department of Energy and the Office of the Consumer Advocate assented to the Company's motion.

The Commission scheduled the hearing for June 5 by a procedural order issued May 13, 2024. The Hearing Guidelines issued in this docket on September 19, 2023, require that requests for remote participation be filed "no later than fifteen (15) days prior to the hearing date," so that any requests to participate remotely in the June 5 hearing should have been filed no later than May 21, 2024. The parties filed a proposed procedural schedule on March 12, 2024, which contained the June 5 hearing date. On May 13, 2024, the Commission approved the parties' procedural schedule containing the June 5 hearing date.

The request was not filed timely under the Hearing Guidelines and Liberty did not provide an explanation for why it did not file a timely request for its witness's remote participation. Further, Mr. Bonner does not qualify for remote participation due to a relatively short travel distance. Therefore, Liberty's untimely request for remote participation is DENIED.

Given the short amount of time remaining before the June 5 hearing, the Commission waives New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules, Puc 203.07(e). The filing of a separate request will be required for any other parties or witnesses wishing to appear remotely at this hearing.

So ordered, this thirtieth day of May, 2024.

Chairman

Commissioner

Service List - Docket Related

Docket#: 23-076

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