

Debra Howland, Executive Director and Secretary
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, NH 03301

Re: DE 16-241, Eversource Petition for New Tariff

Dear Ms. Howland,

I write to express my opposition to Eversource's petition as presented in DE 16-241 (Eversource Energy Petition for Approval of Gas Infrastructure Contract with Algonquin). Please do not lock electric rate payers with a 20 year contract on an LNG line. And do not set this precedent. This is an aging technology. While most of the world is looking to build the infrastructure for renewable energy, the Northeast is trying to lock the rate payer in to pipelines claiming it is a bridge fuel. In this rapidly evolving energy landscape, committing ratepayers to a 20-year contract for natural gas capacity, to be paid for by a new tariff on all Eversource customers, is unacceptable.

According to the EPA ¹ methane is "is more efficient at trapping radiation than CO2. Pound for pound, the comparative impact of CH4 on climate change is more than 25 times greater than CO2 over a 100-year period." I ask how does this seem like a bridge fuel to the future ? Please do not make the rate payers pay for a short term band aid approach for 20 years. We should be diversifying our fuels at this point in time.

If private shareholders were assuming the risks of this 20-year contract, they would demand considerable evidence of a reasonable payback on their investment. As we've seen before, when costs are portioned out to the mostly unaware public, evaluation of risk is less strict and there is no thought of payback.

It is very possible that over the course of 20 years, ratepayers will be paying reservation fees for gas that is never used to generate electricity. As an Eversource customer, that is not a risk I am willing to take.

I do not choose to be forced to pay for an energy investment that I believe is not prudent, and I ask the PUC to represent my interests by denying the Eversource petition.

Most Sincerely,

Carol DiPirro
10 Cambridge Dr.
Merrimack, NH 03054

References:

¹ <https://www3.epa.gov/climatechange/ghgemissions/gases/ch4.html>