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March 20, 2018

NHPUC 21MAR'18AM9:43

***Via Electronic Mail and Hand Delivery***

Debra A. Howland, Executive Director  
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission  
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10  
Concord, NH 03301

**Re: Docket No. DG 17-198; Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities  
Petition to Approve Firm Supply, Transportation Agreements and the Granite Bridge Project**

**Docket No. DG 17-152; Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities  
Least Cost Integrated Resource Plan**

Dear Ms. Howland:

On behalf of Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities, enclosed please find proposed procedural schedules for the above two dockets that Liberty urges the Commission to adopt rather than the schedule to be proposed by Staff.

Liberty's proposed schedules roughly track the "tentative schedule" that Staff circulated during the March 9, 2018, technical sessions in the above dockets, with hearings in November. Staff's revised proposed schedule will push the hearings into December and January 2019, roughly 12 – 14 months after these cases were filed. By comparison, hearings in the docket that addressed Liberty's contract on the Northeast Energy Direct pipeline, a docket that raised similar issues to this docket (Liberty's demand forecast and its evaluation of options to meet that demand), were held eight months after filing, with an order issued in ten months. See Docket No. DG 14-380.

A two or three month difference may be important in the progression of the Granite Bridge Project, as it may, for example, make the difference between getting started in one construction season rather than the next, should the Commission (and the Site Evaluation Committee) ultimately approve the project. The Company is anxious to keep these matters moving as delays will only cause increased costs.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael J. Sheehan".

Michael J. Sheehan

cc: Service List  
Enclosure