

DG08-009

Leighton, Adele

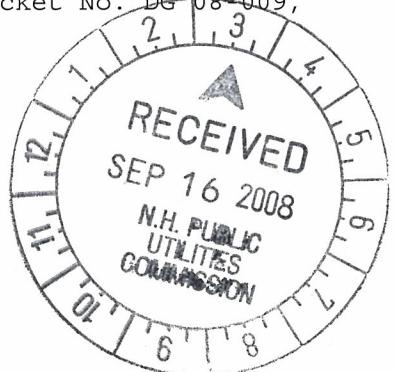
From: Smith, Kim on behalf of PUC
Sent: Tuesday, September 16, 2008 3:02 PM
To: Leighton, Adele; Howland, Debra; Noonan, Amanda; Raymond, Margaret
Subject: FW: Natural Gas Main Extension - DG 08-009

I have attached an internet e-mail from our PUC account regarding Docket No. DG 08-009, ENGI.

Kim

-----Original Message-----

From: George Baryiames [mailto:gbaryiames@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, September 14, 2008 9:53 PM
To: PUC
Subject: Natural Gas Main Extension - DG 08-009



To whom it may concern.

The following is a description of the issue I have had with National Grid, the sole provider of Natural to the city of Manchester, NH.

Back in July I contacted National Grid about the availability of Natural Gas at a property located at 134 Lacourse St, Manchester, NH. In two separate conversations with representatives at the company, I was told that Natural Gas was available at 134 Lacourse St.. With that information I went forward and contacted a local Plumbing company to get estimate for doing a conversion from #2 heating Oil to cheaper and cleaner burning natural gas. I got the quote from the plumbing company, then we both filled out the appropriate application forms and submitted them to National Grid. I call National Grid about the last week in July to find out the progress of the application. At that point the representative informed me that they received the application and that they were waiting for an estimate to come back on a main extension, at that point I ask the representative if I was responsible for that cost and they said NO. On August 26, I received a call from National Grid informing me they received the estimate for the main extension and it was for \$13,000. The representative told me that if I wanted natural gas I would have to pay for the gas line extension. At the point I told the rep to send me the estimate and that I would be contacting the PUC. Once I mentioned the PUC, the conversation ended and I have not received the estimate or any other contact with National Grid. I believe that once National Grid received the Estimate for the Main line extension, and it was more than some in house number they put the cost onto the customer.

I also want to mention that 134 Lacourse St is located in a thickly populated area in Manchester. The gas line extension would also pass in front of many homes and could in the future provide service to these homes as well. I do not feel that I should have to pay for this extension because National Grid could use it in the future to provide gas to other potential customers. National Grid is being very shorted sited here and is not willing to invest in Manchester, NH.

The State of New Hampshire needs to have some energy policy in place or change the current policies. New England is predominately heated with Heating Oil, currently natural gas is about 1/2 the cost of Oil and it domestically supplied. Going forward if Oil prices continue to climb, the people of New Hampshire will have a difficult time paying for heat. Something must be done to force the Natural Gas supplies to build out the required infrastructure in the state. It appears that National Grid is only willing to grow it's customer base, based on its existing gas lines and is not interested in grow its business by investing in New Hampshire. At this point there is no other competition in Manchester, NH for Natural Gas so there is now where for me or other residents in the city to go to except to contact the PUC and put in complaint.

The state of New Hampshire with the help of the Federal Government should put some incentives in place so these Natural Gas suppliers build out there infrastructure. Something needs to be done, otherwise as heating cost rise the residents in the state may

not be able to afford to live in the state.

Please include this complaint with DG 08-009.

If you have any questions please call me at 603 502 5915 Thanks,

George Baryiames