# STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION <br> LIBERTY UTILITIES (ENERGYNORTH NATURAL GAS) CORP. d/b/a LIBERTY 

Docket No. DG 20-105
Distribution Service Rate Case

## Record Request - Exhibit 60

## REQUEST:

Please provide an explanation of the Company's net utility plant increase of $\$ 18,582,886$ in the Company's NHPUC F-16 Annual Filing for calendar year 2020 versus the request of $\$ 36,204,417$ for non-growth capital placed in service in 2020 in the Settlement Agreement.

## RESPONSE:

The NHPUC F-16 Annual Filing (the "F-16") and the accounting for rate base in the Settlement Agreement are not equivalent. Therefore, changes in net utility plant will also not be equivalent. One is not a proxy for another.

More specifically, the computation of Net Utility Plant for the purposes of quantifying rate base for the Settlement Agreement is a ratemaking exercise. Conversely, the reporting of Net Utility Plant in the annual F-16 is based on the Company's booked amounts, without ratemaking adjustments.

The data shown in the table below are taken from the Company's 2019 F-16 and from the Company's filing in Docket No. DG 20-105 (the "Rate Case"), which is the proceeding that was resolved via the Settlement Agreement. Both computations show the end-of-year 2019 balances. As indicated, the starting balance for Utility Plant is virtually the same in both computations, except that there are two adjustments associated with software for the rate case that are not applicable to the F-16 that total $\$ 527,705$, which accounts for the difference in the starting amounts shown below. Also, as shown below, the calculation of Net Utility Plant in the 2019 F-16 included amounts associated with Utility Plant Held for Future Use and Construction Work in Progress ("CWIP"). The Net Utility Plant from the Rate Case filing would not include those amounts as
these types of accounts are not included in the computation of rate base for purpose of setting base rates. ${ }^{1}$

|  | Rate Case |  | F-16 |  |
| :--- | :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| [1] Balance 1/1/2019 | $\$ 537,746,391$ | $R R-E N-3-5$, line 76 |  |  |
| $[2]$ Additions | $\$ 56,830,804$ | $R R-E N 3-5$, line 76 |  |  |
| $[3]$ Account 106 | $\$ 47,140,284$ | $R R-E N-3-5$, line 76 |  |  |
| [4] Total Utility Plant | $\$ 641,717,479$ | Sum [1+2+3+4] |  |  |
| [5] Rate Case Adjustments | $(\$ 527,705)$ | $R R-E N-3-5$, line 6 |  |  |
| [6] Utility Plant* | $\$ 641,189,774$ | $R R-E N-5$, line 1 | $\$ 641,717,749$ | $p .17$, line 8 |
| [7] Held for future use |  |  | $\$ 1,618,272$ | $p .17$, line 10 |
| [8] CWIP |  |  | $\$ 22,518,944$ | $p .17$, line 11 |
| [9] Depreciation allowance | $(\$ 204,751,433)$ | RR-EN-5, line 2 | $(\$ 193,462,473)$ | $p .17$, line 14 |
| $[10]$ Net Utility Plant | $\$ 436,438,341$ |  | $\$ 472,392,492$ |  |

*The sum of lines 4 plus 5 are greater than line 6 by $\$ 270$ due to rounding.
The Net Utility Plant that is calculated for purposes of the Rate Case is significantly less than the Net Utility Plant reported in the 2019 F-16, mostly because CWIP is included in the 2019 F-16, whereas it is excluded from the computation of rate base in a Rate Case. In addition, in the Rate Case, the calculation of the Company's rate base as of the end of 2019 is subject to an additional $\$ 80.0$ million in adjustments to account for cash-working capital, tax-related items, and other items. Those adjustments are shown in Attachment 1, pages 2-3, and are summarized in Schedule RR-EN-05 (p. 4 of Attachment 1).

With regard to the Company's request of $\$ 36.2$ million for non-growth capital placed in service in 2020, the derivation of that amount and its associated $\$ 4$ million revenue requirement is provided in Attachment 1 of the Settlement Agreement and also provided herewith as Attachment 1, page 5. That calculation indicates that the capital additions placed in service in 2020 would have a revenue requirement of $\$ 4.6$ million. However, because of the cap imposed in the Settlement Agreement, the step is only $\$ 4.0$ million.

The inclusion of different items and the use of different techniques to calculate balances in the Rate Case versus reporting for the F-16 is appropriate because the output is used for different purposes, i.e., ratemaking purposes versus financial accounting purposes. In each instance, the Company provides data to support its calculation. Because the collection of the revenue requirement associated with the First Step Adjustment is a ratemaking issue determined by the Settlement Agreement, the accounting methods and balances that are part of the record of the Rate Case provide the best and most relevant basis for the Commission's review of Settlement Agreement implementation issues.

[^0]| Name of Respondent Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas ) Corp |  | This Report Is: <br> (1) Original <br> (2) Revised | X | Date of Report (Mo, Da, Yr) <br> March 31,2020 | Year of Report <br> December 31, 2019 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| SUMMARY OF PLANT AND ACCUMULATED PROVISIONS FOR DEPRECIATION, AMORTIZATION, AND DEPLETION |  |  |  |  |  |
| Line No. |  | Item (a) |  |  | Total <br> (b) |
| UTILITY PLANT |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2 In Service |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4 Property Under Capital Leases |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5 Plant Purchased or Sold |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6 | Completed Construction not Classified |  |  |  | 47,140,284 |
| 7 | Experimental Plant Unclassified |  |  |  |  |
| 8 | Total Utility Plant (Total of lines 3 thru 7) |  |  |  | 641,717,479 |
| 9 | Leased to Others |  |  |  |  |
| 10 | Held for Future Use |  |  |  | 1,618,272 |
| 11 | Construction Work in Progress |  |  |  | 22,518,944 |
| 12 | Acquisition Adjustments |  |  |  |  |
| 13 | Total Utility Plant (Totals of lines 8 thru 12) |  |  |  | 665,854,695 |
| 14 | Accumulated Provisions for Depreciation, Amortization \& Depletion |  |  |  | (193,462,473) |
| 15 | Net Utility Plant (Totals of lines 13 less 14) |  |  |  | 472,392,222 |
| 16 | DETAIL OF ACCUMULATED PROVISIONS |  |  |  |  |
|  | FOR DEPRECIATION, AMORTIZATION AND DEPLETION |  |  |  |  |
| 17 | In Service: |  |  |  |  |
| 18 | Depreciation |  |  |  | $(180,273,120)$ |
| 19 |  |  | Amortization and Depletion of Producing Natural Gas Land and Land Rights |  |  |
| 20 | Amortization of Underground Storage Land and Land Rights |  |  |  |  |
| 21 | Amortization of Other Utility Plant |  |  |  | $(13,189,353)$ |
| 22 | Total In Service (Totals of lines 18 thru 21) |  |  |  | $(193,462,473)$ |
| 23 | Leased to Others |  |  |  |  |
| 24 | Depreciation |  |  |  |  |
| 25 | Amortization and Depletion |  |  |  |  |
| 26 | Total Leased to Others (Totals off lines 24 and 25) |  |  |  | - |
| 27 | Held for Future Use |  |  |  |  |
| 28 | Depreciation |  |  |  |  |
| 29 | Amortization |  |  |  |  |
| 30 | Total Held for Future Use (Totals of lines 28 and 29) |  |  |  | - |
| 31 | Abandonment of Leases (Natural Gas) |  |  |  |  |
| 32 | Amortization of Plant Acquisition Adjustment |  |  |  |  |
| 33 | Total Accum Provisions (Should agree with line 14 above) (Total of lines 22, 26, 30, 31, and 32) |  |  |  | (193,462,473) |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |


| Line | Account | Account | DepreciationRates | Balance 1/1/2019 |  | Additions |  |  | Plant in | ervice <br> Balance 12/31/2019 |  | Decoupling IT over $\$ 50 \mathrm{k}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Balance } \\ & \text { (less IT) } \end{aligned}$ |  | Pro Forma |  | Accumulated Reserve |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | Account 106 | $\begin{gathered} \text { Depreciation } \\ \text { Expense } \end{gathered}$ |  | Accumulated Reserveas of $12 / 31 / 2019$ |  | Decoupling IT over $\$ 50 \mathrm{k}$ |  | $\begin{array}{c}\text { Accounts } 1084 \text { and } \\ 2420 \text { by FERC } \\ \text { Account }\end{array}$ |  |  | AdjustedAccumulated Reserve |  |
| 1 | Franchises and Consents | 302 | 0.00\% |  | 250,950 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 250,950 |  |  |  | 250,950 |  |  |  | - |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2 | Capital Software | 303.0 | 16.13\% |  | 16,411,722 |  | 989,181 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3 | Capital Software-3 Years | 303.1 | 33.33\% |  |  |  |  |  | 9,806 |  | 909,178 |  | 185,436 |  | 723,742 |  | 241,247 |  | 526,686 | 41,208 |  |  |  | 485,478 |
| 4 | Capital Software - 5 Years | 303.2 | 20.00\% |  |  |  |  |  | 141,332 |  | 13,103,294 |  |  |  | 13,103,294 |  | 2,620,659 |  | 10,753,219 |  |  |  |  | 10,753,219 |
| 5 | Capital Software - 10 Years | 303.4 | 10.00\% |  |  |  |  |  | 34,862 |  | 3,232,162 |  |  |  | 3,232,162 |  | 323,216 |  | 2,322,064 |  |  |  |  | 2,322,064 |
| 6 | Subtotal - INTANGIBLE PLANT |  |  | \$ | 16,662,672 | s | 989,181 | s | 186,000 | s | 17,495,584 |  | 185,436 | \$ | 17,310,148 | s | S 3,185,122 | s | 13,601,969 | 41,208 | s | - | s | 13,560,761 |
| 8 | Land \& Land Righs | 304 |  | \$ | 97,504 | \$ |  | \$ |  | s | 97,504 | \$ |  | \$ | 97,504 |  | \$ | s | s | ¢ . | s |  | \$ |  |
| 9 | Structures and Improvements | 305 | 2.86\% |  | 815,122 |  | 37,045 |  |  |  | 852,167 |  |  |  | 852,167 |  | 24,372 |  | 280,124 |  |  |  |  | 280,124 |
| 10 | Liquefied Perroleum Gas Equipment | 311 | 2.86\% |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $(3,647)$ |  |  |  |  | $(3,647)$ |
| 11 | Gas Mixing Equipment | 319 | 5.00\% |  | 336,984 |  | 31,360 |  |  |  | 368,345 |  |  |  | 368,345 |  | 18,417 |  | 241,392 |  |  |  |  | 241,392 |
| 12 | Other Equipment- LNG | 320.0 | 2.86\% |  | 294,148 |  | 21,422 |  |  |  | 315,570 |  |  |  | 315,570 |  | 9,025 |  | (57,148) |  |  |  |  | ( 57,148 ) |
| 13 | Other Equipment | 320.1 | 2.86\% |  | 3,478,111 |  | 0 |  |  |  | 3,478,111 |  |  |  | 3,478,111 |  | 99,474 |  | 1,389,131 |  |  |  |  | 1,389,131 |
| ${ }_{15}^{13}$ | Purification Equipment | ${ }^{361}$ | 2.86\% |  | 96,980 |  | - |  | - |  | 96,980 |  |  |  | 96,980 |  | 2,774 |  | 17,233 | - |  |  |  | 17,233 |
| 15 | Other Equipment | 363 | 2.86\% |  | 7,646 |  |  |  |  |  | 7,646 |  |  |  | 7,646 |  | 219 |  | 2,044 |  |  |  |  | 2,044 |
| ${ }^{16}$ | Subtoal - PRODUCTION PLANT |  |  | \$ | 5,126,494 | s | 89,827 | s |  | s | 5,216,322 | s |  | s | 5,216,322 |  | \$ 154,281 | s | ¢ 1,837,129 | S - | s | . | s | 1,837,129 |
| 18 | Land \& Land Rights | 364.1 | 0.00\% | \$ | 57,315 |  |  | \$ | - | \$ | 57,315 | s | - | \$ | 57,315 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 19 | Stuctures and Improvements | 364.2 | 2.86\% |  | 609,078 |  |  |  | - |  | 609,078 |  | - |  | 609,078 |  | 17,420 |  | 460,293 |  |  |  |  | 460,293 |
| 20 | Other Equipment | 364.8 | 5.26\% |  | 3,929,432 |  | (33,412) |  |  |  | 3,896,019 |  | . |  | 3,896,019 |  | 204,931 |  | 2,400,155 |  |  |  |  | 2,400,155 |
| 21 | Subtotal LNG Terminaling and Processing |  |  | s | 4,595,825 |  | (33,412) | s |  | s | 4,562,412 | \$ |  | s | 4,562,412 |  | 222,350 |  | s 2,860,448 | S - | s | . | s | 2,860,448 |
| ${ }_{23}^{22}$ | Land \& Land Rights | 365 | 0.00\% | s | s | \$ | - | \$ |  | \$ | - | \$ |  | s | S - |  | \$ . |  | s | \$ - | s | - | s |  |
| 24 | Structures and Improvements | 366.2 | 2.86\% |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $(34,860)$ |  |  |  |  | $(34,860)$ |
| 25 | Structures and Improv-Other | 366.3 | 2.86\% |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | - |  |  |  | $(48,434)$ |  |  |  |  | (48,434) |
| ${ }^{26}$ | Mains | 367 | 1.92\% |  | 11,722,426 |  | (11,827) |  | 29,863 |  | 11,740,462 |  |  |  | 11,740,462 |  | 225,417 |  | 404,274 |  |  |  |  | 404,274 |
| 27 | Measuring and Regulating Sation Equipment | 369 | 2.86\% |  | 115,257 |  | 22,924 |  |  |  | 138,182 |  |  |  | 138,182 |  | 3,952 |  | $(18,159)$ | - |  |  |  | $(18,159)$ |
| ${ }^{28}$ | Land \& Land Rights | 374 | 0.00\% |  | 357,93 |  |  |  |  |  | 357,903 |  |  |  | 357,903 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 29 | Structures and Improvements | 375 | 2.86\% |  | 99,272 |  | 1,590,024 |  |  |  | 1,689,296 |  |  |  | 1,689,296 |  | 48,314 |  | 213,309 |  |  |  |  | 213,309 |
| ${ }^{30}$ | T\&D Mains - STL-PLST-CI-Mixed | 376.0 | 1.92\% |  | 257,097,448 |  | 29,961,341 |  | 25,023,889 |  | 312,082,678 |  | - |  | 312,082,678 |  | 5,991,987 |  | 72,204,757 |  |  | 2,799,937 |  | 69,404,820 |
| ${ }^{31}$ | T\&D Mains - OTH | 376.1 | 1.92\% |  | 288 |  |  |  |  |  | 288 |  |  |  | 288 |  |  |  | 288 | - |  | 11 |  | 277 |
| ${ }^{32}$ | T\&D Mains - PLST | 376.2 | 1.92\% |  | 2,783,066 |  | 305,297 |  | 1,444,003 |  | 4,532,366 |  | - |  | 4,532,366 |  | 87,021 |  | 988,333 | - |  | 38,325 |  | 50,008 |
| ${ }^{33}$ | T\&D Mains - Cl | 376.3 | 1.92\% |  | 6,137 |  |  |  |  |  | 6,137 |  |  |  | 6,137 |  | 118 |  | 6,137 | - |  | 238 |  | 5,899 |
| 34 | T\&D Mains - Valve > 4" | 376.4 | 1.92\% |  | 7,061 |  |  |  |  |  | 7,061 |  |  |  | 7,061 |  | 136 |  | 984 | - |  | 38 |  | 946 |
| 35 | Dist-Compressor station equipment | 377 | 1.92\% |  |  |  | 2,246,186 |  |  |  | 2,246,186 |  |  |  | 2,246,186 |  | 43,127 |  | 192,723 |  |  |  |  | 192,723 |
| ${ }^{36}$ | Measuring and Regulating Station Equipment - General | 378 | 2.86\% |  | 6,490,028 |  | 943,675 |  | 1,587 |  | 7,435,290 |  |  |  | 7,435,290 |  | 212,649 |  | 4,358,391 |  |  |  |  | 4,358,391 |
| 37 | Dist-Measuring and regulating station equipment-Ci | 379 | 2.86\% |  | 1,883,503 |  | 3,411,244 |  |  |  | 5,294,746 |  |  |  | 5,994,746 |  | 151,430 |  | 1,321,095 | - |  |  |  | 1,321,095 |
| ${ }_{38}$ | T\&D Gas Services - STL | 380.0 | 3.55\% |  | 159,518,056 |  | 10,726,295 |  | 6,311,903 |  | 176,556,254 |  |  |  | 176,56,254 |  | 6,267,747 |  | 86,081,825 | . |  | 872,591 |  | 85,209,235 |
| 39 | T\&D Gas Services - OTH | 380.1 | 3.55\% |  | 893,282 |  | 124,699 |  | 371,956 |  | 1,389,937 |  |  |  | 1,389,937 |  | 49,343 |  | 151,982 | - |  |  |  | 151,982 |
| 40 | T\&G Gas Services - PLST | 380.2 | 3.55\% |  | 757,753 |  | 153,465 |  | 66,375 |  | 977,594 |  |  |  | 977,594 |  | 34,705 |  | 250,267 | - |  | - |  | 250,267 |
| 41 | Meters | 381.0 | 3.13\% |  | 13,446,533 |  | $(201,985)$ |  | 1,550,680 |  | 14,795,228 |  |  |  | 14,795,228 |  | 463,091 |  | 4,544,359 | - |  | 919 |  | 4,543,440 |
| 42 | Meters - Instrument | 381.1 | ${ }^{3.13 \%}$ |  | 276,522 |  |  |  |  |  | 276,522 |  |  |  | 276,522 |  | 8,655 |  | 113,499 | - |  |  |  | 113,499 |
| 43 44 | Meters - ExTS | 381.2 382 |  |  | $\underset{\text { ¢ }}{6,5977,177}$ |  | (27,801) |  | 7,464,547 |  | $\underset{\text { er }}{\text { ch,061,724 }}$ |  |  |  | $6,045,35$ $26,061,724$ |  | 403,225 815,732 |  | $2,744,146$ $4,122,684$ | : |  | - |  | $2,744,146$ $4,122,684$ |
| 45 | Indust meas and reg station equip | 385 | 2.86\% |  |  |  | 53,375 |  |  |  | 53,375 |  | - |  | 52, 53,375 |  | 1,527 |  | 5,332 | - |  | 1,229 |  | 4,103 |
| 46 | Other Equipment | 387 | 5.26\% |  | 1,714,172 |  |  |  | 939,163 |  | 2,677,770 |  |  |  | 2,677,770 |  | 140,851 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 47 | Subtoal - DISTRIBUTION PLANT |  |  |  | 481,839,040 | $s$ | 49,321,346 | \$ | 43,203,966 | \$ | 574,364,353 | s |  | S | 574,364,353 | S | \$ 14,949,031 |  | S 178,681,730 | \$ - | s | 3,713,289 | s | 174,968,441 |



Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth)
Rate Base - EnergyNorth
Balances at December 31, 2019

| Line | Description | Reference | Rate Base |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | Utility Plant (Balance at 12/31/2019) | RR-EN-3-5 | \$ | 641,189,774 |
| 2 | Depreciation Allowance (Balance at 12/31/2019) | RR-EN-3-5 |  | (204,751,433) |
| 3 | Net Utility Plant |  | \$ | 436,438,341 |
| 4 |  |  |  |  |
| 5 | Materials and Supplies (Average of 5 Quarterly Balances) | RR-EN-5-1 | \$ | 5,936,060 |
| 6 | Customer Deposits (Average of 5 Quarterly Balances) | RR-EN-5-1 |  | $(3,019,271)$ |
| 7 |  |  |  |  |
| 8 | Cash Working Capital | RR-EN-5-2 | \$ | 3,004,115 |
| 9 |  |  |  |  |
| 10 | Deferred Tax Liability, Net (Balance at 12/31/2019) | RR-EN-5-WP1 | \$ | $(58,583,670)$ |
| 11 |  |  |  |  |
| 12 | Excess Accumulated Deferred Income Taxes (less gross-up) | RR-EN-5-WP1 | \$ | $(27,363,848)$ |
| 13 |  |  |  |  |
|  | Rate Base |  | \$ | 356,411,727 |




[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ The referenced supporting da ta are provided in Attachment 1 to this response.

