From: Dennis Labrie < denlab2@comcast.net > Sent: Wednesday, December 29, 2021 10:12 PM

To: info@jeanneshaheen.org

Cc: customerservicenh@libertyutilities.com; PUC: <puc@puc.nh.gov>;

robert graham@hassan.senate.gov

Subject: Re: Utility Costs

EXTERNAL: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Senator Shaheen

There are a lot of Senators and Congressmen who feel like they are taking care of their constituents by giving away money or passing trillion-dollar bills that eventually will have to be re-paid through higher taxes.

As someone who has worked hard to stay within a yearly budget, I have to wonder how this will end for the hardworking individual who has saved their entire life so they can retire with a little savings, maybe enjoy a few trips and time with their loved ones – I retire in a week.

I just received my natural gas bill and I was in disbelief as to the percent of the increase, 48.4% (data was normalized – see attached spreadsheet) as compared to last year.

For those that are multi-millionaires in this country, these percentages are not of concern.

For those that have no money at all there are a lot of agencies and the Federal Government that will take care of the bill.

For the middle class that continue to make tough decisions related to how to deal with exorbitant; food / automobile / utility / gasoline / housing / property taxes / etc. costs – this is a crisis that needs attention now, not after precious savings have been wasted.

I was at the Nashua NH Toyota dealership last month looking for a van for my daughter who just had a baby. I was interested in a hybrid van for her that had a sticker price of \$36,000. I was thinking that we could negotiate a price of \$1,500 - \$2,000 off the sticker. The salesmen were laughing at me and said that they had sold the vehicle for \$41,500. The profit was more than 20%, they said that they don't need to sell many cars to maintain their margins – is this now the American way? How are companies getting away with gouging the public, I thought that was why the government had agencies to protect the taxpayer. I really hate to think of what is going to happen when this bubble bursts.

The main reason for this email is to call attention to a broken system, we have a utilities commission that allows prices to go wherever they need to, we have a utilities company that does not try to hedge or strategically set themselves up for market adjustments. Maybe they should be a not-for-profit company, control what they pay their executives that just pass along costs, whatever they are.

I did sign and send in a document to lock down prices but there seems to be flexibility into whether or not they want to accept them- document attached.

I saw an article on WMUR about the upcoming electric bills, the infrastructure did not change, why is the price?

Maybe we need to re-think the priorities in this country and focus on getting back to what would be considered "normal", I have never had a 48% raise, maybe 2% if we had a good year.

Hope this reaches the right people.

Respectfully;

Dennis Labrie

Nashua, NH. 03062

12/20 Minimum Charge \$ 0.5167 per day 31 = \$ 16.02									Based on rate
12/20 Distribution Chg. \$ 0.5678 units 135 = \$ 76.65 12/20 Distribution Adj. \$ 0.0589 units 135 = \$ 7.95 12/20 Gas Supply Chg \$ 0.5571 units 135 = \$ 7.521 12/20 Normal Weather Adj. \$ 76.6500 X 9.0541% \$ 6.94 Total	<u>Date</u>	<u>Discription</u>		<u>Amt</u>	<u>Criteria</u>	<u>#</u>		<u>Total</u>	% Incr. f/ Prev. Yr.
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Cheryl Labrie 172 E Dunstable Rd



YES, please sign me up to participate in the Fixed Price Option (FPO). This program locks in the Gas Supply Charge price listed above for the heating season beginning November 1, 2021 and ending April 30, 2022.

Signature:

Cheryl 5 babrie

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9/26/21



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September 15, 2021

70*2*27972*******************SCH 5-DIGIT 03051 Cheryl Labrie 172 E Dunstable Rd Nashua, NH 03062-2336

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Fixed Price Option (FPO)

Service Address: 172 E Dunstable Rd Account: 44557712-44195061

Dear Cheryl Labrie,

Each fall, Liberty offers you the opportunity to "lock in" the price per therm for the Gas Supply Charge portion of your bills, from November 1 through April 30. If you are enrolled in this program, you will pay one fixed price per therm for the Gas Supply Charge portion of your bill during this period, even if the price of natural gas changes during the heating season.

Applications for the program must be returned on or before October 22, 2021. Energy prices – including natural gas prices – remain volatile as in years past and Liberty expects many customers will consider the Fixed Price Option (FPO) program. If you have multiple accounts, please return one form for each service address and account number. This program is available to customers who are billed on Budget Billing as well as those who are billed on a regular billing schedule.

Does the FPO represent the entire amount on my monthly gas bill?

No. Your monthly natural gas bill has two main components: (1) a Gas Delivery Charge and (2) a Gas Supply Charge. The FPO is for the Gas Supply Charge. (The largest portion of your bill)

What is the "Fixed Price" for the 2021-2022 heating season?

The 2021–2022 FPO Gas Supply Charge that was submitted to the New Hampshire Public Utility Commission for approval is **\$0.9256** per therm (**\$0.5091** per therm for customers on Fuel Assistance). Approval of the rates is expected prior to November 1.

What will my Gas Supply Charge price be this winter if I don't enroll in the FPO?

As of today's date, we estimate that the Gas Supply Charge price for the winter will be approximately **\$0.9056** per therm (**\$0.4981** per therm for customers on Fuel Assistance). This non-guaranteed price may increase if the market price of natural gas increases during the winter or decrease if the market price of natural gas decreases. Price fluctuations are market-driven, and it is difficult for Liberty to predict what those market conditions or prices will be.

Are there any fees to sign up or minimum or maximum usage requirements?

No. There are no sign-up fees or minimum or maximum usage levels. However, the program is non-transferable, and customers must remain on the program through April 30, 2022. If you move to a new location, the FPO rate will apply at your new location through April 30, 2022.

How do I sign up?

Fill out the attached coupon and return it in the enclosed envelope on or before October 22, 2021. You will be notified whether or not you are enrolled in the FPO. Enrollment acceptance is based on a timely response.

Sincerely, Liberty