



Business and Industry Association
New Hampshire's Statewide Chamber of Commerce

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September 24, 2014

Ms. Debra A. Howland
Executive Director
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10
Concord, NH 03301-2429

Re: DG 14-155: Joint Petition for Authority to Transfer Ownership of New Hampshire Gas Corporation to Liberty Utilities (Energy North Natural Gas) Corp.

Dear Ms. Howland,

On behalf of the Business and Industry Association of New Hampshire (BIA), I write this letter in support of Liberty Utilities' purchase of New Hampshire Gas Corporation, located in Keene, New Hampshire. BIA is New Hampshire's statewide chamber of commerce and leading business advocate. We represent over 400 leading businesses in a variety of industries, with over 86,000 employees across the Granite State.

BIA believes this purchase will benefit customers currently served by the New Hampshire Gas Corporation. As you know, Liberty Utilities is the state's largest natural gas distribution utility, currently serving approximately 86,000 customers. We believe that bringing New Hampshire Gas Corporation into the Liberty Utilities' system will provide its customers with additional, New Hampshire-based expertise and resources.

BIA also believes that Liberty Utilities can help lower the rates of customers in Keene by procuring lower cost propane in the summer instead of making purchases during winter periods when propane is more expensive. This will reduce costs and ensure adequate supply.

Finally, Liberty Utilities is committed to being in New Hampshire and has a long-term interest in growing the system in Keene. It is my understanding that Liberty Utilities is considering converting the system to Liquefied Natural gas (LNG) or Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) at some point in the future. If so, this will provide more fuel choice in the Keene area, and allow for usage of a lower-cost commodity.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. I urge you to approve the sale of New Hampshire Gas Corporation to Liberty Utilities.

Best regards,



Jim Roche
President