
From: Patricia Martin <pmartin2894@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 24, 2018 2:36 PM
To: PUC - Executive.Director; PUC - Executive.Director
Cc: Kreis, Donald
Subject: Request for information DG 17-198

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

RE: DG 17-198 Liberty Utilities Granite Bridge Project

Dear Ms. Howland:

This is a request for information pursuant to Puc 104 and Puc 201.07. Please file this letter as a public comment.

I request unredacted copies of all documents which Liberty Utilities submitted in support of its Granite Bridge petition, as identified in its motion for protective order. For the reasons explained in the opposition to that motion, filed by the Office of Consumer Advocate, I ask that the motion for protective order be denied and unredacted copies be made public immediately.

Liberty Utilities is proposing a capital investment of almost \$312 million for Granite Bridge, which would be passed along to ratepayers during the projected 55-year life span for the pipeline, and 40-year life span for the LNG facility. New Hampshire is a signatory to the Under2 Memorandum of Understanding, under which signatory governments made a commitment to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions towards net-zero by 2050. It should be obvious that it will be impossible for the State to meet that commitment if it approves fossil fuel projects such as Granite Bridge. Moreover, the public must be allowed to scrutinize the details of the proposal in order to evaluate the company's claims if there is to be any confidence that the public interest has been served.

In my community, Liberty Utilities has asked the PUC for permission to extend its gas franchise into Keene. In that case, DG 17-068, the company requested a declaratory ruling allowing them to greatly expand their service area and to switch the system from an air/propane mix to Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) without holding public hearings. Fortunately, the PUC has ordered some kind of public hearing be held, but it isn't at all clear who is responsible for making sure that the community is fully engaged in the proceedings.

Investing in fossil fuel infrastructure at this point in the battle to stabilize climate change requires compelling evidence that it benefits the greater good over the long-term; not only ratepayers in the short-term. Allowing community energy policy to be driven by Liberty's marketing plan is "business as usual" at a time when we need innovation and the political will to pull us back from the brink of climate catastrophe.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Patricia A. Martin
17 Farrar Road
Rindge, NH 03461
603-899-2894

cc: D. Maurice Kreis, Consumer Advocate donald.kreis@oca.nh.gov

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