

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10
Concord, N.H. 03301-2429

June 2, 2023

Daniel C. Goldner, Chairman
Public Utilities Commission
21 S. Fruit Street
Concord, NH 03301-2429

Re: DG 22-045 Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty, Winter 2022-2023 and Summer 2023 Cost of Gas, *DOE’s Assented-To Proposal to Extend the DOE’s Testimony Deadline by three business days*

Dear Chairman Goldner:

The Department of Energy (“the Department” or “DOE”) respectfully requests that the Commission extend the Department’s deadline for testimony by three business days. See Commission’s Procedural Order (April 27, 2023).

The Department seeks this assented-to extension because due to the press of other business which could not be otherwise assigned, the Department requires additional time. The matters at issue - the gasholder and new RDAF “carve-outs” -- require careful review and have proven to be extremely complex. If the Department is able to file its testimony sooner, it will do so.

The Department’s request for a small extension is consistent with Commission requirements. See NH Code Admin. Rules Puc 202.04. Circumstances “would cause undue hardship or inconvenience unless the request is granted” because important utility and community matters would not receive the comprehensive review to which they are entitled. In addition, as stated, Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty assents to the relief requested; the Office of the Consumer Advocate does not object to the relief requested.

If the Commission grants the Department the relief requested here, the proposed schedule will be as follows:

Event

Date (and Time)

DOE/OCA prefiled direct
Testimony

June 8, 2023 Thursday

Liberty DRs to Parties

June 20, 2023, Tuesday

The remainder of the schedule is unchanged

Data Responses to Liberty

June 30, 2023, Friday

Liberty Rebuttal (if needed)

July 10, 2023, Monday

Tech Session #5

July 17, 2023, Monday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Settlement Conference

July 27, 2023 Thursday 10 am to 4 p.m.

Settlement Agreement

August 10, 2023 Thursday

Exhibits Due

August 10, 2023 Thursday

Hearing

August 30, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Mary E. Schwarzer

Mary.E. Schwarzer
Staff Attorney/Hearings Examiner

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