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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10
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September 28, 2023

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

Re: DG 23-067; Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities; Request for Change in Distribution Rates; DOE’s Joint *Proposed Procedural Schedule*

Dear Chairman Goldner:

On July 27, 2023, Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities (“Liberty” or “the Company”) filed a petition to implement new permanent rates effective October 1, 2023, to set temporary rates and to amend various tariffs.

On July 26, 2023, the Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA) filed a letter of participation.

The New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission (“PUC” or “Commission”) issued Order No. 26,877 (August 25, 2023) which, *inter alia*, suspended the proposed tariffs and scheduled a pre-hearing conference for September 21, 2023. On September 27, 2023 the PUC rescheduled a hearing on temporary rates for October 27, 2023.

As suggested by Order 26,877 at 7, the parties have worked together to develop a proposed procedural schedule, as set forth below.

Proposed Procedural Schedule

<u>Event</u>	<u>Date (and time if applicable)</u>
Rolling Data Requests to Company Begins	September 7, 2023
Final Set of First Round of Data Requests	September 29, 2023
Final Responses to First Round of Data Requests	October 13, 2023
DOE Testimony on	October 20, 2023

Temporary Rates Settlement

Technical Sessions	October 20 and 23, 2023 (10:00 am to 4 pm both days)
2 nd Round of Rolling Data Requests	October 25, 2023
Hearing on Temporary Rates	October 27, 2023 at 9 am
Final Set of Second Round of Data Requests	November 7, 2023
Final Responses to Second Round of Discovery	November 22, 2023
Technical Sessions	December 4 and 5, 2023 (10:00 am to 4 pm both days)
Rolling Technical Session Data Requests	December 7, 2023
Final Set of Technical Session Data Requests	December 12, 2023
Final Responses on Technical Session Data Requests	January 4, 2024
DOE, OCA, and Intervenor Testimony	February 21, 2024
Company Data Requests to DOE, OCA, and Intervenors	March 1, 2024
DOE, OCA, and Intervenor Responses	March 15, 2024
Settlement Conferences/ Technical Session	March 20, 21, and 22, 2024 (10 am to 4 pm both days)
Company Rebuttal Testimony – if needed	April 3, 2024
Technical Session/ Settlement Conferences	April 16, 17, 18, 2024 (10 am to 4 pm all three days)
Target Date for Filing a Settlement	April 25, 2024

Hearings

Week of May 13th 2024
Week of May 20th 2024
Week of June 3rd 2024
Week of June 10th 2024
(9 am start all days)

Anticipated Order on or before July 27, 2024.

The DOE, Liberty Utilities, and the OCA agree that the data responses will be due 10 business days from the issuance of the data requests, unless otherwise specified.

The DOE is submitting this proposed procedural schedule on behalf of all parties to this docket.

Consistent with the Commission's current practices this letter is being filed only in electronic form.

Sincerely,

/s/ Molly M. Lynch
Molly M. Lynch, Esq.
Hearings Examiner/Attorney

cc: Service List.

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