

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

COMMISSIONER  
Jared S. Chicoine

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER  
Christopher J. Ellms, Jr.



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

TDD Access: Relay NH  
1-800-735-2964

Tel. (603) 271-3670

FAX No. 271-1526

Website:  
[www.energy.nh.gov](http://www.energy.nh.gov)

November 21, 2022

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

Re: DG 22-059 Northern Utilities Inc. Winter 2022-23 and Summer 2023 Cost of Gas;  
*DOE supports relief Northern requested in Motion for Clarification.*

Dear Chairman Goldner:

The New Hampshire Department of Energy (DOE) writes to notify the Commission that it supports the relief Northern Utilities Inc. (Northern or the Company) requested in the Company's *Motion for Clarification* (November 9, 2022). Specifically, the DOE agrees that the prime rate, for over or under collection, has been adjusted each quarter using the prime interest rate as reported by the Wall Street Journal on the first date of the month preceding the first month of the quarter. *See Northern's Motion for Clarification* (filed November 9, 2022) at para. 3, quoting Northern's Cost of Gas Tariff at Original Page 20 (effective May 1, 2018) (definition of "carrying charges"); Order No. 26,129 (May 2, 2018).

DOE also agrees that the quarterly formula, described above, is consistent with the definition of "prime rate" as stated in Commission's Administrative Rule Puc 1202.13, and that the recent cost of gas hearing did not raise or contemplate a change in the formula used to identify the applicable prime rate.

For the above reasons, DOE supports Northern's request for clarification of Order No. 26,713 (October 27, 2022). Consistent with the Commission's current policy, this letter is being filed solely in electronic form. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

s/ *Mary E. Schwarzer*

Mary E. Schwarzer  
Hearings Examiner/Staff Attorney  
[Mary.E.Schwarzer@energy.nh.gov](mailto:Mary.E.Schwarzer@energy.nh.gov)

Cc: Service List

ClerksOffice@puc.nh.gov  
amanda.o.noonan@energy.nh.gov  
donald.m.kreis@oca.nh.gov  
Energy-Litigation@energy.nh.gov  
Faisal.DeenArif@energy.nh.gov  
mary.e.schwarzer@energy.nh.gov  
Maureen.l.reno@oca.nh.gov  
ocalitigation@oca.nh.gov  
taylorp@unitil.com  
thomas.c.frantz@energy.nh.gov



FAISAL DEEN ARIF  
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
21 SOUTH FRUIT ST STE 10  
CONCORD NH 03301  
faisal.deenarif@energy.nh.gov

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
21 SOUTH FRUIT ST STE 10  
CONCORD NH 03301  
energy-litigation@energy.nh.gov

THOMAS C FRANTZ  
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
21 SOUTH FRUIT ST STE 10  
CONCORD NH 03301  
thomas.c.frantz@energy.nh.gov

DONALD M KREIS  
OFFICE OF CONSUMER ADVOCATE  
21 SOUTH FRUIT ST STE 18  
CONCORD NH 03301  
donald.m.kreis@oca.nh.gov

OCA LITIGATION  
OCA LITIGATION  
21 SOUTH FRUIT ST STE 18  
CONCORD NH 03301  
ocalitigation@oca.nh.gov

MAUREEN RENO  
OFFICE OF CONSUMER ADVOCATE  
maureen.l.reno@oca.nh.gov

MARY E SCHWARZER  
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
21 SOUTH FRUIT ST STE 10  
CONCORD NH 03301  
mary.e.schwarzer@energy.nh.gov

PATRICK H TAYLOR  
UNITIL ENERGY SYSTEMS INC  
6 LIBERTY LANE WEST  
HAMPTON NH 03842  
taylorp@unitil.com