

New Hampshire Department of BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS



November 14, 2022

Daniel C. Goldner, Chairman New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission 21 South Fruit Street Concord, New Hampshire 03301

Re: Docket No. DG 21-144, Northern Utilities, Inc.

Dear Chairman Goldner:

On December 29, 2021, Northern Utilities, Inc. (Northern) petitioned for approval of an amendment to an existing special gas transportation contract with Foss Manufacturing Company, LLC(n/k/a Foss Performance Materials, LLC) (hereinafter Foss), pursuant to RSA 378;18. Northern submitted accompanying testimony and schedules in support of the amendment. The Department of Energy (Department) reviewed the materials submitted by Northern which indicated that estimated revenues to Northern from Foss would exceed Northern's estimated marginal cost to serve Foss, thus making a contribution to fixed costs that benefits all customers and on February 18, 2022, the Department recommended the Commission approve the proposed contract amendment.

On February 23, the Commission commenced an adjudicative proceeding and thereafter, Northern and Foss produced additional information in response to Commission record requests and Department data requests. Under the procedural schedule established October 3, in this matter, the Department provided a second letter recommending approval of the contract amendment.

Foss Manufacturing Company, LLC, a major employer in the region, employs over 300 people, has significant renovation plans to invest in upgrading the Hampton facility and create additional jobs. Looking ahead, in order to remain competitive nationally, upgrades will be essential and costly for the New Hampshire facility. The Department of Business and Economic Affairs is supportive of the Commission's approval of the contract amendment as just and consistent with the public interest.

Consistent with the Commission's current practices, this letter is being filed only in electronic form. Thank you for attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Taylor Caswell Commissioner

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