STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DG 24-106

LIBERTY UTILITIES (ENERGYNORTH NATURAL GAS) CORP. d/b/a LIBERTY Winter 2024-2025 and Summer 2025 Cost of Gas

Procedural Order Re: Granting DOE Request to Limit Scope of October 24 Hearing

On October 17, 2024, the New Hampshire Department of Energy (DOE) filed a request to limit the scope of the October 24, 2024 hearing to the adjustment of Cost of Gas (COG) rates and consider other issues raised in this docket at a later stage of the proceedings. Specifically, the DOE requests that the Commission carve out the following three issues: (1) Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty's (Liberty) request to alter the manner in which it communicates the Fixed Price Option (FPO) to its customers; (2) the Office of the Consumer Advocate's (OCA) recommendation to add a \$0.02 premium to the FPO price; and (3) the OCA's recommendation that the Commission adjust the interest rate on over- and under-collections of COG revenue. The DOE argues that these issues should be carved out of the general rate adjustment proceeding because they are complex and the DOE has not had sufficient to review them. The DOE represents that Liberty assents to the DOE's request. The DOE further represents that the OCA has assented to carving out the interest rate recommendation, but the DOE did not state whether the OCA had a position on the other two issues.

The Commission GRANTS the DOE's request. The Commission agrees with the DOE that these issues should be considered separately from the proposed rate adjustment. The Commission concurs that these are complicated and important issues that should be reviewed fully, which the Commission would not be able to do during the relatively truncated COG proceeding.

Accordingly, the Commission GRANTS the DOE's request and limits the scope of the October 24 hearing as laid out in this order. These issues shall be noticed after the October 24 hearing and addressed at a later time.

So ordered, this twenty-first day of October, 2024.

Daniel C. Goldner Chairman

Pradip K. Chattopadhyay

Commissioner

Service List - Docket Related

Docket#: 24-106

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