

October 4, 2022

## **BY E-MAIL**

Daniel Goldner, Chair New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission 21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10 Concord, NH 03301-2429

## Re: <u>Northern Utilities, Inc. -- DG 22-059</u> 2022 / 2023 Annual Cost of Gas

Second Supplemental Cost of Gas Rate Filing – Rate Case Expense

Dear Chair Goldner:

Enclosed please find the supplemental filing of Northern Utilities, Inc.'s ("Northern" or the "Company") proposed 2022 / 2023 Annual Cost of Gas ("COG") Adjustment filing. This supplemental filing is being submitted due to the recent receipt of an additional invoice from the New Hampshire Department of Energy ("DOE") pertaining to Northern's last rate case filing in Docket No. DG 21-104.

Northern's original rate case expense filing in Docket No. DG 21-104 was made in accordance with the Settlement Agreement filed on May 27, 2022 and approved by the Commission on July 20, 2022 in Order No. 26,650. Section 8.2 of the Settlement provides that Northern's rate case expenses and regulatory proceeding expenses incurred by the Commission, the DOE, and the Office of the Consumer Advocate and charged to the Company would be recovered over one year through the Rate Case Expense Charge, which is part of the Company's the Local Distribution Adjustment Charges ("LDAC") in the Company's next scheduled LDAC rate change effective November 1, 2022. Northern made its LDAC filing on September 16, 2022 as part of the COG in this proceeding.

Also on September 16, 2022, Northern filed an update to its rate case expense information in Docket No. DG 21-104. At that time, Northern noted that it was aware of an additional invoice that was outstanding for a DOE witness, Dr. Woolridge. Northern stated that it would process that invoice when received and would include the costs in the LDAC. Northern has recently received and processed that invoice and submits this revision to the COG filing to account for the inclusion of that cost. Northern is also submitting an update to its rate case expense filing in Docket No. DG 21-104 to reflect the new information.

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As a result of the above update, Northern is submitting revisions to the following Tariff Sheets:

Ninth Revised Page 62 (LDAC); Sixteenth & Seventeenth Revised Page No. 86 (Rate Summaries); and Fifteenth & Sixteenth Revised Page No. 88 (Rate Summaries).

Also provided is the supplemental testimony and revised attachments of Elena Demeris explaining the updates and the impact on the LDAC calculation and typical bill impacts. The revised 2022 / 2023 LDAC for Residential customers is \$0.1850 per therm and the revised C&I LDAC is \$0.0493 per therm. This is an increase of \$0.0005 per therm for all rate classes above the rates presented in the September 23 revised filing.

The typical bill for a Residential heating customer for the 2022 / 2023 Winter Season is projected to be \$1,438.02. This is higher than the 2021 / 2022 Winter Season bill by \$256.76 or 21.7%.<sup>1</sup> The typical bill for a Residential heating customer for the 2023 Summer Season is projected to be \$356.27. This is higher than the 2022 Summer Season bill by \$8.80 or 2.53%.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Matthew J. Fossum Senior Counsel

CC: Service List

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This bill impact includes changes to the Company's COG, LDAC and Distribution Base Rates.