## STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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October 26, 2023

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

Re: DG 23-076 Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Winter 2023-2024 and Summer 2024 Cost of Gas and LDAC Filing, DOE Supplemental Technical Statement of Consumer Services Director Amanda O. Noonan

## Dear Chairman Goldner:

Enclosed please find the New Hampshire Department of Energy ("DOE" or "Department")'s "Technical Statement of Consumer Services Director Amanda O. Noonan" regarding the fixed price option program. Further, as explained below, in the opinion of the Department, further process is needed in the next two to three weeks.

As agreed during the October 19, 2023 hearing, this technical statement is being provided in response to issues raised during the hearing, and to Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty's "Updated Cost of Gas" filing (October 23, 2023). Please note that the Department is also filing a "Supplemental Technical Statement of Arif & Alam" today that also responds to Liberty's updated filing and issues raised at hearing.

Additional process is needed regarding FPO matters because, *inter alia*, the Company has not had an opportunity to comment on the Department's FPO Recommendations. *See* attached. Last winter, FPO rates changed on or about the hearing date due to market volatility. Based on that experience, in the Department's opinion, FPO "next steps" would best be resolved in the next two to three weeks. In addition, the Office of Consumer Advocate recommends eliminating the FPO program for Liberty EnergyNorth and Liberty-Keene. For reasons provided in the enclosed Technical Statement of Amanda O. Noonan, the Department disagrees. *See* OCA Position Statement (October 26, 2023); Noonan Technical Statement (October 26, 2023); Department's Position Statement filed in Dkt. No. DG 23-084.

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

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

/s/ Mary E. Schwarzer Mary E. Schwarzer, Esq. Hearings Examiner

cc: Service List (Electronically)

Docket #: 23-076

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