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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
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September 12, 2024

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

Re: DG 24-098 Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty
Winter 2024-2025 and Summer 2025 Cost of Gas and LDAC Filing; *DOE
Procedural Schedule Consistent with Dkt. No. DG 23-027*

Dear Chairman Goldner:

The Department of Energy (“DOE” or “the Department”) has reviewed the proposed procedural schedule provided by Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty (“Liberty” or “the Company”) in the cover letter the Company filed on September 3, 2024.

In the opinion of the DOE, important dates are inconsistent with the default schedule in Docket No. DG 23-027 and do not give the DOE sufficient time to investigate this docket. For example, the deadline for a second set of data requests has been changed from the “default” 9/25/24 to 10/2/24. Accordingly, the DOE recommends the following procedural schedule with dates in **bold**, as consistent with the default schedule.

[see next page for complete procedural schedule]

<u>Event</u>	<u>Default</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
File	9/1/24	9/3/24
DOE DR Set 1	9/8/24	9/10/24
Liberty Responses	9/15/24	9/18/24
Tech Session #1	9/19/24 1pm to 4pm	9/20/24 1pm to 4pm
DOE DR Set #2	9/25/24	9/25/24
Liberty update filing	9/27/24	9/27/24
Liberty Set 2 Responses	10/3/24	10/3/24
DOE Tech. Statement	n/a	10/14/24
Exhibits, Witness/Exhibit List	10/11/24	10/15/24 (5 days in advance, with PUC permission to update after the 2 nd Technical Session if needed)
Tech Session #2	10/11	10/17/24¹ 1 pm to 4pm
Hearing	10/18/24	10/22/24

In the opinion of the DOE, other parties need not be consulted for assent for dates consistent with the default procedural schedule and guidelines as filed in Docket No. DG 23-027. Nonetheless, the OCA assents to the above schedule. Liberty’s counsel assented to dates through September 20, however due to a longstanding vacation is not yet available to comment on the remaining dates except as follows. All parties assent to the October 17, 2024, 2nd Technical Session date and the October 22, 2024 hearing date if acceptable to the Commission. (The hearing date was moved forward from the default date by two business days due to the September 3 filing date).

Consistent with the Commission’s current practices, this letter is being filed only in electronic form.

Sincerely,

/s/ Mary E. Schwarzer

Mary E. Schwarzer, Esq.
Staff Attorney/Hearings Examiner
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cc: Service List.

¹ DOE has moved the second technical session to accommodate a colleague’s long-standing vacation plans and to make the October 11, 2024 default date available for the Liberty-Keene cost of gas proceeding as a potentially useful accommodation. The DOE has been informed, however, of an OCA scheduling conflict on October 11, 2024.

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