STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DG 17-191

Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities – Keene Division

Standard Heat Content Value

Order Suspending Proposed Tariff

<u>ORDER NO. 26,088</u>

December 21, 2017

In this Order, the Commission suspends a proposed Liberty-Keene tariff provision for the calculation of standard heat content value for the categories of gas sold to Liberty-Keene customers.

On November 22, 2017, Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities-Keene Division ("Liberty-Keene") filed tariff changes for the calculation of the standard heat content value for propane-air and natural gas to be sold to Liberty-Keene customers. Liberty-Keene also asked for a waiver of the 30-day notice period of N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 1603.07(a)(1) so that the tariff changes could take effect immediately. The tariff changes were filed in anticipation of Liberty-Keene offering natural gas alongside its existing provision of propane-air gas. The tariff is needed because natural gas and propane-air gas differ in heat content.

The petition and subsequent docket filings, other than any information for which confidential treatment is requested of or granted by the Commission, are posted to the Commission's website at http://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2017/17-191.html.

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This filing raises, <u>inter alia</u>, issues related to: whether the proposed tariff is just and reasonable under RSA Chapter 378, RSA 374:1, and RSA 374:2; and whether the tariff proposal will ensure consistent quality of service, and fair and accurate billing, for Liberty-Keene customers.

Here, Liberty-Keene's proposed tariff provisions warrant further investigation, and so we suspend the proposed tariff pages filed by the Company pending our investigation for a period of 3 months, or until March 22, 2018, pursuant to RSA 378:6, I(b).

The Commission may extend the suspension for an additional 5 months if more time is needed. *Id.* Also, because we are suspending the tariff, we deny Liberty-Keene's waiver request as moot. A prehearing conference may be scheduled in the near future, pursuant to an Order of Notice.

Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby

ORDERED, that the proposed tariff page regarding the standard heat content value of gas sold by Liberty-Keene is hereby SUSPENDED pursuant to RSA 378:6, I(b), through March 22, 2018, pending investigation and further order of the Commission, and it is **FURTHER ORDERED**, that Liberty-Keene's waiver request is DENIED.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this twenty-first day of December, 2017.

Martin P. Honighers Kathum M. Bailey Michael S. Giaimo Chairman

Commissioner

Commissioner

Attested by:

Debra a Howland men **Executive Director**

SERVICE LIST - EMAIL ADDRESSES - DOCKET RELATED

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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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
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- 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.