THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DG 17-141

LIBERTY UTILITIES (ENERGYNORTH NATURAL GAS) CORPORATION D/B/A LIBERTY UTILITIES – KEENE DIVISION

2017-2018 Winter Period Cost of Gas Adjustment

ORDER OF NOTICE

On September 15, 2017, Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp., d/b/a Liberty Utilities - Keene Division (the Keene Division), a public utility providing propane-air service to approximately 1,300 customers in Keene, New Hampshire, filed its proposed cost of gas (COG) rates for the winter period, November 1, 2017 through April 30, 2018. The Keene Division filed testimony, revised tariff pages, and schedules in support of the new rates. The filing and subsequent docket filings, other than any information for which confidential treatment is requested of or granted by the Commission, will be posted to the Commission's website at http://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2017/17-141.html.

The proposed COG rate is \$1.2208 per therm, a \$0.2983 per therm decrease from the weighted average COG rate of \$1.5191 per therm for last winter. The Keene Division also proposes a \$1.2408 per therm rate for its fixed price option (FPO) program (a \$0.02 per therm premium over the non-FPO rate). Based on the proposed GOG rate, a typical non-FPO residential heating customer's winter gas bill is expected to be \$1,421 compared to a total bill of \$1,597 for last winter, a decrease of \$176 or 11.0 percent.

The Keene Division requests a waiver from N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 1203.05, in order to implement the rate change on a bills-rendered basis.

09/22/17

The filing raises, <u>inter alia</u>, issues related to the reasonableness of rates and charges pursuant to RSA 378, including forecasting of sales, supplier prices and transportation prices, operational issues, and reconciliation of prior period costs and revenues. Each party has the right to have an attorney represent the party at the party's own expense.

Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby

ORDERED, that a hearing be held before the Commission located at 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire on October 13, 2017 at 1:00 pm; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that the Keene Division, the Staff of the Commission and any Intervenors hold a Technical Session to review the filing on October 2, 2017 at 11:00 am; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.12, the Keene Division shall notify all persons desiring to be heard at this hearing by publishing a copy of this Order of Notice no later than September 28, 2017 in a newspaper with general circulation in those portions of the state in which operations are conducted, publication to be documented by affidavit filed with the Commission on or before October 13, 2017; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.17, any party seeking to intervene in the proceeding shall submit to the Commission an original and seven copies of a Petition to Intervene with copies sent to Liberty Utilities and the Office of the Consumer Advocate on or before October 2, 2017, such Petition stating the facts demonstrating how its rights, duties, privileges, immunities or other substantial interests may be affected by the proceeding, as required by N.H. Code Admin. Rule Puc 203.17 and RSA 541-A:32,I(b); and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that any party objecting to a Petition to Intervene make said Objection on or before October 6, 2017.

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By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this twenty-second day

of September, 2017.

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Executive Director

Individuals needing assistance or auxiliary communication aids due to sensory impairment or other disability should contact the Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator, NHPUC, 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire 03301-2429; 603-271-2431; TDD Access: Relay N.H. 1-800-735-2964. Notification of the need for assistance should be made one week prior to the scheduled event.

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

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Docket #: 17-141-1 Printed: September 22, 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: DEBRAAHOWLAND EXEC 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.