1		STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
2		PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
3		
4	April 21, 200 Concord, New	
5	concord, new	
6	DE.	DG 00 053
7	RE:	DG 09-053 NORTHERN UTILITIES, INC. d/b/a UNITIL: Proposed Gas Energy Efficiency
8		Program Proposal for the Period
9		Beginning May 1, 2009 Through December 31, 2010.
10		
11	PRESENT:	Chairman Thomas B. Getz, Presiding Commissioner Graham J. Morrison Commissioner Clifton C. Below
12		Commissioner Circon C. Below
13		Connie Fillion, Clerk
14	A DDE A D A MOEC •	Donto Noveborn Utilities Inc. d/b/s Unitil
15	APPEARANCES:	Reptg. Northern Utilities, Inc. d/b/a Unitil: Gary M. Epler, Esq.
16		Reptg. Mary Polcheis:
17		Alan Linder, Esq. Daniel Feltes, Esq.
		New Hampshire Legal Assistance
18		Reptg. N.H. Community Action Assn.:
19		Dana Nute Charles Wolfe
20		
21		Reptg. N.H. Office of Energy & Planning: Eric Steltzer
22		
23	COURT R	EPORTER: Steven E. Patnaude, LCR No. 52
24		

1		
2	APPEARANCES:	(Continued)
3		Reptg. Residential Ratepayers: Meredith Hatfield, Esq., Consumer Advocate
4		Kenneth E. Traum, Asst. Consumer Advocate Stephen Eckberg
5		Office of Consumer Advocate
6		Reptg. PUC Staff: Marcia A. B. Thunberg, Esq.
7		James Cunningham, Electric Division Stephen Frink, Gas & Water Division
8		Stephen Film, das a water Division
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		

1		
2	INDEX	
3		PAGE NO
4	OPENING STATEMENT BY:	
5	Mr. Epler	8
6		
7	WITNESS: DEBORAH A. JARVIS	
8	Direct examination by Mr. Epler	10
9	Cross-examination by Mr. Linder	20
10	Cross-examination by Mr. Steltzer	24
11	Cross-examination by Ms. Hatfield	35
12	Cross-examination by Ms. Thunberg	71
13	Cross-examination by Mr. Cunningham	79
14	Interrogatories by Cmsr. Below	80
15		
16	CLOSING STATEMENTS BY:	
17	Mr. Linder	85
18	Mr. Steltzer	86
19	Mr. Nute	87
20	Ms. Hatfield	88
21	Ms. Thunberg	90
22	Mr. Epler	92
23		
24		

1			
2		EXHIBITS	
3	EXHIBIT NO.	DESCRIPTION PA	AGE NO.
4	1	Gas Energy Efficiency Program Proposal for the period	11
5		May 1, 2009 - December 31, 2010 (03-16-09)	
6 7	2	Revised Gas Energy Efficiency Program Proposal [clean version] (04-07-09)	12
8 9	3	Revised Gas Energy Efficiency Program Proposal [redline version] (04-07-09)	12
10	4	RESERVED (Language regarding reporting as suggested from NHLA)	24
12 13	5	RESERVED (Record request to clarify whether the audit will identify all measures)	42
14 15	6	RESERVED (Record request regarding research on programmable thermostats related to a study by	52
16 17	7	GasNetworks) RESERVED (Record request for a breakdown of Table III-5 regarding	53
18		Savings Goal and Estimated Participation)	
19	8	RESERVED (Record request for additional information on	60
20		the cost/benefit test)	
21			
22			
23			
24			

1	PROCEEDINGS
2	CHAIRMAN GETZ: Okay. Good morning,
3	everyone. We'll open the hearing in docket DG 09-0563.
4	On March 17, 2009, Northern Utilities, doing business as
5	Unitil, filed its Energy Efficiency Plan for the 20 month
6	period May 1, 2009 through December 31, 2010. Northern's
7	current Energy Efficiency Plan was approved in docket DG
8	06-036, and expires on April 30th, 2009. And, the March
9	17, 2009 filing proposes to extend many of the existing
10	programs. An order of notice was issued on March 19
11	setting the hearing for this morning. I'll note that we
12	have notice that the Office of Consumer Advocate will be
13	participating. We have Petitions to Intervene from
14	Community Action Association, the Office of Energy &
15	Planning, and New Hampshire Legal Assistance, on behalf of
16	Mary Polcheis. And, we also have the affidavit of
17	publication.
18	So, can we take appearances please.
19	MR. EPLER: Yes. Good morning, Mr.
20	Chairman, Commissioners. Gary Epler, on behalf of Unitil
21	Energy I apologize on behalf of Northern Utilities,
22	Inc. And, with me today is Deborah A. Jarvis, who is the
23	Project Leader - Energy Efficiency Policy, Planning and
2.4	Evaluation.

Τ	CHAIRMAN GEIZ: GOOD MOTHING.
2	MR. LINDER: Good morning, Mr. Chairman
3	and Commissioners. My name is Alan Linder. I'm an
4	attorney with New Hampshire Legal Assistance. And, with
5	me at counsel table is Dan Feltes, from New Hampshire
6	Legal Assistance. We represent Mary Polcheis, a customer
7	of Northern, who lives in Somersworth, who was intending
8	to be here this morning for the hearing, but,
9	unfortunately, was unable to make it.
10	CHAIRMAN GETZ: Good morning.
11	CMSR. BELOW: Good morning.
12	MR. STELTZER: Good morning, Mr.
13	Chairman and Commissioners. My name is Eric Steltzer, and
14	I represent the Office of Energy & Planning.
15	CHAIRMAN GETZ: Good morning.
16	CMSR. BELOW: Good morning.
17	MR. NUTE: Good morning, Mr. Chair and
18	Commissioners. My name is Dana Nute, representing the New
19	Hampshire Community Action Association. And, with me
20	today I have Charlie Wolfe, who is the Weatherization
21	Director for the Strafford County Community Action.
22	CHAIRMAN GETZ: Good morning.
23	MR. NUTE: Good morning.
24	MS. HATFIELD: Good morning,
	{DG 09-053} {04-21-09}

```
1 Commissioners. Meredith Hatfield, from the Office of
```

- 2 Consumer Advocate, on behalf of residential customers.
- 3 And, with me today is Steve Eckberg and Ken Traum from our
- 4 office.
- 5 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Good morning.
- 6 CMSR. MORRISON: Good morning.
- 7 CMSR. BELOW: Good morning.
- 8 MS. THUNBERG: Good morning,
- 9 Commissioners. Marcia Thunberg, on behalf of Staff. And,
- 10 with he today is Jim Cunningham and Steve Frink. Thank
- 11 you.
- 12 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Good morning. And, are
- 13 there any objections to any of the Petitions to Intervene?
- MR. EPLER: No objections.
- MS. THUNBERG: None.
- 16 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Okay. Hearing no
- 17 objection, and recognizing that the intervenors have
- 18 demonstrated rights, duties, privileges or other interests
- 19 to be affected by this proceeding, we will grant the
- 20 Petitions to Intervene.
- 21 And, how do you propose we proceed,
- Mr. Epler? We have the filing, but I take it there's no
- 23 prefiled testimony. So, is there going to be a sponsor or
- 24 --

```
MR. EPLER: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Northern
 1
 2
       proposes to provide Ms. Jarvis as a witness to sponsor the
 3
       filing, and also to provide an update, which I provided on
 4
       the table in front of you, and be able to walk through
 5
       that. I also request, on behalf of the Company, an
 6
       opportunity to provide a brief opening statement that
 7
       would give a procedural context for the documents in front
       of you, and to just advise you of some meetings we've had
 8
       with the parties.
 9
                         CHAIRMAN GETZ: Okay. If everyone is
10
11
       fine with this procedure, then please proceed.
                         MR. EPLER: Okay. Thank you, Mr.
12
13
                  Shortly after Unitil acquired Northern
       Chairman.
14
       Utilities, we were contacted by Meredith Hatfield with the
       Office of Consumer Advocate requesting an opportunity to
15
       meet, noting that the deadline for the upcoming filing was
16
       approaching quickly, and she expressed a desire to try to
17
       meet to address that. And, as a consequence, we had a
18
19
       meeting with the Office of Consumer Advocate and the
       Commission Staff in mid February, where the Company and
20
21
       Staff and OCA discussed a number of options, given the
       tight time frame, and Unitil's recent acquisition.
22
23
                         And, what we tentatively had agreement
24
       upon was to try to pursue what we call a "gap filing" to,
```

```
1 instead of filing a full plan, to file a shortened plan,
```

- with minimal changes from what had been approved
- 3 previously by the Commission, to take us to the point to
- 4 be able to coordinate a new filing with the electric
- filing, to have both the electric and gas filings start at
- 6 the same calendar period, in January of 2011.
- 7 And, so, we provided a draft filing in
- 8 early March, circulated that to the parties, got some
- 9 feedback from that. And, as a result of that, we made our
- 10 filing, that's -- the cover letter is dated "March 16th",
- 11 but I believe it was filed on March 17th.
- 12 Subsequent to that filing, the
- 13 Commission issued its notice. And, there was a technical
- 14 session held, where I believe all the parties who are
- 15 present here today attended. And, from the Company's
- 16 perspective, thought that that was a very productive
- 17 technical session. A lot of good comments were received.
- 18 And, as a result of that technical session, the Company
- 19 went back and provided some clarification and revised its
- filing. And, those are the documents that you see before
- 21 you.
- 22 We provided this revised filing a little
- over a week ago to the parties. And, so, we are prepared
- 24 to walk through that, walk through those revisions today.

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- 1 And, there may be some additional cross from some of the
- other parties on that revised filing. But I provided two
- 3 copies to you; one is a clean copy and one is a redlined
- 4 copy, so that the changes are apparent.
- 5 And, with that, the Company is ready to
- 6 call Deb Jarvis.
- 7 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Anyone else want to be
- 8 heard before we hear from Ms. Jarvis?
- 9 (No verbal response)
- 10 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Hearing nothing, then
- 11 please proceed.
- 12 (Whereupon Deborah A. Jarvis was duly
- sworn and cautioned by the Court
- 14 Reporter.)
- 15 DEBORAH A. JARVIS, SWORN
- 16 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 17 BY MR. EPLER:
- 18 Q. Would you please state your name, title, and business
- 19 address for the record.
- 20 A. Yes. My name is Deborah Jarvis. My business title is
- 21 "Project Leader Energy Efficiency Policy, Planning &
- 22 Evaluation". And, I am at Unitil Service Corp., 325
- West Road, in Portsmouth, New Hampshire.
- 24 Q. And, can you please summarize your educational

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- background and regulatory experience?
- 2 A. I graduated from Merrimack College with a Bachelor's of
- 3 Science degree in Business Administration, with a
- 4 concentration in Economics. I joined Unitil Service
- 5 Corp. in 1986, November 1986, and have held various
- 6 positions in the Power Supply, Regulatory, and Business
- 7 Services Department. In my current position, I am
- 8 responsible for coordinating energy efficiency policy,
- 9 planning, and evaluation activities.
- 10 Q. And, have you testified previously before the
- 11 Commission?
- 12 A. Yes, I have.
- 13 MR. EPLER: Mr. Chairman, I would
- 14 propose, there are three exhibits that the Company would
- 15 like to introduce. The first one would be the initial
- filing that was made, filed on March 17, propose to mark
- 17 that as "Northern Exhibit 1".
- 18 CHAIRMAN GETZ: So marked.
- 19 (The document, as described, was
- 20 herewith marked as Exhibit 1 for
- 21 identification.)
- MR. EPLER: And, then, there are two
- 23 additional exhibits. The first would be the revised
- filing, the clean version, that's dated April 7th, I

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

1 propose --

- 2 CHAIRMAN GETZ: We're just shuffling
- 3 papers here to make sure everybody's got -- Okay. Please
- 4 continue.
- 5 MR. EPLER: I propose to mark the
- 6 document that's labeled in the lower right-hand corner
- 7 "Revised", "April 7, 2009", as "Northern Exhibit 2".
- 8 CHAIRMAN GETZ: That's so marked.
- 9 (The document, as described, was
- 10 herewith marked as Exhibit 2 for
- identification.)
- 12 MR. EPLER: And, then, there's a third
- document, that is a redline version of Northern Exhibit 2,
- that I would propose to mark as "Northern Exhibit 3".
- 15 CHAIRMAN GETZ: So marked.
- 16 (The document, as described, was
- 17 herewith marked as Exhibit 3 for
- 18 identification.)
- 19 BY MR. EPLER:
- 20 Q. Ms. Jarvis, could you please turn to what was marked as
- 21 "Northern" -- actually turn to the two documents,
- Northern Exhibit 1 and Northern Exhibit 2. And, can
- you please describe your role with respect to these
- 24 documents?

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- 1 A. Basically, my role was to oversee and coordinate
- 2 development of these plans, including the budgets, the
- 3 program goals, cost-effectiveness analysis, as well as
- 4 the performance incentive calculations.
- 5 Q. And, were these prepared by you or under your
- 6 supervision?
- 7 A. Yes, they were.
- 8 Q. Now, I previously indicated in my opening session that
- 9 there was a technical session held in this docket on
- 10 April 2nd, 2009. Were there changes or corrections to
- 11 the March 17th filing that's noted as Exhibit 1 as a
- 12 result of this technical session?
- 13 A. Yes, there were several that were made.
- 14 Q. Okay. Could you please turn then to Northern
- 15 Exhibit 3, which is the redline version of the filing.
- And, could you please describe the changes that the
- 17 Company made to its filing as a result of the technical
- 18 session.
- 19 A. Okay. What I will do is I'm actually going to go by
- 20 pages in the document itself. They're not necessarily
- 21 going to be in order of the changes that were made. I
- 22 think it would be easier to follow. There are a total
- of seven different changes made. The first was on --
- it was, unfortunately, Page 6 of Exhibit 1, which is --

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

looks like it's on Page 5 of the Exhibit 3. This is --1 2 The Table II-2 is the "Summary of Total Resource Cost 3 Test" results. And, on the Low Income Program benefit/cost ratio, it was originally at "1.4", and due 4 5 to an increase in the budget that I will discuss in a few minutes, excuse me, it has increased from "1.4" to "1.8". That was the first one, the first change. The second change was to -- it was on 8 Page 6 of the initial filing, and it looks like it's on 9 Page 6 of the Exhibit Number 2 as well. And, during 10 the technical session, it became apparent that this 11 table was somewhat confusing, the presentation. 12 Table II-3, "2009 Energy Efficiency Program Budgets", 13 what it showed, in the initial filing, with the top two 14 sections, were the program budgets, including 15 shareholder incentives for each of the individual 16 programs, which, when you added it up, did not total 17 the line labeled "Total - Proposed Direct Program 18 19 Budget", and then, underneath that, we included the "Design-Level Performance Incentive". So, what we did 20 21 is I basically changed the top two sections to reflect the direct program costs, without shareholder 22 23 incentive, just to make the flow a little bit more -- a little less confusing. That was change number two. 24 {DG 09-053} {04-21-09}

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

1	One of the bigger changes related to
2	Sections III.A.1 and III.A.2 of the filing. In the
3	initial filing, they began on Page 7. On Exhibit 3,
4	they also began on Page 7. It goes through looks like
5	Page 11. These two programs I'm sorry, actually
6	goes through Page 12 of the Exhibit 3. These two
7	programs were two residential programs, retrofit
8	programs, that we had put in the original filing. And,
9	the program descriptions were confusing. There was
10	some There was confusion as to where the overlap was
11	or how they interacted. What we did is we changed the
12	language and attempted to clarify what the individual
13	programs, the excuse me, the rebates and eligibility
14	for each of the programs. So, that was there were
15	some substantial changes to the text in here, and which
16	is indicated by the Exhibit 3, Northern Exhibit 3.
17	There were no changes to any of the numbers to my
18	recollection. Yes, there were no changes to any of the
19	numbers. It was primarily just text, trying to clarify
20	the two different programs. That was number three.
21	The fourth change was also a large
22	change. During the discussion there was a lot of
23	I'm sorry, during the tech session there was a lot of
24	discussion about the Low Income Program budget. And,
	{DG 09-053} {04-21-09}

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

1 the Company basically agreed to increase the budget. 2 Originally, it was at 9 percent of the total Company 3 budget. We agreed to increase the budget to 13 and a 4 half percent, consistent with what's been going on in 5 the Electric CORE Program side, where an agreement was 6 reached for 13 and a half percent of the total budget. This -- The Company has agreed to do this, but it's basically a one-timer, until -- my understanding is, is 8 that over the next few months or so we're going to be 9 discussing this in further detail, how to allocate 10 money to the Low Income Program, on both the electric 11 12 and gas side. So, this issue was something that we agreed to do for this filing itself. 13 14 So, basically, the program increased \$54,000 over the 20 month period, for a total of 15 \$176,000. And, this again is consistent with the 2009 16 Energy Efficiency Program on the electric side, the 17 allocation of the Low Income Program. 18 19 In addition, heating system replacements and health and safety measures were added to a list of 20 21 programs available. These measures were included to be consistent with the Home Energy Assistance Program on 22 23 the electric side, so that a customer can get them 24 through both programs. That is number four. {DG 09-053} {04-21-09}

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- I'm sorry, I'm losing my place here.
- 2 Table III-8, which was on --
- 3 WITNESS JARVIS: Bless you.
- 4 CMSR. BELOW: Thank you.
- 5 BY THE WITNESS:
- 6 A. Table III-8, "Multifamily Custom Measures", which was
- 7 on Page 22 of the original filing, and is on Page 23 of
- 8 Exhibit Number 3. There was an error on this, a
- 9 typographical error. The budget here has been replaced
- 10 -- has been updated to reflect the true budget. It was
- 11 "23,681"; it should be "\$236,282", as opposed to
- 12 \$23,000. Appendix A, the Company added, at the request
- 13 of Staff, the Company has incorporated two new programs
- 14 -- I'm sorry, tables. They are referred to -- The
- 15 Company has included, has added two tables to Appendix
- 16 A, Tables A-2 and A-3.
- 17 MR. EPLER: If I could just interject
- 18 here, for the benefit of the Commission. You'll find
- 19 those revised tables attached to Northern Exhibit 2.
- 20 BY THE WITNESS:
- 21 A. If everybody has located the tables, these tables were
- 22 provided in response to a request from Staff, who has
- had an opportunity to review the Company's program
- screens or, actually, I should say the electric

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

1	company's program screens, which Northern used for the
2	gas programs. These programs, if you could take a look
3	at Table A-2, provides a summary of the TRC inputs, the
4	benefits, costs, customer costs, evaluation, and
5	shareholder incentive, by program, by sector. Table
6	A-3, on the electric side, actually provides a little
7	bit more information than it does on the gas side. But
8	what it does do is it provides the documentation of the
9	benefits, the total benefits for each of the individual
10	programs, and by sector, again by company. This
11	information was not included in the original filing
12	that we made. I, to be honest, thought that Table A-3
13	did not provide enough information. So, I had actually
14	created Table B-2. But I didn't actually source the
15	benefit, dollar benefit associated with it. So, we
16	added it in here, so now we have a trail. And, then,
17	those that was number six.
18	And, then, finally, all of the tables in
19	Appendices A, B, and D have been updated to reflect the
20	revisions to the Low Income Program budget. The table
21	provided in Appendix C were not updated. And,
22	basically, the reason was that we originally provided
23	them as illustrative tables, to show how the cost
24	recovery mechanism would work. And, we're not asking
	{DG 09-053} {04-21-09}

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- 1 recovery -- I mean, we're not asking approval of the
- 2 information that's in there. It was only, as I said,
- 3 illustrative. We will be updating these numbers in, I
- 4 believe, our fall filing, our fall gas filing, the LDAC
- filing.
- 6 BY MR. EPLER:
- 7 Q. So, that would be where the conservation charges would
- 8 be included for the Company?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. In the fall LDAC filing?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Thank you.
- 13 A. And, those are -- that's a summary of the changes that
- were made between Appendix -- I'm sorry, Exhibits 1, 2
- 15 and 3.
- 16 Q. Do you have anything further to add at this time?
- 17 A. No, I don't think so. No.
- 18 MR. EPLER: Thank you. Mr. Chairman,
- 19 I've completed my direct.
- 20 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Mr. Linder.
- 21 MR. LINDER: Good morning, Ms. Jarvis.
- 22 WITNESS JARVIS: Good morning.
- 23 MR. LINDER: Just a couple of questions
- 24 for clarification.

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- 1 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 2 BY MR. LINDER:
- 3 Q. You referenced Table II-3. And, I'm looking at the one
- 4 that appears on Page 6 of Exhibit 2, which is the clean
- 5 version of the revised filing.
- 6 A. Yes. I have it.
- 7 Q. Okay. And, in that table, under "Residential", there's
- 8 a line for "Residential Low Income" that you referenced
- 9 earlier had a budget of 163,000. And, my question is,
- that is without the shareholder incentive?
- 11 A. Yes. Originally, I had I think referenced "176,000".
- 12 Q. Yes.
- 13 A. The difference between the two would be the shareholder
- 14 incentive.
- 15 Q. Okay. Thank you. And, I just wanted to direct your
- attention to Page 38 of the Exhibit 2, that's the clean
- version of the revised filing of April 7. And,
- 18 actually, if I'm correct -- if I'm correct, Pages 37
- 19 and 38 deal with program evaluation and reporting, to
- 20 some extent. On Page 38, at the top, it says "Unitil
- 21 will track, monitor, evaluate and assess progress",
- 22 etcetera?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. You see that? Okay. And, are you familiar with the $\left\{ DG\ 09-053 \right\} \ \left\{ 04-21-09 \right\}$

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- fact that a few days ago I had sent an e-mail to the
- 2 Company asking if the Company would be willing to
- 3 consider providing a report on a periodic basis with
- 4 respect to certain items regarding the Low Income
- 5 Program?
- 6 A. Yes, I am.
- 7 Q. Okay. And, I believe that the Company, through its
- 8 counsel, indicated that the Company would be willing to
- 9 provide such a report?
- 10 A. Yes, we --
- 11 Q. Okay.
- 12 A. We will do that, yes.
- 13 Q. And, specifically, we had asked, and I'm just asking
- for confirmation, that's all, --
- 15 A. Okay.
- 16 Q. -- we had asked that, for the Low Income Program, that
- the Company provide a Quarterly Progress Report and a
- 18 Final Report after the close of the program period,
- 19 setting forth the following information: Showing for
- 20 expenditures that actual, in process, and proposed, and
- 21 expressed as a percent of budget. Do you recall that?
- 22 A. Yes, I do.
- 23 Q. Okay. And, the answer was "yes"?
- 24 A. Yes.

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- 1 Q. And, similarly, similar reporting with respect to
- participation, the number of jobs, and similarly
- 3 reporting on energy savings?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. Okay. And, finally, reporting on administrative costs?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Do you recall that? And, the Company's answer was
- 8 "yes"?
- 9 A. Yes, we are able to do that.
- 10 Q. Okay. I did briefly discuss this with counsel for the
- 11 Company, and perhaps you can confirm this. That, in
- 12 lieu of again revising the filing, or -- and in lieu of
- having to file a supplemental filing, that perhaps
- 14 Legal Assistance could just send a confirming letter to
- 15 the Company confirming this agreement to provide a
- 16 periodic report on the Low Income Program?
- 17 A. That would be fine.
- 18 Q. Okay. And, then, and that perhaps that could be filed
- 19 with the Commission, so that it could be included in a
- 20 final order on the program, is that --
- 21 A. The letter or the report? I'm a little confused.
- 22 Q. Just to memorialize the agreement. I'm trying to --
- 23 A. Okay.
- 24 Q. -- basically figure out a convenient way and the least

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- 1 problematic way of doing that. And, so, one suggestion
- 2 would be, instead of the Company having to file an
- 3 amended or supplemental filing to incorporate that new
- 4 paragraph, would it be acceptable for a confirming
- 5 letter to be filed, and that that would be -- and that
- 6 the Company would be agreeable that that would be
- 7 considered by the Commission in issuing a final order?
- 8 A. I believe so. I think that will be fine.
- 9 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Okay.
- 10 MR. LINDER: We haven't discussed this
- 11 with the other parties, but it was just trying to come up
- 12 with a way of --
- 13 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Well, I take it that
- 14 you're proposing that there be a provision with respect to
- 15 reporting, rather than --
- MR. LINDER: Yes.
- 17 CHAIRMAN GETZ: -- add it to the various
- 18 revisions, that it be reflected in the final order. And,
- 19 Mr. Epler, the Company's position on that?
- 20 MR. EPLER: We have no objection to
- 21 that. And, one simple way of doing it is I'll memorialize
- that in a letter, state what the criteria are, and file
- 23 it, provide it to all the parties and file it. It was
- contained in an e-mail that I circulated yesterday.

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

1 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Is there any objection

- 2 to that concept?
- 3 MS. THUNBERG: Mr. Chairman, Staff would
- 4 request, since we don't have prefiled testimony, and we're
- 5 trying to keep track of official exhibits, that this come
- 6 in as a record request, and that we reserve Exhibit 4 for
- 7 this proposed addition to the program. And, other than
- 8 that, Staff has no objection to seeing this document.
- 9 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Okay. That's fine.
- 10 Let's reserve Exhibit 4 for that language on reporting.
- 11 (Exhibit 4 reserved)
- 12 MR. LINDER: Okay. Thank you very much.
- 13 That's all the questions we have.
- 14 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Okay. Thank you.
- 15 MR. LINDER: Thank you, Ms. Jarvis.
- 16 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Mr. Steltzer.
- 17 MR. STELTZER: Yes.
- 18 BY MR. STELTZER:
- 19 Q. Ms. Jarvis, could you explain the RHEAP Program and the
- 20 relationship it has with the Home Performance with
- 21 ENERGY STAR Program, specifically discussing a little
- 22 bit about the purpose of the RHEAP Program.
- 23 A. The -- I'll move this back a little bit. I'll try to
- speak up. Okay. The RHEAP Program was initially

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

1	proposed by Northern. They had called it the
2	"Residential Conservation Services Program". And, it
3	was intended, I believe, as an educational program,
4	whereby audits were done on customers' homes to
5	indicate where the customer may spend their own money
6	to perform energy efficiency improvements in the home.
7	What we've done is we've tried to incorporate it a
8	little bit closer into our Home Performance with I
9	should actually back up. The Home Performance with
10	ENERGY STAR was another program that it was
11	originally called the "Residential Custom Measures",
12	and we've made some changes to that, versus what
13	Northern had offered.
14	What we're trying to do with both of
15	these programs is to more closely align them to the
16	electric programs, in anticipation of trying to
17	incorporate the two of them. Under the Home Energy
18	Assessments Program, which Mr. Selzer Steltzer
19	referred to as the "RHEAP Program", this offers a home
20	energy assessment, a comprehensive home energy
21	assessment, including blower door. Under the program,
22	a customer Under the program, the way that we
23	anticipate looking at it is that we will contract with
24	various vendors to offer these home energy audits at a
	{DG 09-053} {04-21-09}

their costs.

specific price. The reason we can do that is, if the customer goes forward, the vendor would probably then be assigned to that home, so that they would be able to make, you know, make sure that they were -- recovered

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

But, under the program, the way that it would work is a customer would come in that requests this, the audit. The audit would be provided up to \$215 to the customer, for a whole-house energy assessment. The customer would then get a report, a detailed report of the -- of the opportunities that are in the home. And, if the customer chooses to go their own way and find their own vendor, we will provide them

up to \$215 towards the cost of their audit.

You know, the customer would then be -it would then receive, as I stated, would receive a
comprehensive report of what's available in the home.
And, they would be able to either move forward and
participate in our other -- the Home Performance with
ENERGY STAR Home, or they can take the audit and, you
know, the results, and go forward on their own. We do
have a Self-Install Rebate Program, which is described
further on, where they can get some small rebates
towards home energy improvement materials.

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

1	So, the RHEAP Program is primarily the,
2	I guess I would say, the gateway into, yes, into both
3	programs. And, what we've intended to do was set it up
4	so that we have a relatively inexpensive audit, that
5	part of the problem with an audit program is the
6	biggest cost is getting out to the customer's home.
7	So, what we're trying to do is get out to the
8	customer's home, inform them of what's available, and
9	encourage them to actually make the improvements,
10	because that's where we're going to see the savings.
11	You know, as stated earlier, it is
12	intended to be primarily an educational program. We
13	will provide small, low cost/no cost installations
14	during the audit. And, then, you know, a customer
15	would be given the options coming out of the audit.
16	And, then, they would hopefully choose to participate
17	under the Home Performance with ENERGY STAR Program,
18	where we will provide, excuse me, up to 70 yes, what
19	is it, 75 percent of the cost of energy improvements,
20	up to I believe in this one there is a cap of \$4,000.
21	No, on this one, actually, this one is up to a cap of
22	\$4,500. And, the products that are available through
23	this will be similar to what's available through the
24	electric, the Fuel-Blind Home Energy Solutions Program
	{DG 09-053} {04-21-09}

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- that has been proposed. That piece of it has not yet
- been approved. I apologize, it is -- The rebate is
- 3 75 percent, up to \$4,000.
- 4 Q. And, I just want to have a clarification, at one point
- 5 you mentioned that it was "up to 75 percent", but
- 6 that's incorrect, in that it's --
- 7 A. That was -- That was incorrect. Yes.
- 8 Q. -- 75 percent of the cost, up to \$4,000. Could you --
- 9 it's my understanding, from what you just said, too,
- 10 that, underneath the audit program, in the Residential
- 11 Home Energy Assessment Program, that that audit would
- include a blower door test?
- 13 A. Yes. The initial audit would include a blower door
- test.
- 15 Q. Could you -- Could you further explain the difference
- between an audit that is conducted underneath the
- 17 Residential Home Energy Assessment Program,
- 18 understanding that that's the educational component,
- 19 and then the audit that is offered underneath the Home
- 20 Performance with ENERGY STAR Program, and the
- 21 differences between the two? They're both offering a
- 22 blower door test, to my understanding. Is it just the
- 23 recommendations, is it?
- 24 A. Actually, the -- I'm on the wrong page.

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

1 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Ms. Jarvis, I think

- 2 you're going to have to focus on speaking up.
- 3 Mr. Patnaude is having a tough time.
- 4 WITNESS JARVIS: I'm sorry. Is there a
- 5 volume on this?
- 6 (Brief off-the-record discussion
- 7 ensued.)
- 8 BY THE WITNESS:
- 9 A. My understanding is that the audit between the two will
- 10 actually be the same audit. And that, once -- once, I
- 11 mean, the initial audit will be done under, I guess I
- would say, the RHEAP Program, the Residential Home
- 13 Energy Assessment Program. And, then, customers that
- 14 choose to move forward with any implementation would be
- 15 -- would then participate under the Home Performance
- 16 with ENERGY STAR Program. So, it is essentially the
- 17 same audit.
- 18 BY MR. STELTZER:
- 19 Q. Okay. And, is it my understanding then that, in order
- 20 to participate in the Home Performance with ENERGY STAR
- 21 Program, you first must be -- you first must go through
- the Residential Home Energy Assessment Program?
- 23 A. You first must receive the audit.
- 24 Q. Which is --

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. Which is offered underneath that. So, a customer could
- 3 not go directly into Home Performance with ENERGY STAR
- 4 Program and receive an audit underneath that program,
- 5 to make itself avail of those services?
- 6 A. No.
- 7 Q. Okay.
- 8 A. The intent -- I mean, the intent is, is that the Home
- 9 Performance -- the audit has to be performed first
- 10 before the customer can do any work in the home.
- 11 Whether the -- technically, whether the audit is
- 12 considered part of the first program or the second,
- depends on the customer's participation.
- 14 Q. Right. And, where I'm going with this is that, is it,
- 15 to your knowledge, is it a unique -- is the Residential
- 16 Home Energy Assessment Program a unique program that is
- not offered by other utility companies or being
- 18 proposed by other utility companies?
- 19 A. I have no idea. I mean, I'm assuming you're referring
- to National Grid/KeySpan, the gas company?
- 21 Q. I'm referring to that, and that, as I've been looking
- 22 through these, it appears that the Residential Home
- 23 Energy Assessment Program is an additional step to go
- through. And, as you're explaining it now, it's

31 [WITNESS: Jarvis]

essentially what your -- that program is having a name

1

2 to receive the audit, while people underneath National

3 Grid's program or underneath the proposed Home Energy

4 Solutions Program through the electric utilities, it's

5 -- there isn't a name associated to the audit, it's

6 just part of the Home Performance with ENERGY STAR

7 Program. So, I'm just trying to understand the

distinction between the two. And, if this residential 8

-- the RHEAP Program is a unique aspect that other 9

programs aren't doing towards educational efforts. 10

That's where I'm going. 11

Okay. The RHEAP Program, the reason we've pulled it 12

out separately is that we believe that there is a 13

14 benefit to the customers to just have that audit. If

they, you know, some customers don't want to move 15

forward with it, they don't have the money, you know, 16

because there is a 25 percent co-pay if they move 17

forward. So, what we're doing is we're pulling this 18

19 out and we're saying "Okay. Regardless of who you are,

you can at least get that audit. And, you can get the 20

21 results and you can find out what you need to do."

And, you know, as part of this process, there is the 22

23 educational component, walking through the house,

discussing the different appliances and so forth. 24

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

1 a customer that chooses not to continue would, I guess 2 I would say, stay under the RHEAP Program. Customers 3 that would continue would move forward into the other 4 program. It's basically, just like I said, it's a way 5 to offer customers, who aren't ready to make that 6 commitment, an analysis of their home. So that they 7 can -- they're more informed as to what they can do. 8 As you describe it then, I do see it as, and correct me if I'm wrong, but I do see it as being a unique program 9 that you all are offering that might not necessarily be 10 included, or at least it hasn't been expanded to the 11 12 extent that you all are proposing. Is there -- Is there any plans to evaluate the effectiveness of that 13 program and the educational components that you're 14 doing, so that other parties might be able to, when the 15 16 electric programs are looking to go in synch with the gas programs, that we might learn from your experience 17 of the RHEAP Program and its effectiveness? 18 19 To the best of my knowledge, I don't believe we have Α. any specific plans. The Company is considering looking 20 21 at the Self-Install Program, the Residential Self-Install Program, which is sort of an offshoot of 22 23 this program, if you will. But there is no, not at 24 this point, there is no intent to look specifically at {DG 09-053} {04-21-09}

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

1 this aspect of the program.

- 2 Q. And, I did see the Self-Install Rebate, and I
- 3 appreciate that evaluation being included into that.
- 4 MR. STELTZER: I don't know the correct
- 5 procedure to have here, but I'd be interested to see if
- 6 the parties would be interested in having some sort of
- 7 evaluative process of this RHEAP Program included into the
- 8 -- into the final document, since, as it's been described,
- 9 it does have unique characteristics to it that other
- 10 programs do not offer or other programs that are being
- proposed do not offer, and that there might be benefit in
- 12 how those two programs, between the gas and electric, as
- 13 they're combined, that there could be some lessons learned
- 14 from the Unitil proposal.
- 15 WITNESS JARVIS: Well, a couple of
- things I will point out, is that the Company has a
- 17 relatively small monitoring and evaluation budget. We
- only get I think 58,000 this year. So, the kind of
- 19 analysis you're talking about could actually cost some
- 20 money, some -- more than what we've got available. I
- 21 think the second thing is is that I'm not sure that I
- 22 would see this as being -- I guess it is separate, and,
- 23 you know, I guess I'm questioning whether it could not be
- 24 something that would be evaluated as part of the Home

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- 1 Performance with ENERGY STAR Program, kind of as a broader
- 2 review or analysis.
- I guess, again, I would just, you know,
- 4 bottom line is, this year I just don't think we have the
- 5 money to do the kind of analysis that you're talking
- 6 about.
- 7 CHAIRMAN GETZ: And, in terms of
- 8 procedure, Mr. Steltzer, I guess that, to the extent that
- 9 you intend to propose something that's different from the
- 10 filing, you can make that recommendation in your closing
- 11 statement.
- 12 MR. STELTZER: Okay. Thank you.
- 13 BY MR. STELTZER:
- 14 Q. Continuing on with this, I just do want to bring up the
- 15 question of BPI certification. And, I noticed in the
- questions that are dated April 9th, 2005 [2009?], and
- it was emailed out, specifically Question Number 12,
- states "The Company will clarify BPI contract
- 19 qualification requirements". In there, it's noted that
- 20 "contractors participating in the Unitil Residential
- 21 Home Energy Assessment Program or the Home Performance
- with ENERGY STAR Program are required to be BPI
- 23 certified and demonstrate significant weatherization
- 24 experiences." I'll note that. And, then, the

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- 1 distinction on Page -- in Exhibit 3, Page 7, second
- 2 paragraph, second sentence, it states "Only contractors
- 3 with Building Performance Institute training or
- 4 similar", just making note of "or", "similar industry
- 5 expertise and pre-approved by Unitil will be allowed to
- 6 participate in the program." Could you just have some
- 7 clarification that BPI certification will be required
- 8 of the contractors that you'll hire to be auditors for
- 9 the Residential Home Energy Assessment Program, as well
- 10 as the Home Performance with ENERGY STAR Program?
- 11 A. Yes. The footnote on that page that you referred to,
- 12 Footnote 6, is basically that "Contractors are required
- to be BPI-certified and demonstrate significant
- 14 weatherization experience."
- 15 MR. STELTZER: Okay. I'm all set.
- 16 Thank you, Chairman.
- 17 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Thank you. Mr. Nute?
- 18 MR. NUTE: No questions, Mr. Chair.
- 19 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Okay. Ms. Hatfield.
- 20 MS. HATFIELD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
- 21 Good morning, Ms. Jarvis.
- 22 WITNESS JARVIS: Good morning.
- 23 BY MS. HATFIELD:
- Q. I believe, in the beginning of your testimony this $\{ DG \ 09-053 \} \quad \{ 04-21-09 \}$

1 morning, you walked us through some of the changes made

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- in the revised filing. Do you recall that?
- 3 A. Yes, I do.
- 4 Q. And, one of the things that you pointed us to was
- 5 changes made in two residential programs beginning on
- Page 7, and those are the two programs that you have
- 7 been discussing in response to questions. I'm
- 8 wondering if you could just, at a high level, for
- 9 anything that you haven't covered already, just talk a
- 10 little bit about how these two new programs are a
- 11 change from what Northern had been delivering.
- 12 A. Well, I guess I will be, you know, perfectly honest, we
- didn't deliver Northern's program. So, I don't have
- 14 hands-on expertise, if you'd call it that. But I think
- one of the things that we're trying to do with our
- 16 programs is to recognize that -- is trying to achieve
- 17 savings. I'm not -- From what I understand, savings
- 18 was not necessarily the goal of some of the programs
- 19 that were being provided by Northern. And, that's not
- to say, you know, they had a different philosophy as to
- 21 how they were delivering their programs. But, you
- know, the Residential Home Energy Assessment Program,
- the RHEAP, is intended to be educational. But the big
- 24 program, I mean, you know, there is going to be a big

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

1 push from or there is a big push for customers that are 2 participating there to get them into the Home Energy 3 Performance -- I'm sorry, the Home Performance with 4 ENERGY STAR. There's too many acronyms and names 5 flying around. 6 So, you know, I mean, the big thing is 7 is to try to do the whole-house comprehensive, blower 8 door, sealing the house up, and, as much as possible, to be consistent with and to integrate with the 9 proposals that have gone through on the electric side 10 with the Home Energy -- Home Performance with ENERGY 11 12 STAR, the Fuel-Blind Program that was just recently proposed, as well as the Low Income Program. That this 13 14 document is very much intended to mesh with the other programs on the electric side. I think that's probably 15 one of the bigger differences that are proposed here. 16 On Page 1 of Exhibit 2, the revised filing, near the 17 18 bottom of the page, the Company states that it's 19 "committed to working with other New Hampshire gas and electric utilities to streamline and coordinate 20 21 delivery of the electric and gas EE Programs across the state." And, then, the next sentence you talk about a 22 23 "seamless" approach to program delivery. Can you talk about what the Company is doing to "streamline and 24

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- 1 coordinate" and make the process "seamless" from the
- 2 customer perspective?
- 3 A. Well, from the customer perspective, we are working
- 4 with the electric utilities. I mean, we, of course,
- 5 are an electric company, and so we have those
- 6 relationships already established. We're also very
- 7 close with the other gas company in the state, KeySpan.
- 8 So, what we are trying to do is to ensure that the
- 9 program offerings are the same or as consistent as
- 10 possible. And, we have been working with the other
- 11 companies to work out strategies of how to basically
- 12 streamline it so that the customer only, you know, has
- 13 to come through one door, rather than having to go to
- 14 the electric companies, the gas companies, and that gas
- 15 company, and maybe an oil company or whatever, we're
- trying to streamline it. You know, it will take time.
- You know, and we're still struggling to get our hands
- on, "we" being Unitil, on the programs and where they
- 19 stand and, you know, how they can be improved, if they
- 20 can be improved. You know, this is, to some extent, a
- 21 Gap Plan to get us through to the final or the next
- step, which would be the full integration of the
- 23 electric and gas.
- 24 Q. And, would you see that desire to coordinate and

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

1 streamline to also include coordination with efficiency

- 2 programs that might be funded by federal Stimulus
- 3 dollars or the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative or
- 4 other programs?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. If you would turn to Page 7 of the filing.
- 7 A. Which version, I'm sorry?
- 8 Q. I'm going to be asking questions from Exhibit 2.
- 9 A. Okay.
- 10 Q. In the second full paragraph, about halfway down,
- there's a sentence that states that "Contractors must
- 12 use an approved energy modeling software tool". Do you
- 13 see that?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. It's right between Footnotes 5 and 6 there in the text.
- Do I understand correctly that this means that you
- 17 allow the contractor to decide which software tool to
- 18 use?
- 19 A. No. I think the intent is that the Company is -- will
- 20 review what they use. And, if it is acceptable, we
- 21 will let them use it. In other words, I mean, the
- 22 intent to make sure that we can fully document the
- 23 savings. So, we will have the right to refuse savings
- 24 being proposed by, you know, a software being -- that

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- doesn't have some sort of, you know, documentation
- behind it or that, you know, that we aren't sure is
- 3 going to provide clear, accurate, and defendable
- 4 savings results.
- 5 Q. And, is that a similar approach to the one that you
- 6 take on the electric side?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. And, in the paragraph above that, on Page 7, you
- 9 discuss the fact that "customers will receive a \$215
- 10 incentive toward a whole-house energy assessment". Do
- 11 you see that?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. How was that figure determined by the Company?
- 14 A. That was basically devised by our program manager.
- 15 And, it was just based on his experience, what he was
- seeing out in the field.
- 17 Q. And, will the customer be required to pay an additional
- 18 amount for the audit?
- 19 A. If the customer goes through a vendor that we have
- 20 approved for delivery of this program, there will not
- 21 be any extra cost for the audit. If the customer
- 22 chooses, they can go through a list of -- we're going
- 23 to have a list of pre-qualified customers who meet our
- 24 standards, they will -- the customer will be

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- 1 responsible for anything over and above the 215.
- 2 Q. Thank you. Do you know how many BPI-certified
- 3 contractors there are in the Northern service
- 4 territory?
- 5 A. No, I do not.
- 6 Q. Is the Company concerned that there will be enough
- 7 trained auditors to deliver the program?
- 8 A. My understanding is, is that the Program Manager is not
- 9 concerned.
- 10 Q. Will the audit that is provided to the customer address
- 11 and identify potential savings measures that are not
- related to natural gas?
- 13 A. I don't actually know for sure whether that will be --
- 14 I don't -- well, as you're looking at this, the audit
- 15 will include inspection of heating and cooling,
- 16 windows, insulation, air infiltration, etcetera. So,
- there -- and there's a safety check of combustion
- 18 zones. So, I believe that, number one, I will say
- 19 this, the customer has to be a gas customer. So, we're
- 20 not going to go into an oil space heating home. But
- 21 any electric savings that may, as a result of this
- 22 audit, electric savings may be identified. I don't
- 23 believe that we'll be identifying lights and so forth.
- I'm not sure that's part of this audit, or

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- 1 refrigeration, replace your refrigerator or stuff that
- 2 like.
- 3 Q. Would you agree, though, that, if the customer is doing
- 4 a comprehensive audit, it would be helpful for the
- 5 customer to have all potential measures and projects
- 6 identified, so that, if they do choose to be
- 7 comprehensive and work with all of their utilities,
- 8 they could use that one audit?
- 9 A. Actually, I think that they -- I think that it would be
- 10 a comprehensive audit. As I'm looking at this, because
- it talks about "water savings", etcetera. I can
- 12 provide more detail over what the audit would actually
- 13 entail. I don't know off the top of my head.
- 14 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Mr. Epler, did you have
- 15 something?
- MR. EPLER: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I will
- 17 just say, we will be willing to provide as a response to a
- 18 record request, you know, to clarify whether the audit
- 19 will identify all measures and clarify this question.
- 20 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Okay. Then, let's
- 21 reserve Exhibit Number 5 for the response to that
- 22 question.
- 23 (Exhibit 5 reserved)
- MS. HATFIELD: Thank you.

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- 1 BY MS. HATFIELD:
- 2 Q. Looking at your budgeted participation for the RHEAP
- 3 and the Home Performance with ENERGY STAR, it looks
- 4 like, in the Assessment Program, you're planning for
- 5 193 participants, is that correct?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. And, then, 85 for the Home Performance with ENERGY
- 8 STAR?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. And, so, your expectation, it looks like you're
- expecting that less than half of the people who go
- 12 through the Assessment Program would actually move
- 13 forward into the Home Performance with ENERGY STAR?
- 14 A. Yes, that is. What I will say, that the 85 was based
- on an assumed average cost. It may be higher or lower,
- 16 depending on what the customers actual see or what they
- 17 actual do in their home.
- 18 Q. And, if you have better than expected response to the
- 19 Home Energy Assessment Program, so that more than 85
- 20 people, closer to the full number of people who do the
- 21 assessment want to move forward and make changes, would
- 22 you put them on a waiting list for the next program
- year or how would you handle that demand?
- 24 A. Well, we would have two ways. I mean, I think that the

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

1	Company would prefer not to put them on a waiting list,
2	but would prefer to service them as quickly as
3	possible. There Right now, on the residential side,
4	there is a small cushion. We have a cushion, about
5	\$200,000 overcollection that we're projecting at the
6	end of this period. The reason we We have a very
7	large overcollection right now. It's double that,
8	\$400,000, that we're starting this period with. We did
9	not fully vet that whole amount. We did not put it
10	into the budget, because we're trying to keep the
11	budget a little bit stable. But I guess what I would
12	say is that, if we ran into a situation where the
13	demand was higher than we would anticipate, one option
14	would be to dig away at that cushion a little bit.
15	I don't recall, to be perfectly honest,
16	whether there is a 20 percent. Under the electric
17	programs, I believe there is a 20 percent guideline.
18	Where, if we would spend more than 20 percent or
19	anticipate going over 20 percent, we would notify the
20	Commission. I don't know if we have that in the gas,
21	to be perfectly honest. I don't recall. But we will
22	anticipate treating that, you know, if we, in fact,
23	ended up having to go over the 20 percent, we would
24	anticipate having, you know, filing a letter with the
	{DG 09-053} {04-21-09}

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- 1 Commission, letting them know that it was necessary.
- 2 The same as we would with the electric.
- 3 Q. And, the place where we can see the overcollection at
- 4 the beginning and at the end of the period is in
- 5 Appendix C, Schedule 2, is that correct?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. And, that shows that, in January 2009, the
- 8 overcollection was "\$392,336". And that, at the end of
- 9 the period, in December 2010, you're forecasting that
- 10 it would be "\$205,743"?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. And, so, it sounds like the Company would be willing to
- work with the parties and Staff to potentially use some
- of that residential overcollection to serve more
- 15 customers in the Home Performance with ENERGY STAR
- 16 Program?
- 17 A. As need be. But there is \$50,000 or \$54,000 increase
- 18 for the Low Income Program is being funded from this
- 19 bucket. We're not taking money from the -- or, we
- 20 don't propose to take money from the commercial and
- 21 industrial class at this point. But that is still a
- good chunk of money after that that we could use as
- 23 necessary to, you know, beef up the programs, if it's
- 24 necessary. We're, to some extent, we are -- we're, you

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- 1 know, we're new at this a little bit, so --
- 2 Q. On Page 11, in the second full paragraph, the Company
- 3 makes a reference to the fact that the measures offered
- 4 in Home Performance with ENERGY STAR "advance the goal
- of "Deep Energy Retrofits"." Do you see that?
- 6 A. Yes, I do.
- 7 Q. Can you define what the Company means by a "Deep Energy
- 8 Retrofit"?
- 9 A. That is -- That refers to the new technologies, high
- 10 performance energy savings improvements. Where it is
- 11 appropriate, the Company would seek to incorporate, you
- 12 know, solar paneling, renewable resources, and other,
- 13 the CHP, the Combined Heat Power equipment, and other
- 14 new technologies that may prove to be cost-effective.
- 15 All measures that are installed will be -- must be
- 16 cost-effective before they are installed.
- 17 Q. If the Company were to look to those types of measures,
- 18 would it still be within the \$4,000 maximum investment
- in a home?
- 20 A. Yes. Yes, on this program there is a definite cap.
- 21 Q. And, in the filing, the Company talks about the fact
- 22 that it is still working to attain the "Home
- 23 Performance with ENERGY STAR" designation, is that
- 24 correct?

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- 1 A. Yes, it is.
- 2 Q. Are you familiar with what the process is to get that
- 3 designation?
- 4 A. I personally have not been involved in the process, but
- our Program Manager has explained to me a little bit
- 6 about what's involved. My understanding is, is that
- 7 the electric utilities have filed the necessary
- 8 paperwork, or whatever it is that they need to do.
- 9 Unitil has also filed the necessary paperwork for its
- 10 proposed gas programs. And, our Program Manager is
- 11 expecting that we should have some response back within
- 12 a month to six weeks, we should get some -- from what I
- 13 understand, it's not a huge, lengthy process. But we
- 14 have not received it yet. We should see it between,
- 15 you know, four to six weeks is what I was told.
- 16 Q. And, are you required to have approval in order to call
- it that or what are the benefits of having that
- designation or certification?
- 19 A. I think the benefits include just the name recognition,
- of course, is one, but also the requirements that that
- 21 -- that the participating home must meet, that the
- 22 standards that the home must meet in order to be
- 23 certified. I do not know whether we could officially
- 24 call it the "Home Performance with ENERGY STAR". But I

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- 1 do know that the program is underway, you know, pending
- 2 results of the hearing, of course. But, you know, we
- 3 are moving towards that.
- 4 Q. Turning to the ENERGY STAR Homes Program that begins on
- 5 Page 13, if you would look on Page 14, at Table III-3,
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. And, there's a "Lifetime Savings Goal" that's measured
- 8 in MMBtu. Do you see that?
- 9 A. Yes, I do.
- 10 Q. Does that figure include just thermal energy savings or
- does it also include electric savings that are
- 12 converted to MMBtus?
- 13 A. I believe it's just thermal, but I would have to check
- 14 that.
- MS. HATFIELD: We'd like to have a
- 16 record request reserved for that, Mr. Chairman.
- 17 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Okay. We'll save
- 18 Exhibit Number 6 for that response.
- 19 (Exhibit 6 reserved)
- MS. HATFIELD: Thank you.
- 21 WITNESS JARVIS: Actually, I think I can
- respond to it, because Staff requested a new table in the
- 23 back, which actually breaks out the benefit. There is a
- 24 small amount of electric savings associated with that

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- 1 program. The majority of the savings, though, I'm looking
- 2 at Table A -- Appendix A, Table A-3, and at the line
- 3 that's labeled "ENERGY STAR Homes", "A02a ENERGY STAR
- 4 Homes". That line shows the benefit for the ENERGY STAR
- 5 Homes Program. And, if you look at this, "\$145,238" is
- 6 what -- is under the "Non Electric" column as a resource.
- 7 But the total benefit, over on the second column, of
- 8 "145,267" is the total benefit. That difference between
- 9 the two is the electric. So, there is a minor amount.
- 10 MS. HATFIELD: Thank you. That answers
- 11 that question.
- 12 CHAIRMAN GETZ: So, we'll strike Exhibit
- 13 6 for the time being.
- 14 (Exhibit 6 no longer reserved at this
- 15 time.)
- MS. HATFIELD: Thank you.
- 17 BY MS. HATFIELD:
- 18 Q. Looking back on Page 14, the "Estimated Participation"
- 19 for the ENERGY STAR Homes Program shows that your goal
- is "25" homes, do you see that?
- 21 A. Yes, I do.
- 22 Q. And, does the Company believe that there is enough
- 23 building activity that you'll be able to meet that
- 24 goal?

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. And, do you know how many homes that you did in 2008?
- 3 A. No, I don't, off the top of my head.
- 4 Q. And, has the Company filed it's 2008 Final Report, do
- 5 you know?
- 6 A. No, I don't know. I would have to do that as a record
- 7 request.
- 8 MS. HATFIELD: Mr. Chairman, because the
- 9 program year doesn't end until April 30th, I think what we
- 10 can do is just wait and see what the results are when the
- 11 Company does file that.
- 12 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Thank you.
- 13 BY MS. HATFIELD:
- 14 Q. Turning to Table III-4, on Page 15, which describes the
- 15 residential heating equipment that a customer can get
- 16 rebates for, do you see that?
- 17 A. Yes, I do.
- 18 Q. And, do you know, are those different types of
- 19 equipment, are those all -- do they comply with the
- 20 current ENERGY STAR standards?
- 21 A. I believe they are intended to. But I think there
- 22 might be one or two of them that do not. I want to --
- I want to say that the boilers, the AFU is actually 80
- 24 -- the AFU, I'm sorry, the percent is 85, but I'm not

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- 1 sure. This table is intended to reflect what
- 2 GasNetworks is currently offering. "GasNetworks" being
- 3 the regional collaboration of gas companies. So, it
- 4 may not be 100 percent, but the intent is that it
- 5 should be.
- 6 Q. And, will the Company provide information to customers
- 7 about the Federal Income Tax credits that are available
- 8 for different energy efficiency measures?
- 9 A. Yes, I believe so. I believe, as part of the program
- 10 delivery, there will be some discussions about it. I
- 11 don't -- I'm not really sure what's part of our
- 12 marketing materials. But I can find that out for you.
- 13 MS. HATFIELD: Mr. Chairman, I have
- 14 further questions later about marketing, so I think I'll
- 15 hold off on asking for another record request at this
- 16 time.
- 17 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Okay.
- 18 BY MS. HATFIELD:
- 19 Q. On Page 16, where the Company describes the ENERGY STAR
- 20 programmable thermostats, you reference, just
- 21 generally, that "research has shown that turning back
- 22 thermostats" results in particular savings. Are you
- 23 personally aware of that research?
- 24 A. I personally am not aware of the research. This was a

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- 1 reference to a GasNetworks study.
- 2 Q. Could the Company provide that to the parties?
- 3 A. I believe so.
- 4 MS. HATFIELD: I would like a record
- 5 request for that.
- 6 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Okay. We will reserve
- 7 Exhibit 6 for that response.
- 8 (Exhibit 6 reserved)
- 9 BY MS. HATFIELD:
- 10 Q. On Page 17, the Company provides general budget savings
- and participation goals for all of the GasNetworks
- 12 programs in Table III-5. Do you see that?
- 13 A. Yes, I do.
- 14 Q. And, could the Company provide more of a detailed
- 15 breakdown showing the participation and savings by each
- of the different technologies, rather than putting them
- 17 altogether?
- 18 A. I believe so, yes. We would have problems, I think,
- 19 trying to allocate the total budget. But I think the
- 20 savings and the participation we'll be able to do.
- 21 MS. HATFIELD: Okay. Thank you. I'd
- 22 like to have a record request for that item.
- 23 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Okay. So, you're
- 24 looking for a breakdown, can you --

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- 1 MS. HATFIELD: Yes. Right now, if you
- 2 look at Table III-5, it gives a "Savings Goal" and a
- 3 "Participation" for all of the different types of measures
- 4 within that program area. And, we were just looking for a
- 5 breakdown among the heating, thermostats, hot water
- 6 heating, and windows.
- 7 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Okay. So, we'll save
- 8 Exhibit 7 then for that, the breakdown of Table III-5.
- 9 (Exhibit 7 reserved)
- 10 BY MS. HATFIELD:
- 11 Q. Turning to Page 18, the Company describes the
- 12 Self-Install Rebate Program, do you see that?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. And, in this program, the Company offers up to \$25 in
- 15 rebates for basic weatherization and other, as you call
- them, "simple energy saving measures", is that correct?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. And, I believe on Table A-2, the Company states that
- 19 there is a cost-effectiveness measure for this program
- of "1.6".
- 21 A. A-2 or A-1?
- 22 Q. I have it in Supplemental Table 1, Appendix A, Table
- 23 A-2.
- 24 A. Oh. Okay. Yes. Sorry, I was looking on the wrong $\left\{ \text{DG } 09\text{-}053 \right\} \quad \left\{ 04\text{-}21\text{-}09 \right\}$

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- 1 line.
- 2 Q. Does the Company have any data on any specific
- 3 evaluations or studies that support that
- 4 cost-effectiveness number?
- 5 A. We have information that was provided to us by GDS
- 6 Associates, who performed the benefit/cost ratios for
- Northern Utilities. We have not had a chance to really
- 8 dig into those numbers, which is one of the reasons
- 9 that we would like to do -- use some of the evaluation
- 10 funds that we do have and take a look at that. I think
- 11 that we need to look a little deeper.
- 12 Q. Would the Company be willing, perhaps not as a record
- 13 request, but perhaps as just a conversation with the
- 14 parties and Staff to discuss cost-effectiveness and
- 15 monitoring and evaluation generally, and share some of
- 16 those studies and information with the parties and
- 17 Staff?
- 18 A. To the best of my knowledge, at this point we do not
- 19 have any company-specific evaluations. You know, we
- 20 asked Northern specifically for what they had, and
- 21 there was nothing. If you're talking about going
- 22 forward, certainly.
- 23 Q. Did the Company consider increasing the amount that
- customers could get a rebate for in this program, so

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- 1 that it would be over \$25?
- 2 A. I don't believe that we actually considered it, no.
- 3 Q. Would you be willing to consider it in the next
- 4 program?
- 5 A. I would, yes. I think that the next program, I think
- 6 pretty much everything's open.
- 7 Q. Turning to the Low Income Programs, which begin on Page
- 8 20, in response to Mr. Linder's questions, you gave us
- 9 some information about the new or this revised budget
- 10 number. Is this, this "80" participation goal, is that
- also a revised number? I don't have the redline in
- 12 front of me, I'm sorry. Actually, looking at
- 13 Exhibit 3, the redline, it shows that participation
- went from "45" to "80", is that correct?
- 15 A. Yes, it is.
- 16 Q. And, then, previously you had testified I believe that
- 17 the cost-effectiveness of the program had increased to
- 18 "1.8", is that correct?
- 19 A. Yes, it is.
- 20 Q. I think we can see that for all of the programs on
- 21 Table A-1 Revised. And, do you have that table in
- 22 front of you?
- 23 A. Yes, I do.
- Q. And, that shows the Low Income as "1.8"?

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- 1 A. Oh, I'm sorry. No, I don't have it. Yes, the Low
- 2 Income here is shown at "1.8".
- 3 Q. Can you speak to why the Low Income cost-effectiveness
- 4 is "1.8", but the Home Performance with ENERGY STAR is
- 5 only "1.1"?
- 6 A. Well, I think that part of the increase that we just
- 7 had proposed in this revised version, most of that did
- go to the -- it did not go to administrative costs, it
- 9 went to the, sorry, rebate bucket. The Home
- 10 Performance with ENERGY STAR, I think part of that has
- 11 to do with the audit. It is going to be a costly
- 12 endeavor.
- 13 Q. But wouldn't the audit, though, show up in the
- 14 Residential Home Energy Assessment Program, which has a
- 15 cost-effectiveness of zero?
- 16 A. Part of the audits will, and part of the audits will
- 17 move forward into the other program. That's what I was
- 18 talking to Mr. Steltzer about earlier. That the Home
- 19 Energy Assessment is sort of the gateway into the two
- 20 programs. But, once a customer has decided that they
- 21 will, in fact, install the measures, the whole project
- 22 will move into the second program.
- 23 Q. So, it sounds like some of the audit costs would -- say
- 24 I'm a customer and I do both. Some of my audit costs

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- 1 would be in the RHEAP and some of my audit costs would
- 2 go with me and carry over into the Home Performance
- 3 with ENERGY STAR?
- 4 A. No, your total audit cost would. So, what's going to
- 5 happen is we're going to get a bill, and that bill is
- 6 going to have the cost of the audit and any measures
- 7 that are installed. That bill will go with you into
- 8 the second program. Any customers that stay within the
- 9 first program, their bill is going to stay there. It's
- 10 not going to move with them, you know.
- 11 Q. But isn't it true, though, that, if you're a low income
- 12 customer, do you also get an audit that's similar to
- 13 the one that's offered to non-low income customers?
- 14 A. Yes, you do.
- 15 Q. Okay. And, don't the non-low income customers
- 16 contribute 25 percent of the cost of the total project?
- 17 A. Yes, they do.
- 18 Q. So, I'm not sure, if the customer is contributing to
- 19 the cost, why the cost-effectiveness of that program is
- 20 actually lower than on the low income side, where the
- 21 customer doesn't contribute anything?
- 22 A. Whether the customer contributes something or not, in
- the total TRC test, really doesn't matter, because
- 24 we're looking at the whole -- the whole cost of the

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- 1 project. We're not just looking at the utility cost.
- I would have to take a look at the Home Performance
- 3 with ENERGY STAR. I don't know why, what may be going
- 4 on. If you look at the -- yes, without having this
- 5 screen in front of me, I would have to do a record
- 6 request on that.
- 7 MS. HATFIELD: I'm not sure what to ask
- 8 for in the record request, Mr. Chairman. But it sounds
- 9 like the Company is willing to work with the interested
- 10 parties to discuss that further.
- 11 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Well, I guess I have a
- 12 question, towards what end are these record requests going
- to go? If the program expires April 30, we're going to
- 14 have to take some kind of action. So, I'm wondering, is
- 15 there, and I think Mr. Steltzer raised a question earlier
- about making some proposal to change what's going on. So,
- 17 certainly, any information for further purposes, I guess
- 18 would certainly be helpful to the parties and to the
- 19 Commission. But is there some expectation that we're
- 20 going to get some next step to do something different with
- 21 what's being proposed? I'm just trying to keep track of
- 22 this.
- MS. HATFIELD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
- 24 The challenge in this docket, as I'm sure the Commission

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- 1 is well aware, is that the parties have had just a month,
- 2 and not really an opportunity for discovery. So, our
- 3 intent was to try to make sure that the Commission had the
- 4 information that you need to find that the programs are in
- 5 the public interest for the 20 month period. And, also,
- to facilitate what we see as, like on the electric side,
- an ongoing dialogue between the parties and Staff, to
- 8 track the programs, do some evaluation, and to help us
- 9 plan better for when the companies do come back in.
- 10 So, in our closing, we will have -- we
- 11 will state our position with respect to different aspects
- of the proposal. But we certainly don't have an
- expectation that there would be any further revisions. It
- 14 really is an attempt to strike the right balance between,
- 15 understanding this is a short docket, for only 20 months,
- but also trying to get enough information out.
- 17 CHAIRMAN GETZ: And, I think that's part
- 18 of where I was going. Is that, unless there's some notion
- 19 of extending the current, whether there's an expectation
- 20 that we would be able to get this, these record requests
- 21 answered and incorporate that into our deliberations. But
- 22 I guess, in this regard, though, with Exhibit -- record
- 23 request, Number 8, looking for some more definition of the
- 24 cost/benefit test, is that --

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

1	MS. HATFIELD: One moment please. We do
2	think it would be helpful to have additional information
3	on the cost/benefit test, especially for the Home
4	Performance with ENERGY STAR, because that is a critical
5	number for the overall program, the Company's incentive,
6	and really the parties ability to test whether the program
7	has been successful.
8	WITNESS JARVIS: One of the things that
9	I will point out is, for the Low Income Program, a lot of
10	the projects are leveraged by the DOE funding, which would
11	help to reduce our costs associated with that. We're not
12	We're not showing the CAP contributions in here. So,
13	that probably has quite a bit to do with why it's so high.
14	But I certainly don't mind providing more information on
15	it.
16	CHAIRMAN GETZ: Okay. We'll reserve
17	Exhibit 8 for that response.
18	(Exhibit 8 reserved)
19	MS. HATFIELD: Thank you.
20	MS. THUNBERG: Mr. Chairman, if I can
21	just interject. On the issue of the intent of these
22	record requests, I'd just, while we're talking on the
23	subject, I'd like some clarification. It's my

{DG 09-053} {04-21-09}

understanding that Record Request -- or, that's been

24

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- 1 reserved for Exhibit 4 is the only one that is actually
- 2 changing the program document itself. And, I just want to
- 3 get the parties' consensus, that the other ones, the other
- 4 record requests are merely for additional information to
- 5 aid in the Commission's evaluation. Is that accurate?
- 6 MS. HATFIELD: I think that's fair to
- 7 say.
- 8 MS. THUNBERG: Thank you for letting me
- 9 pause for that clarification.
- 10 BY MS. HATFIELD:
- 11 Q. Ms. Jarvis, turning back to the Low Income Programs, is
- 12 there a cap on the amount that can be spent on a single
- home?
- 14 A. It is the Company's intent not to cap the amount of
- 15 money. We anticipate that the average -- we anticipate
- 16 that the majority of customers are going to be less
- than \$5,000. However, we want to be able to, in
- 18 certain circumstances, and I'm thinking specifically of
- 19 a "no heat" situation or something, we want to be
- 20 responsive to, you know, the customer's needs and
- 21 provide what's necessary to ensure their health and
- 22 safety.
- 23 Q. You also -- You previously testified that the Company
- is proposing to increase the Low Income budget by

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- 1 \$54,000, and you're proposing to fund that from the
- 2 residential overcollection, is that correct?
- 3 A. Yes, it is.
- 4 Q. Does the Company agree that there is a high level of
- 5 need for low income efficiency services at this time?
- 6 A. Yes, I believe so.
- 7 Q. Would you agree that, typically, under long-standing
- 8 Commission policy, that Low Income Programs have been
- 9 funded equally from commercial and industrial customers
- 10 and low income -- excuse me, and residential customers?
- 11 A. Yes, we have.
- 12 Q. And, would you agree that the Company's proposal in
- 13 this case is not intended to be a precedent for future
- funding of Low Income Programs?
- 15 A. No, it is not.
- 16 Q. Thank you. Turning to Page 33, this is where the
- 17 Company sets forth what it's calling "Additional Market
- 18 Transformation Activities". Do you see that?
- 19 A. Yes, I do.
- 20 Q. And, at the end of the first paragraph, you state that
- 21 the "plan incorporates multiple strategies that promote
- 22 market transformation with the intent of achieving this
- 23 goal." Could you just outline for us briefly where we
- 24 might find those strategies or what particular programs

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

1 you view as "promoting market transformation"? 2 Well, there are several that are actually referred to 3 in here. There's the GasNetworks Program, which is a, 4 as I mentioned earlier, is a collaborative of regional 5 gas companies that are -- that are attempting, you 6 know, are working towards changing the marketplace for 7 various heating, cooling -- well, not so much cooling, but heating and water heating equipment, such that the 8 higher efficiency equipment becomes the norm. Another 9 program that is -- will do such things includes the 10 Home Energy -- I'm sorry, too many names, the ENERGY 11 12 STAR Homes Program is also another market transformation program that -- with the goal of 13 changing building practices and, you know, improving 14 the standards by which homes are built. We also have 15 our -- the website that we have is the GasNetworks, 16 which provides an online information source for 17 customers, as well as vendors. 18 19 We also, to some extent, are 20 participating in the education and training programs. 21 Primarily, we're focusing on training the behavioral issues, you know, behavior -- we're not psychologists, 22 no, but the behavior of the customer, as far as their 23 energy efficiency -- or, their energy usage. And, I 24 {DG 09-053} {04-21-09}

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- think those pretty much are the -- underlying all
- 2 programs are the efforts to improve the building stock
- 3 and so forth, or the business environments and the --
- 4 that the customer or the, you know, employees of
- 5 customers are working within.
- 6 Q. So, does the Company have a budget for this area or is
- 7 it incorporated into the different program budgets?
- 8 A. This year it was, actually, it was incorporated into
- 9 the individual programs.
- 10 Q. On Page 37, the Company discusses "Program Evaluation".
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. And, I think earlier you referenced that the total
- 13 budget for monitoring and evaluation was around
- 14 \$57,000, is that correct?
- 15 A. I believe it's 58, but, yes, that's --
- 16 Q. I think Table B-1: Revised shows it as "\$57,962"?
- 17 A. Okay.
- 18 Q. What specific studies or activities is the Company
- 19 proposing to conduct over the 20 month period for
- 20 monitoring and evaluation?
- 21 A. As I alluded to earlier, the Company has a very small
- 22 budget. One of the things that we are planning to look
- at this year, though, would be to continue to review
- 24 the GDS Associates Report, the additional opportunities

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

1	for energy efficiency in New Hampshire, which was a
2	technical potential study that was just completed I
3	believe this last I think it was this last fall. We
4	need to take a, you know, an in-depth look at it to see
5	how or, you know, where opportunities to incorporate
6	different technologies and so forth into the gas
7	studies and gas programs would be appropriate.
8	There is GasNetworks is currently
9	looking they're currently doing an update for a
10	Massachusetts Market Transformation Scoping Study,
11	which is basically a technical potential study for gas
12	measures. That's currently underway. I believe that
13	this program or this project is I think that it's
14	going to be completed within the next six months. It
15	certainly will be done by the end of the year. As
16	indicated on Page 37, the intent is to identify
17	cost-effective existing and emerging natural gas
18	technologies, and also to identify the most promising
19	technologies, new technologies, additions
20	initiatives and opportunities for deploying over the
21	next five years.
22	And, as part of the discussion that came
23	through on the technical session, the Company is also
24	planning on taking a look at the savings and underlying

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- 1 assumptions associated with the Self-Install Program.
- 2 As I discussed earlier, the numbers were derived from
- 3 the screening process that was done by GDS for the
- 4 program -- I'm sorry, Northern. And, we really haven't
- 5 had a chance to dig into what they are, how good they
- 6 are and so forth. So, we want to take a look at that
- 7 this year as well.
- 8 Q. And, in that process, does Northern and Unitil intend
- 9 to work with the other gas and electric companies?
- 10 A. I don't know if we've actually had any discussions.
- 11 We're certainly welcome to do so. I mean, we do work
- 12 quite closely with the gas companies in Massachusetts.
- 13 We also have a gas company, and through the
- 14 GasNetworks, there is a lot of collaboration that goes
- on, and that would include KeySpan. So, I think that,
- just by virtue of being, sitting in -- each of us
- 17 sitting in each other's pockets, there will be quite a
- 18 bit of collaboration going on.
- 19 Q. I believe Mr. Steltzer previously referred to a
- 20 discussion at one of -- at the technical session that
- 21 we had, where the Company stated that it was
- 22 "considering conducting an initial analysis of the
- 23 Residential Self-Install Program". Are you familiar
- 24 with that?

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- 1 A. Yes, that's -- yes.
- 2 Q. Can you just talk about what that analysis might
- 3 include?
- 4 A. That's what I was referring to earlier. We had the
- 5 savings assumptions associated with the program, the
- 6 Self-Install Program, were sort of -- they were -- we
- 7 used the same numbers and underlying assumptions that
- 8 were from GDS that they had used in Northern's last
- 9 program plan. And, we want to take a better look at
- 10 those numbers.
- 11 Q. Thank you. In terms of marketing your programs to gas
- 12 customers, I believe that Table B-1 shows that your
- overall marketing budget is just over \$122,000, is that
- 14 correct?
- 15 A. Yes. That's correct.
- 16 Q. And, what is the Company planning to do to promote the
- 17 programs?
- 18 A. Specifically, I don't know what the marketing plans
- 19 are. I do know that we have had to or we are in the
- 20 process of doing a lot of printing for the collateral
- 21 material. There is -- We could not take the Northern,
- 22 I think it was "Energy" -- or, "Partners in Energy"
- 23 logo. So, we have to basically produce the marketing
- 24 materials specific for Unitil. So, I do know that that

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- is an expense. I do not know what the individual
- 2 programs specifically, you know, I would have to take
- 3 that as a record request.
- 4 Q. Well, maybe instead of that, would the Company be
- 5 willing to work with the CORE group that I think
- 6 intends to look more closely at marketing and outreach
- 7 and education?
- 8 A. Certainly we would be, yes.
- 9 Q. Thank you. My last question, I think, is would the
- 10 Company agree to work with the parties and Staff in
- advance of the next filing, to try to develop what I
- 12 think it sounds like your goal is, which is to create
- integrated gas and electric programs, I guess that
- 14 would be in 2010?
- 15 A. That would be -- Well, it would be for effect
- December 2011 -- I'm sorry, January 2011. Yes, we
- 17 would we. Would anticipate doing so.
- 18 Q. And, would the Company agree to meet with the parties
- 19 and Staff by the summer of that year, so that a filing
- 20 could be made by August 31st of 2010, to give the
- 21 parties and Staff sufficient time to review the
- 22 proposals?
- 23 A. The Company would have no problem with doing so.
- 24 Q. I'm sorry, I do have just one or two more questions.

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- 1 I'm being reminded. In Exhibit -- or, Appendix C, on
- the first page, Schedule 1, it's a "Summary of
- 3 Projected Energy Efficiency Charges".
- 4 A. Okay.
- 5 Q. Do you see that?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Why is the Residential Conservation Charge higher than
- 8 the Commercial/Industrial Charge?
- 9 A. I do not know. These numbers are basically, I believe,
- 10 were developed by Northern. I might be incorrect.
- 11 What I will say, though, is that this exhibit was
- 12 intended for illustrative purposes only, and we are not
- seeking approval of these numbers. But I would have to
- 14 check into that.
- 15 Q. I guess, in light of the fact that, as we discussed
- 16 previously, that the residential class is going to
- 17 continue to have an overcollection, the OCA would like
- 18 to get updated numbers, understanding that they're just
- 19 illustrative. Would the Company be agreeable to that?
- 20 A. I'm not sure what the difference would be. The reason,
- 21 I mean, there would be a change to the Low Income
- budget, which would be coming out of the residential.
- But I'm not sure -- I guess I'm not sure what else
- would change.

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- 1 Q. And, perhaps this is better addressed in the cost of
- 2 gas case this fall. But, if the residential class, you
- 3 know, continues to have an overcollection, we just want
- 4 to look more closely at why the Conservation Charge is
- 5 higher on the residential side.
- 6 A. No, I agree. The programs began with a large
- 7 overcollection. This rate, I believe, is the same that
- 8 has been charged for the -- for the last program year.
- 9 What we have done is we have increased the budget
- 10 \$200,000. You know, again, I kind of spoke about this
- 11 earlier. We were a little bit concerned with bumping
- 12 up the budget to completely wipe out the balance,
- 13 because what that would tend to do is you would see
- 14 program activity go up, and then it would naturally
- 15 have to come back down again, because the programs --
- the customer class can't support the higher level of
- 17 spending. So, we have been trying to keep it spread
- 18 out, you know, to keep a lower -- I mean, a flatter
- 19 activity level. We will be changing these as part of
- 20 the fall filing. But, you know, we -- I guess I'm not
- 21 sure what question I'm answering now.
- 22 Q. No, I think you've answered it.
- 23 A. Okay. Thank you.
- Q. Thanks. And, then, just finally, has the Company $\{ DG \ 09-053 \} \quad \{ 04-21-09 \}$

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- 1 explored or analyzed any potential customer financing
- 2 options or similar tools to assist customers with
- 3 addressing the up-front costs of participating in these
- 4 programs?
- 5 A. We have not within the context of the Northern filing.
- 6 As a company, we have been looking at other
- 7 opportunities. But we have not specifically to this
- 8 docket.
- 9 Q. Okay. And, that sounds like this might be something we
- 10 could continue to discuss in advance of the next
- 11 filing?
- 12 A. Definitely, yes.
- MS. HATFIELD: Thank you. I have no
- 14 further questions.
- 15 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Thank you. Ms.
- 16 Thunberg.
- 17 MS. THUNBERG: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
- 18 Ms. Jarvis, Staff only has about a dozen questions, just
- 19 to give folks a sense of our time here. It has been very
- 20 informative this morning.
- 21 BY MS. THUNBERG:
- 22 Q. There was a time when you were testifying earlier, and
- I'm looking at Exhibit 3, on Page 8, if you could.
- 24 And, in the middle of the page, it references a

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- 1 "\$4,000" figure. And, I believe in testimony you were
- 2 referring to "4,500". And, I just wanted to clarify
- for the record which, which is the number? Is it
- 4 "4,000" that's represented in this document?
- 5 A. This is the Home Energy -- I'm sorry, the Home
- 6 Performance with ENERGY STAR? No, this is the HE. I'm
- 7 sorry, now I'm confused.
- 8 Q. Well, if I can rephrase the question. I believe there
- 9 was a time that you were, and I thought I was following
- 10 along correctly, when you were referring to a \$4,500
- figure as the total project costs cap. Maybe I am
- 12 misspeaking and thinking it was this cap that you were
- 13 referring to?
- 14 A. I think the "\$4,500 cap" that we were talking about had
- 15 to do with the Low Income Program. As I recall, the
- initial discussions that we had on the Low Income
- 17 Program, we started at 4,000, and KeySpan or National
- 18 Grid was proposing 4,500. And, the question was
- 19 whether we would be willing to go up to that 4,500.
- Now, I may be recalling this completely wrong, but I
- thought that's what it was. And, then, as I brought it
- 22 back to our company, we discussed it, and we decided,
- on the low income side, we really didn't want to impose
- 24 a cap. Am I confused?

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- 1 Q. Well, I just want to talk about the Low Income Program.
- There is no cap proposed in the present program,
- 3 correct?
- 4 A. No, there isn't.
- 5 Q. Okay.
- 6 A. But there was a question, during the technical session,
- 7 there was a question as to what we were planning on
- 8 doing, and the request was that we would go to the
- 9 4,500. The Home Energy Assessment Program and the Home
- 10 Performance with ENERGY STAR, the cap in here is listed
- 11 at "4,000".
- 12 Q. Will it be staying at 4,000, as the Commission -- or,
- as the Company seeks the Commission to approve?
- 14 A. I think that, since it is not changed in here, I guess
- 15 I would say that that was the intent of the Company.
- 16 However, we certainly would not be opposed to
- 17 increasing it to 4,500, if that was -- if my confusion
- 18 has led to more confusion.
- 19 Q. I guess I will just ask one final time. Presently,
- 20 there is no change to these \$4,000 figures that are
- 21 represented in this document -- in the Exhibit 2 and
- 22 Exhibit 3, is that correct?
- 23 A. For the non-Low Income Program, no.
- 24 Q. Thank you. Ms. Jarvis, if I can have you use Exhibit $\left\{ \text{DG } 09\text{-}053 \right\} \quad \left\{ 04\text{-}21\text{-}09 \right\}$

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- 1 3, and turn to Page 8 please, at the very bottom. And,
- 2 this is the redlined version. And, there's reference
- 3 to a fuel-blind proposal, and that it's being discussed
- 4 in the context of the CORE energy efficiency programs.
- 5 Do you see that reference?
- 6 A. Yes, I do.
- 7 Q. And, are you involved in those CORE energy efficiency
- 8 discussions?
- 9 A. Yes, I am.
- 10 Q. And, you are aware that they are considering a
- 11 fuel-blind proposal?
- 12 A. Yes, I am.
- 13 Q. Are you aware of whether the Commission has approved
- 14 any fuel-blind program yet?
- 15 A. I am not aware, no.
- 16 Q. Now, turning to Footnote 9, it states "As filed in
- Docket DE 08-120." So, is it correct to characterize
- 18 that the Company will be offering this if it is
- approved in this docket 08-120?
- 20 A. If the Commission approves the fuel-blind proposal,
- 21 yes.
- 22 Q. Thank you. I'm sorry, I --
- 23 A. No, I just -- I'm fine. That's fine.
- 24 Q. Okay. I'd like the turn to Page 10 of Exhibit 3. And,

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- in the third paragraph, it states -- it references the
- 2 "EPA and DOE", and says "the program is not yet
- 3 certified". Do you see that language?
- 4 A. Yes, I do.
- 5 Q. And, I have a two-part question. If the program is not
- 6 yet certified, do you know what the cost of
- 7 certification will be? And, also, will it have an
- 8 impact on the cost/benefit ratio that I believe is on
- 9 Page 5, which -- or, the Total Resource Cost Test ratio
- is 1.1? So, do you understand my two-part question?
- 11 A. Yes, I do. I am not aware that there are any costs
- 12 associated with this. My understanding is, is that we
- just need to get the -- the programs need to be
- 14 certified by, I've forgotten the -- by the EPA. And,
- 15 we have already -- we are in process of that
- 16 certification now. I do not believe that it would have
- 17 any impact on the benefit/cost ratio of the program.
- 18 Q. Okay. Thank you. Moving onto Page 13 of Exhibit 3,
- 19 third paragraph down, third line down, it states that
- 20 "The program will also seek to incorporate renewable
- 21 technologies such as solar thermal, solar domestic hot
- 22 water or combined heat and power equipment." Do you
- 23 see that reference?
- 24 A. Yes, I do.

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- 1 Q. And, can you tell me whether the Company has conducted
- 2 a benefit/cost test for these technologies or these
- 3 measures?
- 4 A. The Company has not at this point. What the Company is
- 5 referring to here is, where the application would be
- 6 cost-effective, we would consider installing these
- 7 things. But the bottom line would be that they would
- 8 have to be cost-effective before they could be
- 9 implemented.
- 10 Q. And, do you know at what point the Company will be
- 11 reviewing cost-effectiveness of these measures?
- 12 A. They're going to be on a case-by-case basis. I am not
- aware of any that are in the queue at this point.
- 14 Q. Would the Company be willing to, understanding that
- 15 there is no date certain that these measures will be
- evaluated for cost-effectiveness, but, to the extent
- 17 the Company does look at the cost-effectiveness of
- 18 that, would the Company be willing to provide the Staff
- of the Commission with a report on the
- 20 cost-effectiveness?
- 21 A. On the cost-effectiveness of an actual project going
- 22 in?
- 23 Q. Correct. Because, I believe, if I understand you,
- that's what -- you're going to be looking at the

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- cost/benefit at the --
- 2 A. At that point.
- 3 Q. -- individually as they're implemented.
- 4 A. Yes. Yes, we could do that.
- 5 Q. Thank you. Ms. Jarvis, have you reviewed Northern's
- 6 past program that was approved for energy efficiency?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. So, my question is, are you generally familiar with
- 9 what's the so-called "Staff template"?
- 10 A. With the -- As it relates to the -- I think it was the
- 11 shareholder incentive calculation?
- 12 Q. Perfect. Thank you. Yes.
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. That Staff template is not recreated in the present
- Unitil filing, is that correct?
- 16 A. That is not, correct. Yes. It was not included, yes.
- 17 Q. For the ease of Staff's understanding of the filing,
- 18 would the Company be willing to provide such a
- 19 template?
- 20 A. I'll try. Yes, it was just -- at the time I was trying
- 21 to pull this together, I was a little confused as to
- 22 what that was. So, yes, I will provide that.
- 23 Q. Are you still confused as to what the Staff template
- 24 is?

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- 1 A. No, I think Mr. Cunningham had provided me with a copy
- 2 that was a little clearer than what I was looking at.
- 3 The documents that I had from Northern were a little
- 4 confusing.
- 5 Q. Thank you. You're going to allow me to test your
- 6 knowledge further. Did you participate in the
- 7 acquisition docket, which was docket number DG 08-048?
- 8 A. No, I did not.
- 9 Q. Okay. Are you at all familiar with a commitment by
- 10 Unitil to assess improvements and expansions of the
- energy efficiency programs?
- 12 A. Yes, I was aware of that.
- 13 Q. And, in looking at the improvements and expansions, is
- it the Company's intent to also look at the cost of
- doing the improvements and expansions?
- 16 A. I'm sorry. Are you referring to energy efficiency?
- 17 Q. I'm sorry. In particular, yes, energy efficiency, and
- this commitment was with the low income and energy
- 19 efficiency programs.
- 20 A. Yes. The cost/benefit analyses that are provided
- 21 within these documents have taken a look at the costs.
- I mean, maybe I'm misunderstanding your question.
- 23 MS. THUNBERG: I may be miss-asking the
- question. If I can defer to Mr. Cunningham, if I need to

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- 1 clarify.
- 2 BY MR. CUNNINGHAM:
- 3 Q. Yes. I'd like to clarify, in terms of allocation of
- 4 the budget for the low income portion. Just by way of
- 5 background, the Commission has asked that a fresh look
- 6 be taken at the allocation of the budget, energy
- 7 efficiency budget for the CORE residential sector to
- 8 the Low Income Programs. And, there is a working group
- 9 that has been set up to review that pursuant to the
- 10 Commission's order. The question that Staff is
- interested in at this point is, in the context of
- 12 reviewing the Low Income Energy Efficiency Program
- 13 expansion, would the Company also be willing to discuss
- 14 the percent allocation of the budget that should be
- related to the Low Income Programs?
- 16 A. The change that we made to the Low Income budget was
- 17 done specifically to reflect the Electric CORE Program
- 18 percentage. So, in that context, I would say "yes",
- 19 the Company would consider -- well, yes, actually, if
- 20 you think about it, we're trying to combined the two of
- 21 them anyway for the next go-around. So, I think that
- it would all be part and parcel of that discussion.
- MR. CUNNINGHAM: Thank you.
- MS. THUNBERG: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- 1 Staff has finished with its questions.
- 2 CMSR. BELOW: Yes, I have a few
- 3 questions.
- 4 BY CMSR. BELOW:
- 5 Q. I'm going to work from Exhibit 3, Page 7. If the
- 6 negotiated price you retain one or more contractors to
- 7 perform the Home Energy assessments comes in at more
- 8 than \$215, would you still provide that at no
- 9 additional cost to the customers, if they use your
- 10 vendor under contract?
- 11 A. Yes, that would be the intent.
- 12 Q. Okay. Would it be safe for me to presume that, at an
- 13 estimated cost of \$215, you don't anticipate including
- 14 any thermography with the basic Home Energy assessment?
- 15 A. "Thermography", meaning the blower door test?
- 16 Q. No. Thermography, infrared imaging, to detect gaps or
- 17 missing insulation?
- 18 A. I honestly don't know. I would have to check on that.
- 19 Q. Okay. On Page 11, at the bottom of the page there's a
- 20 new insertion "All such projects must be
- 21 cost-effective." What do you mean by the word
- 22 "project" there?
- 23 A. I'm sorry, I don't see where you're referring?
- 24 Q. Bottom of Page 11, last line.

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- 1 A. Oh. This is in reference to the installation of the
- 2 solar thermal or combined heat, you know, the new
- 3 technologies, the untested technologies. They would
- 4 have to be -- The project would have to be
- 5 cost-effective.
- 6 Q. Okay. So, when you're looking at the package, in the
- first sentence of that paragraph, a package of
- 8 measures, if that package of measures on the home
- 9 overall has a cost-effectiveness, but there might be
- 10 one particular subset that may not be cost-effective,
- 11 you might still do that as part of a package?
- 12 A. Yes. My understanding is that they actually do try to
- look at them on a measure-by-measure basis. But the
- goal is to make sure that the overall project is
- 15 cost-effective.
- 16 Q. Okay. On Page 15, and following onto Page 16, at the
- top of Page 16 there's a reference to a "rebate"
- 18 structure" for "\$300" for a energy efficient high
- 19 efficiency water heating. But the specific reference
- is to "indirect fired water heaters and on-demand
- 21 tankless water heating systems", with a "0.82 Energy
- 22 Factor or greater". And, on the previous page is a
- 23 discussion of residential heating equipment. If
- 24 somebody had a -- if you had a Deep Energy Retrofit,

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- such that they had a low heating load and could use a
- 2 high efficiency, you know, 90 percent plus condensing
- 3 hot water heater for both space heating and hot water,
- 4 what program would it fall under? Would it be
- 5 considered a boiler or combined boiler and water
- 6 heating unit or just a high efficiency water heater?
- 7 A. I honestly don't know.
- 8 Q. Okay.
- 9 A. I would have to follow up with that.
- 10 O. Well, that might be something to look at, as there's an
- increasing trend to use high efficiency condensing
- 12 water heaters for space heating and hot water heating.
- 13 A. I don't believe that they're actually rebated through
- 14 the GasNetworks, though. I think that that might be
- 15 something that we would anticipate doing under the
- other program.
- 17 Q. Okay.
- 18 A. I'm not sure. I would have to check on that.
- 19 Q. On Page 16, under the Residential ENERGY STAR Window
- 20 Program component, have you or have you considered
- 21 providing consumers with educational materials about
- 22 solar heat gain coefficients? Such as the notion that
- a high solar heat gain coefficient might be appropriate
- on south-facing windows where there's appropriate

[WITNESS: Jarvis]

- summer shading, and the homeowner might benefit from
- 2 passive solar heat gain. And, a low solar heat gain
- 3 coefficient might be appropriate on west or east
- 4 windows, where a homeowner might want to avoid
- 5 excessive summer heat gain?
- 6 A. I would -- I would have to defer that to the program
- 7 implementer. I really don't know.
- 8 Q. Okay. And, the \$10 rebate is pretty low, but maybe
- 9 that reflects the market trend for ENERGY STAR windows
- 10 with a U-factor of 0.35 is becoming more the norm than
- 11 the exception. Have you considered doing anything with
- incentives to get to a lower U-factor than 0.35?
- 13 A. Not that I'm aware of, no.
- 14 CMSR. BELOW: Okay. That's all.
- 15 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Any redirect, Mr. Epler?
- MR. EPLER: No, Mr. Chairman.
- 17 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Okay. Then, the witness
- is excused. Thank you, Ms. Jarvis.
- 19 WITNESS JARVIS: Thank you.
- 20 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Is it anticipated that
- 21 there will be other witnesses this morning?
- 22 (No verbal response)
- 23 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Okay. Then, is there --
- 24 well, any objection to striking identifications and

```
1 admitting the exhibits into evidence?
```

- 2 (No verbal response)
- 3 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Hearing no objection,
- 4 they will be admitted into evidence. Is there anything
- 5 else we need to address before providing an opportunity
- for closing statements? Commissioner Below.
- 7 CMSR. BELOW: I have a question for
- 8 Mr. Epler. As we're discussing energy efficiency, does
- 9 Unitil have photocopiers that have automatic duplexing?
- 10 And, would you consider providing such documents
- 11 double-sided in the future?
- 12 MR. EPLER: Absolutely, Commissioner. I
- was actually, while copying these last night on our
- 14 machine, I anticipated that question. And, I attempted to
- do it, but it was a new machine, and was unsuccessful.
- So, I figured, after one attempt, I'll do this. But, yes,
- 17 we will endeavor to do it.
- 18 But, if I could clarify, as a general
- 19 rule is the Commission requesting that for paper filings
- or just for exhibits?
- 21 CMSR. BELOW: We encourage it. And, I
- think that's reflected in our rules, it at least allows
- 23 it. But we do try to encourage it, both to conserve paper
- and to conserve filing space, because we're constantly

```
1 trying to clean out our files to make room.
```

- 2 MR. EPLER: Okay. So noted. I will
- 3 take that back, and we'll try to move ahead with that.
- 4 CHAIRMAN GETZ: And, you'll do the
- 5 training?
- 6 MR. EPLER: And, I'll take the training.
- 7 CMSR. MORRISON: Paper training.
- 8 MR. EPLER: Paper training.
- 9 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Okay. Then, let's begin
- 10 with closings. So, Mr. Linder.
- 11 MR. LINDER: Yes. Thank you. Thank
- 12 you, Mr. Chairman. Our client appreciates the efforts of
- 13 the Company in this area and the Company's sensitivity to
- 14 the need for the energy efficiency services to be provided
- for the low income community, and appreciates the
- 16 Company's willingness to increase the budget to that
- 17 effect. And, we do support the Company's filing and
- 18 support the proposed budgets. We believe the program is
- 19 in the public interest. And, we would recommend that the
- 20 Commission approve the filing. And, that the Commission
- 21 consider, as part of its order, the letter that is to be
- filed by Mr. Epler, agreeing, in essence, to supplement
- 23 the filing by the periodic reports on the Low Income
- 24 Program.

{DG 09-053} {04-21-09}

```
We thank you very much.
 1
 2
                         CHAIRMAN GETZ: Thank you.
 3
       Mr. Steltzer.
 4
                         MR. STELTZER: OEP's interest here is
 5
       not only from the residential perspective, but also from
 6
       the business perspective, and how these programs are being
 7
       made available to both of those end users. We're looking
 8
       for consistency between the programs, and we're also
       looking for evaluation of the programs. Looking
 9
       specifically at how the programs are being reviewed for
10
11
       their effectiveness. We talked a little bit today about
       the evaluations and what's noted in here is that $58,000
12
       will be spent to review the documents, not only the energy
13
14
       -- the GDS report, but also the GasNetworks report as
       well.
15
16
                         We have some concerns about the amount
       of money that's going into reviewing the documents.
17
       certainly appreciate that they have -- the Company has
18
19
       extended that to include also the evaluation of the
       Residential Self-Install Program, and would certainly be
20
21
       interested, to the extent possible, that the Residential
       Home Energy Assistance Program, which has been identified
22
23
       as a unique component to this proposal, is evaluated in
```

some sort of capacity, to see that, in future years, if

{DG 09-053} {04-21-09}

24

```
this is an effective program that is being offered here,
```

- 2 that other future programs, not only at the electrical
- 3 level, but also within National Grid's gas level, could
- 4 potentially take part in the educational component that is
- 5 offered here.
- And, so, we'll continue to be interested
- 7 in consistency, as well as evaluation, as we go forward.
- 8 Thank you.
- 9 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Thank you. Mr. Nute.
- 10 MR. NUTE: Yes. The Association is in
- 11 support of this agreement here. I'd just like to echo
- 12 Attorney Linder's request for the quarterly meetings,
- 13 where this is currently being done in another gas docket.
- 14 It's very efficient, it works very well, and it works as
- 15 well for the company, as it does for all the interested
- 16 parties.
- 17 In the non-low income, it's very
- 18 interesting, this new procedure, the new programs we're
- 19 getting into here. But we just feel that, although we
- 20 support it, we'd like to watch it carefully as it goes
- 21 through the docket, and perhaps help, and just see what
- 22 comes out of this, and combining with the electric also.
- 23 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Thank you.
- Ms. Hatfield.

{DG 09-053} {04-21-09}

1

MS. HATFIELD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

```
2
       The OCA would like to begin by thanking the parties and
       Staff for all of the work that has been done in this quick
 3
       docket. We do support and very much appreciate the
 5
       Company's willingness to file this 20 month gap proposal.
 6
       We look forward to working with this company and others to
       try to integrate the gas and electric programs. So, we
       really appreciate the Company's willingness to not propose
 8
       another three year program that would have continued that
 9
       mismatch.
10
11
                         The OCA hasn't really had sufficient
       time to thoroughly review the proposal, I think as
12
13
       evidenced by some of our questions today and our many
14
       record requests. But we do believe that it is important
       to continue offering cost-effective gas efficiency
15
16
       programs to Northern's customers.
17
                         We support the increased funding for Low
18
       Income Programs that the Company has proposed. And, we
19
       appreciate the Company's -- that the Company agrees that
20
       there is a very high level of need for energy efficiency
21
       programs for low income customers. But we are troubled
       and are watching very carefully this proposal that the
22
23
       Company has made to fund the Low Income budget increase
       solely from the residential side, because we think that
24
                       {DG 09-053} {04-21-09}
```

1

16

17

```
2
       precedent regarding how Low Income Programs are funded,
 3
       because of the recognition that goes back quite some time
 4
       now that providing energy efficiency to low income
 5
       customers really does provide benefits to all customers,
 6
       both residential, commercial/industrial, and others. And,
       we appreciate the Company's agreement that this funding
 8
       approach, as currently proposed, will not be a precedent
       for the future funding of Low Income Programs.
 9
10
                         We agree with OEP's concerns about
11
       monitoring and evaluation. We understand this is a
12
       smaller company, with a small budget for M&E, and, you
13
       know, we're always sensitive of spending money on things
14
       other than measures. But we do think that measuring and
       verifying and reviewing programs is an important thing
15
```

does go against long-standing Commission policy and

18 believe that this filing could use more detail in the

that we all do need to do. So, we will be looking to work

with the Company in that area going forward. We also

areas of marketing, outreach, and education, coordination

with the electric utilities, and as evidenced by some of

21 the questions that we asked today.

22 And, with respect to Mr. Linder's

23 request for the low income reporting, we do support that.

24 But I'm actually starting to wonder if maybe we don't need

```
1 that a little bit more on the non-low income residential
```

- 2 side. We're looking forward to working with Unitil. And,
- 3 we think we can work out a system where the parties talk
- 4 more often than maybe once a year, or even less in the
- 5 past. So, we hope that that's going to be a practice that
- 6 they will be open to.
- 7 And, finally, we did want to just touch
- 8 on what we think is a real opportunity for Northern and
- 9 for other companies to provide a critical educational
- 10 piece of information to customers, who may not fully
- 11 understand all of the opportunities that they have, and
- 12 the differences between ENERGY STAR versus what qualifies
- 13 for a rebate, versus what qualifies for a Federal Income
- 14 Tax credit. So, we really urge the Company to ensure that
- 15 their energy audit reports, educational materials, show
- people that there are a range of things that they can do,
- 17 so that people understand that maybe it's a long-term
- 18 process to get your house to that Deep Energy Retrofit
- 19 point. And, we'd be happy to work with the Company on
- 20 ways that they might do that. Thank you very much.
- 21 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Thank you. Ms.
- Thunberg.
- MS. THUNBERG: Thank you, Commissioners.
- 24 Staff recommends the Commission approve Unitil's filing,

```
1 as represented by Exhibits 2, 3, and 4. Staff believes
```

- 2 this 20 month proposal sets the appropriate stage for
- 3 combining the programs with the CORE -- or, synchronizing
- 4 the programs with the CORE energy efficiency filings.
- 5 Staff believes that this synchronization will aid in the
- 6 development of the programs, and that better coordination
- 7 between the natural gas companies and electric companies
- 8 will provide administrative efficiencies. Staff
- 9 appreciates the Company's consideration of providing the
- 10 simplified template, so that Staff can easily review the
- 11 performance incentives.
- 12 Staff appreciates the Company's
- agreement to discuss possible program improvements and
- 14 expansions for 2010, along with the Company's agreement to
- 15 discuss the Low Income budget allocations. Staff
- 16 recognizes that these discussions may increase
- 17 administrative costs, but Staff will keep an eye toward
- 18 making these efficient.
- 19 Staff also appreciates the Company's
- 20 willingness to provide a report to Staff and the
- 21 Commission on the cost-effectiveness of any solar or
- combined heat installations, if they are done. And, with
- that, thank you for your time.
- 24 CHAIRMAN GETZ: Thank you. Mr. Epler.

```
MR. EPLER: Yes, Mr. Chairman.
 1
 2
       you. Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, admittedly this filing
 3
       is a little bit of a compromise that attempts to thread
       the various constraints that were presented to the
 5
       Company, one, being the recent acquisition of Northern and
 6
       the somewhat lack of familiarity with the ongoing
 7
       programs. The other being the tight time frame that we
 8
       were under. And, then, a desire, I think by all parties,
       to try to do -- to coordinate these, this plan, with the
 9
       electric plans on a going forward basis, to try to achieve
10
       greater economies of scale, greater efficiencies, to be
11
12
       able to spread certain costs for measurements and
13
       marketing, so on, among a greater base.
14
                         But, with that, we believe it is a good
       compromise. It does -- It will help to bring us to that
15
       point of being able to coordinate the programs between gas
16
       and electric. And, we do intend to -- we are taking
17
18
       seriously the comments that have been made, in terms of
19
       more precise and better measurements of the activities,
       getting -- being able to coordinate the marketing
20
21
       activities. And, in addition, we will also take back the
       recommendations regarding information regarding income tax
22
23
       credits and rebates and being able to provide that to
       customers. We'll see if we can try to get that in our
24
                       {DG 09-053} {04-21-09}
```

1	customer information.
2	So, with that, we believe this is a good
3	program and request approval by the Commission.
4	CHAIRMAN GETZ: Okay. All right. Then,
5	we will close the hearing and take the matter under
6	advisement. Thank you, everyone.
7	(Whereupon the hearing ended at 11:39
8	a.m.)
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	

{DG 09-053} {04-21-09}