STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DG 20-041

LIBERTY UTILITIES (ENERGYNORTH NATURAL GAS) d/b/a LIBERTY UTILITIES-KEENE DIVISION

2020 Summer Cost of Gas

ORDER OF NOTICE

On March 31, 2020, Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities-Keene Division (Liberty-Keene) submitted a 2020 Summer Cost of Gas (COG) filing outlining its proposed COG rates for the summer period (May 1, 2020 through October 31, 2020). Liberty-Keene filed testimony, revised tariff pages, and schedules in support of the proposed rates. The COG submission and subsequent docket filings, other than any information for which confidential treatment is requested of or granted by the Commission, will be posted to the Commission's website at https://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2020/20-041.html.

The proposed 2020 Summer COG rate is \$0.6173 per therm, a \$0.1765 increase from the current monthly Winter COG rate of \$0.4408 per therm, and a \$0.3272 per therm decrease when compared to last summer's weighted average rate of \$0.9445 per therm. This rate is based on the projected usage of both propane air and compressed natural gas (CNG) in Keene. The proposed change to the residential COG rate is expected to decrease a typical residential heating customer's total summer bill from \$360 last summer to approximately \$298 this summer, a decrease of \$62, or approximately 17 percent over the summer period using a weighted monthly average. The projected impact of the COG rate change, standing alone, is a decrease from \$162 last summer to approximately \$106 this summer, a decrease of \$56, or 35 percent.

The Liberty-Keene filing raises, <u>inter alia</u>, issues related to RSA 374:2 and RSA 378, including: the justness and reasonableness of rates, fares, and charges; the forecasting of sales, supplier prices, and transportation prices; weather normalization; operational issues; purchasing decisions related to current and past supplies; capacity and revenue projections related to transportation services and released capacity; the prudence and recovery of environmental remediation; the reconciliation of prior period costs and revenues; the revenue and rate impacts resulting from the proposed rate change; and the calculation of the COG rates for both propane air and CNG. Each party has the right to have an attorney represent the party at the party's own expense.

Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby

ORDERED, that consistent with Governor Christopher T. Sununu's Emergency Order #12, the Commission will hold a web-enabled remote hearing, pursuant to N.H. Admin. R., Puc 203.12, on April 24, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. Members of the public who wish to access the hearing may do so by registering at the following link:

https://nhgov.webex.com/nhgov/onstage/g.php?MTID=e17a957dbe02262145b27110e795b2692

If you have any difficulty obtaining access to this remote event, please notify the Commission by calling 603-271-2431 as soon as possible. Parties will be provided with additional instructions prior to the hearing; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that pursuant to N.H. Admin. R., Puc 203.12, Liberty-Keene shall notify all persons desiring to be heard at this hearing by publishing a copy of this order of notice on its website no later than one day after the date of issue. In addition, the Executive Director shall publish this order of notice on the Commission's website no later than one day after the date of issue; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that consistent with N.H. Admin. R., Puc 203.17 and Puc 203.02, any party seeking to intervene in the proceeding shall file with the Commission a petition to intervene with copies sent to Liberty Utilities and the Office of the Consumer Advocate on or before April 21, 2020, such petition stating the facts demonstrating how its rights, duties, privileges, immunities, or other substantial interests may be affected by the proceeding, consistent with N.H. Admin. R., Puc 203.17. Pursuant to the secretarial letter issued on March 17, 2020, which is posted on the Commission's website at https://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Secretarial%20Letters/20200317-SecLtr-Temp-Changes-in-Filing-Requirements.pdf, any party seeking to intervene may elect to submit this filing in electronic form; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that any party objecting to a petition to intervene make said objection on or before April 24, 2020.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this eighth day of April, 2020.

Debra A. Howland Executive Director

Individuals needing assistance or auxiliary communication aids due to sensory impairment or other disability should contact the Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator, NHPUC, 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire 03301-2429; 603-271-2431; TDD Access: Relay N.H. 1-800-735-2964. Notification of the need for assistance should be made one week prior to the scheduled event.

Service List - Docket Related

Docket# : 20-041

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Email Addresses

ExecutiveDirector@puc.nh.gov pradip.chattopadhyay@oca.nh.gov lynn.fabrizio@puc.nh.gov steve.frink@puc.nh.gov deborah.gilbertson@libertyutilities.com al-azad.iqbal@puc.nh.gov maureen.karpf@libertyutilities.com donald.kreis@oca.nh.gov jayson.laflamme@puc.nh.gov catherine.mcnamara@libertyutilities.com steven.mullen@libertyutilities.com amanda.noonan@puc.nh.gov ocalitigation@oca.nh.gov Mary.Schwarzer@puc.nh.gov michael.sheehan@libertyutilities.com david.simek@libertyutilities.com karen.sinville@libertyutilities.com