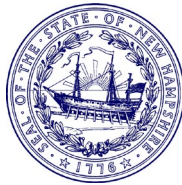


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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10
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August 9, 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 Partially Assented-To Request to Enlarge Exhibit Deadline from August 10 to August 23*

Dear Chairman Goldner:

The Department of Energy ("the Department" or "DOE") respectfully requests that the Commission extend the Department's deadline for filing exhibits from August 10 to August 23, 2023, the later date consistent with *Hearing Guidelines* in this docket. This adjusted deadline would also apply to the other parties to this docket, Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a ("Liberty"), and the Office of the Consumer Advocate (OCA).

The Department seeks this extension because the same Department persons involved in preparing the exhibits in this docket are involved in the companion docket, Docket No. DG 22-041, where reply briefs are due on August 10. Also, until recently re-reviewing the procedural schedule established on June 5, 2023 in this matter, the Department was planning to file the exhibits in this case by the deadline in the *Hearing Guidelines*, i.e., August 23.

The Department's request for this 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 necessary work would be diverted from the reply briefs in DG 22-041, and the exhibits in this docket will still be filed according to the date established by the *Hearing Guidelines* (and consistent with typical practice). The Department consulted with the other parties this morning. Liberty Utilities assents to the relief requested. The OCA's position is unknown as of this 3:30 p.m. filing

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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