

September 12, 2016

**Debra Howland, Executive Director and Secretary
NH Public Utilities Commission
21 S. Fruit Street – Suite 10
Concord, NH 03301-2429**

**Re: DG 16-770, Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp.,
d/b/a Liberty Utilities and Concord Steam Corporation.
Joint Petition for Approval of an Asset Purchase Agreement.**

Dear Director Howland:

As one of the many New Hampshire residents who vehemently opposed the now withdrawn NED pipeline application, I would like to express my opinion regarding the proposed purchase of Concord Steam by Liberty Utilities for the conversion of biomass energy to fracked gas.

We spent many months researching the pros and cons of fracking and the construction and operation of the pipelines and facilities necessary to serve this limited, dirtier version of natural gas. We rejected NED not just because it was to have run through our own backyards, but because it threatened everyone in its path, from those living near the shale fields of Pennsylvania, all along the pipeline route through New York, Massachusetts, and on to our own granite state. With NED now apparently at rest, it would be the height of hypocrisy for us to accept fracked “natural gas” as part of the solution to our state capital’s need for “cleaner” energy. We fully understand the negative impact that the fracked gas industry has repeatedly shown to have upon human health and safety, air and water quality, tourism, forestry, farming, wildlife, and numerous other valued assets. We oppose subjecting others to these adverse effects, wherever they may occur.

In addition, The NH Office of Energy Planning's 10-year strategy strongly promotes "Diversity of Supply" as one of its principal components for a sound and stable energy policy. With New England already above 50% natural gas use, this purchase and conversion plan would defeat that goal. It would also encourage the expansion of fracking and pipeline infrastructure, while postponing any real progress toward innovative, clean renewable energy alternatives.

New Hampshire's "Yankee ingenuity" is still alive and well. Let's use it to develop truly clean, renewable energy for our state capital. We urge you to halt the sale of Concord Steam to Liberty Utilities. There is nothing "natural" about fracked gas.

Sincerely,

Jeanne E. Sable and James L. Rodger
160 Dunton Road
Fitzwilliam, NH 03447

Cc: Fitzwilliam Board of Selectmen