

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**  
21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10  
Concord, N.H. 03301-2429

TDD Access: Relay NH  
1-800-735-2964

Tel. (603) 271-2431

FAX (603) 271-3878

Website:  
[www.puc.nh.gov](http://www.puc.nh.gov)

NHPUC 4DEC'17PM3:24

December 4, 2017

Debra A. Howland  
Executive Director  
N.H. Public Utilities Commission  
21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10  
Concord, NH 03301

Re: IR17-037 Investigation of Gas Operator Qualification Programs & Testing Practices  
Request for a Further Extension

Dear Ms. Howland:

The Commission issued a Secretarial Letter September 21, 2017 approving an extension of time for filing a report regarding an investigation into the testing practices and operator qualification programs utilized by the gas distribution utilities in this state. The Secretarial Letter allowed Staff to submit a report of its findings, conclusions and recommendations to the Commission no later than December 5, 2017. The investigative report has not been finalized as Staff resources have been diverted to completing alternative Commission priorities. Staff has devoted considerable effort to thoroughly reviewing an atypical and first-time CNG installation as a supply for a distribution system within the state, as well as preparing and responding to a state wide emergency resulting in the fourth largest historical electrical outage and subsequently the Governor's request for a major disaster declaration. Staff intends to file a status update for the Commission regarding IR17-037 by January 31, 2018 but does not believe we will be finished with the report until after that date.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully,

*/s/ Randall S. Knepper*

Randall S. Knepper  
Director, Safety Division

cc: Docket Service List

**SERVICE LIST - EMAIL ADDRESSES - DOCKET RELATED**

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**Pursuant to N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.11 (a) (1): Serve an electronic copy on each person identified on the service list.**

Executive.Director@puc.nh.gov  
al-azad.iqbal@puc.nh.gov  
alexander.speidel@puc.nh.gov  
amanda.noonan@puc.nh.gov  
ciulla@unitil.com  
david.burnell@puc.nh.gov  
david.shulock@puc.nh.gov  
epler@unitil.com  
heather.tebbetts@libertyutilities.com  
karen.sinville@libertyutilities.com  
leblanc@unitil.com  
leo.cody@libertyutilities.com  
mark.naylor@puc.nh.gov  
michael.sheehan@libertyutilities.com  
paul.dexter@puc.nh.gov  
randy.knepper@puc.nh.gov  
richard.macdonald@libertyutilities.com  
robert.wyatt@puc.nh.gov  
Stephen.Hall@libertyutilities.com  
steve.frink@puc.nh.gov  
steven.mullen@libertyutilities.com  
taylorp@unitil.com

Docket #: 17-037-1      Printed: December 04, 2017

**FILING INSTRUCTIONS:**

- a) Pursuant to N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.02 (a), with the exception of Discovery, file 7 copies, as well as an electronic copy, of all documents including cover letter with:**

DEBRA A HOWLAND  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
NHPUC  
21 S. FRUIT ST, SUITE 10  
CONCORD NH 03301-2429

- b) Serve an electronic copy with each person identified on the Commission's service list and with the Office of Consumer Advocate.**
- c) Serve a written copy on each person on the service list not able to receive electronic mail.**