

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
BEFORE THE  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

ORIGINAL	
N.H.P.U.C. Case No.	DG 08-009
Exhibit No.	# 36
Witness	
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Docket DG 08-009

EnergyNorth Natural Gas, Inc.  
d/b/a  
National Grid NH

Rebuttal Testimony  
of  
John E. O'Shaughnessy

December 15, 2008

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
BEFORE THE  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**Docket DG 08-009**

**EnergyNorth Natural Gas, Inc.  
d/b/a  
National Grid NH**

**Rebuttal Testimony  
of  
John E. O'Shaughnessy**

**December 15, 2008**

1 **I. INTRODUCTION AND UPDATED REVENUE REQUIREMENT**

2

3 **Q. Mr. O’Shaughnessy, please state your name and business address.**

4 A. My name is John E. O’Shaughnessy. My business address is One MetroTech  
5 Center, Brooklyn, New York 11201.

6 **Q. Are you the same John O’Shaughnessy who previously submitted direct**  
7 **prepared testimony in these proceedings?**

8 A. Yes I am.

9 **Q. What is the purpose of your rebuttal testimony?**

10 A. The purpose of my rebuttal testimony is to update the Company's revenue  
11 requirement primarily to reflect the results of the audit conducted by the Commission  
12 staff ("Staff") and the increased cost of equity determined by the Company's cost of  
13 equity expert, Paul Moul, and to respond to several proposed adjustments to the  
14 Company’s filed revenue requirement as set forth in the direct testimony of Staff  
15 witness Stephen P. Frink. Specifically, my rebuttal testimony will address Staff’s rate  
16 base adjustments associated with Customer Deposits and Interest on Customer  
17 Deposits as well as Non-Interest Bearing CWIP and Gas Jobs in Progress. In  
18 addition, I will provide an overview of which witnesses in the Company's rebuttal  
19 filing address each of the financial issues raised by Staff or the OCA to the extent that  
20 the issues are not addressed in my testimony.

21 **Q. What is the Company's updated revenue requirement?**

22 A. Based on the audit adjustments agreed to by the Company and Staff and the updated  
23 cost of equity determined by Mr. Moul, the Company's revenue requirement has

1 increased to \$11,006,273 from the \$10,830,138 originally proposed. Attachment  
2 JOS-3 shows the derivation of the revised revenue requirement.

3 **II. RATE BASE ADJUSTMENTS**

4 **Q. Staff claims on page 6 of Mr. Frink's testimony that monthly balances for**  
5 **Customer Deposits and Accrued Interest on Customer Deposits were not**  
6 **available and, as a result, Staff calculated the adjustment based on quarterly**  
7 **balances. Do you agree?**

8 A. No. Workpapers supporting the cost of service were included in the original filing.  
9 Included in those workpapers was a complete 13 month average report for all balance  
10 sheet accounts. In addition, the 13 month average balances for Customer Deposits  
11 and Accrued Interest on Customer Deposits were provided in the responses to Data  
12 Requests OCA 3-8 and 3-9 respectively, copies of which are attached as Attachment  
13 JOS-4 and JOS-5. The 13 month averages for Customer Deposits and Accrued  
14 Interest on Customer Deposits were \$183,925 and \$51,485, respectively.

15 **Q. Do you agree with Staff's adjustment to reduce rate base for customer deposits**  
16 **and accrued interest on customer deposits?**

17 A. No. The Company does not deposit the cash received from customers in a separate  
18 interest-bearing account. As a result, and as stated in the response to Data Request  
19 Staff 4-6 (a copy of which is attached as Attachment JOS-6), the Company incurs the  
20 cost of the interest paid to customers on those deposits. As an alternative to including  
21 the interest expense in the cost of service, the average balances of Customer Deposits  
22 and Accrued Interest on Customer Deposits were not deducted from the Company's

1 proposed rate base, thereby providing a means by which the Company could properly  
2 and fully recover the return on its investment.

3 **Q. What amount of interest expense associated with Customer Deposits would have**  
4 **to be included in the cost of service if the average balances associated with**  
5 **Customer Deposits and Accrued Interest Expense were deducted from rate**  
6 **base?**

7 A. Approximately \$14,676, which was the test year interest expense associated with  
8 customer deposits.

9 **Q. Do you agree with Staff's proposal to eliminate \$4,501,710 from rate base**  
10 **representing the 13 month average balance of non-interest bearing CWIP ?**

11 A. No.

12 **Q. Please explain.**

13 A. Staff's position is predicated on its belief that all "non-interest bearing CWIP" is  
14 related to plant that was not placed in service within the test year. In fact, "non-  
15 interest bearing CWIP" is simply the Company's term for projects of short duration  
16 on which the Company does not accrue AFUDC (allowance for funds used during  
17 construction, which is the carrying cost for the Company's capital investment prior to  
18 the new plant being added to rate base) during the period prior to completion of the  
19 project. The projects that were booked as CWIP and which did not accrue AFUDC  
20 were almost all placed in service during the test year, and the few that were booked to  
21 this account late in the test year have since been put into service. My understanding  
22 from the Company's legal counsel is that there is no issue regarding whether any of

1 these amounts are recoverable through rates under New Hampshire's anti-CWIP  
2 statute because all of the plant is in service.

3 **Q. Please explain why projects that are in service would be classified as CWIP.**

4 A. There is a bookkeeping lag between the time when non-interest bearing projects are  
5 completed and when they are transferred from CWIP to Plant in Service on the books.

6 **Q. Please explain why there is a bookkeeping lag in moving these projects from  
7 CWIP to Plant in Service.**

8 A. Blanket projects are used to capture and summarize numerous small, repetitive type  
9 mains and services projects. While each project or job will have a unique  
10 workorder/project number in the Company's work management system, Maximo, the  
11 high volume of these projects makes it impractical and inefficient to assign each  
12 project a different number in the Company's financial system. To address this  
13 problem, these projects are assigned to blanket project numbers that remain in a  
14 perpetually "open" status and are continuously reused. As a result, the automatic  
15 unitization of the assets and transfer of associated dollars to plant in service cannot be  
16 performed systematically by the fixed asset accounting module of the financial  
17 system. Instead, manual intervention is required to periodically unitize (i.e., establish  
18 and classify) the constructed assets and transfer the costs from CWIP to Plant in  
19 Service.

20 **Q. How often are blanket projects unitized?**

21 A. Blanket projects are typically unitized on a quarterly basis.

22 **Q. What is the impact of the bookkeeping lag on the balances of CWIP and Plant in  
23 Service?**

1 A. The consequence of the lag is that the non-interest bearing projects which are field  
2 completed and placed in service continue to be reflected as if they were CWIP until at  
3 least the end of the quarter in which the assets are unitized and the amounts are  
4 transferred to Plant in Service in the financial system. This does not change the fact  
5 that these assets are used and useful and the Company should be allowed to earn a  
6 return on them.

7 **Q. Do you agree with Staff's proposal to eliminate \$1,414,912 associated with Gas**  
8 **Jobs in Progress from rate base?**

9 A. No.

10 **Q. Please explain.**

11 A. Similar to the amounts booked to non-interest bearing CWIP, the projects booked to  
12 Gas Jobs in Progress are work that has been field completed and placed in service but  
13 remain classified as "in progress". In the case of Gas Jobs in Progress, the plant  
14 remains in this status from a financial system standpoint because the Company is  
15 awaiting potential reimbursement from governmental agencies, not because of the  
16 status of the project itself. All of the amounts booked to this account during the test  
17 year are for plant that is currently in service, and therefore removing these items from  
18 rate base would prevent the Company from achieving a full return on its investment  
19 that is used and useful in providing service to the public.

20 **III. ADJUSTMENT FOR IN-HOUSE EXPENSE RELATED TO SHORT TERM**  
21 **DEBT AND THERM BILLING DOCKETS**

22 **Q. Staff has also proposed a disallowance of \$114,000 for in-house counsel's time**  
23 **spent on two Commission investigations, Dockets DG 06-122 and DG 06-154,**

1           **that resulted in settlements in which the Company agreed that it would not seek**  
2           **recovery through rates of the costs of those investigations. Do you agree with**  
3           **this proposed reduction?**

4    A.    No.    As an initial matter, the Company does not believe that the settlement  
5           agreements were intended to cover the costs of in-house staff, including Company  
6           counsel, all of which are embedded costs to the Company.  Rather the Company  
7           believes that the costs intended to be excluded from rates were the incremental  
8           external costs incurred through the use of outside legal counsel and consultants, all of  
9           which have been removed from the Company's proposed revenue requirement.  
10          Even assuming that the settlement agreements relied on by Staff can be read to  
11          require the removal of costs charged by in-house counsel, the basis for Staff's  
12          disallowance is highly flawed and based on assumptions that cannot stand up to any  
13          reasonable review.  Staff argues for a reduction equal to the fully loaded costs of *897*  
14          *hours* for Thomas O'Neill, the Company's Senior Counsel.  Staff's only basis for this  
15          adjustment is the claim that the two dockets were "extensive", that Mr. O'Neill had  
16          was the "lead attorney" and that therefore it is reasonable to assume that Mr. O'Neill  
17          worked five hours on these dockets for each hour worked by the Company's outside  
18          counsel.  Aside from the fact that Staff apparently misapprehends the manner in  
19          which work is divided between inside counsel (who generally works in a supervisory  
20          manner) and outside counsel (who generally performs a major portion of the services  
21          in matters in which he is involved), Staff's analysis also ignores the fact that Mr.  
22          O'Neill is the in-house attorney who is responsible for state regulatory matters for the  
23          Company in both New Hampshire and Massachusetts (where the Company has three

1 gas distribution affiliates) as well as for providing day to day advice to senior  
2 management related to a variety of legal issues. The 897 hours estimated by Staff  
3 would constitute more than 50% of Mr. O'Neill's allocable time. Given the nature of  
4 the dockets at issue, it is readily apparent that Mr. O'Neill would not have been in a  
5 position to dedicate that level of effort to those proceedings to the exclusion of his  
6 normal responsibilities on other matters.

7 As described in the Company's response to Data Requests Staff 3-54 and Tech 1-36  
8 (copies of which are attached as Attachments JOS-7 and JOS-8), Mr. O'Neill's time  
9 is allocated in part based on a three point formula (referred to as a default allocation),  
10 which results in a 9.8% allocation to EnergyNorth and in part based on "exception  
11 accounting" whereby the default allocation is overridden and hours can be direct  
12 charged to a single subsidiary or group of subsidiaries. In addition, as the Company  
13 explained during a technical sessions in this proceeding, service company employees'  
14 time is allocated based on a forty hour work week regardless of the hours actually  
15 worked. Thus the total available working hours for the Company's in-house counsel  
16 to be allocated for a twelve month period on an exception basis would be 1,824 (2080  
17 minus 254 for holidays and vacation, which would always be allocating using the  
18 default allocation).

19 Although Mr. O'Neill did direct charge the Company for services during the test year,  
20 the time entry system was not set up to capture the detail required to identify specific  
21 dockets being worked on in sufficient detail to calculate the precise hours devoted to  
22 these two specific matters. Rather the system only captures the fact that a certain

1 number of hours are to be direct charged to a specific subsidiary as opposed to being  
2 allocated by formula.

3 After receiving Staff's testimony, Mr. O'Neill reviewed internal legal department  
4 records and was able to determine that he reported 2517 total actual hours worked  
5 during the test year, 772 of which were reported under the category EnergyNorth  
6 Regulatory advice/compliance. (See affidavit of Thomas P. O'Neill, Esq., attached as  
7 Attachment JOS-9.) Mr. O'Neill further indicates that 279 of those 772 hours appear  
8 to be related to Dockets DG 06-122 and DG 06-154. Using Mr. Fink's average  
9 hourly rate of \$53.07 and 157% burden rate and applying it to 279 hours would result  
10 in an adjustment of only \$36,688.88.

11 **IV. OCA COMPENSATION ADJUSTMENT PROPOSALS**

12 **Q. Mr. Traum asserted on behalf of the OCA that the wage increase implemented**  
13 **effective June 29, 2008 by the Company's service company affiliate for its non-**  
14 **union employees should not be fully pro formed into O&M for purposes of**  
15 **determining the Company's revenue requirement because it occurred near the**  
16 **end of the 12 months following the end of the test year. What is the Company's**  
17 **response to his position?**

18 A. The rates being determined in this case will be effective as of August 24, 2008, and  
19 therefore the raise that Mr. Traum refers to will be fully incorporated in employees'  
20 wages, is known and measurable and is consistent with how all pro forma adjustments  
21 to O&M were made in this case. The purpose of looking at a test year and making  
22 pro forma adjustments to reflect known and measurable changes is to attempt to  
23 estimate with some measure of certainty the costs that the Company will incur during

1 the period that the rates are in effect. If adjustments are not made for known changes,  
2 it greatly increases the likelihood that the Company will not earn its allowed return,  
3 which would be confiscatory and would lead to more frequent rate cases. The  
4 Company does not believe that such a result is consistent with Commission policy or  
5 good practice.

6 **Q. On page 12 of Mr. Traum's testimony, he also suggests that incentive**  
7 **compensation costs from KeySpan's compensation structure should be borne**  
8 **only by shareholders. Do you agree?**

9 A. No, because incentive compensation was an integral part of KeySpan's overall  
10 approach to employee compensation. (The incentive compensation at issue in this  
11 case relates to the plan that was in place prior to the KeySpan/National Grid merger.)  
12 In fact, as the Company increased its emphasis on incentive compensation as part of  
13 the total compensation program, it held back on base pay increases in order to put a  
14 greater portion of each employee's total compensation at risk based on performance.

15 **Q. Please describe the Company's non-union payroll structure.**

16 A. KeySpan's objective in setting compensation levels was to provide a package that  
17 was competitive with the median level of the marketplace for both utilities and  
18 general industry. Because the Company and its affiliates compete with all businesses  
19 for the employees needed to operate the business, employees obviously have the  
20 option to work for any company they choose, not just regulated utilities, and so it is  
21 important to take the compensation levels of general industry into account in deciding  
22 on a total package and level of benefits and compensation. The Company's non-  
23 union payroll structure consists of base pay and incentive pay. A non-union

1 employee's base pay may grow over time as a result of annual merit increases to base  
2 pay, which are awarded to an employee if the employee's performance meets specific  
3 criteria.

4 **Q. How did the Incentive Plan operate?**

5 A. The Incentive Plan was a critical tool used by KeySpan in trying to build long-term  
6 value for customers, shareholders and employees. The Incentive Plan was carefully  
7 tailored to motivate all employees to perform in a manner, and to a level, that would  
8 have a positive effect on the Company's ability to provide safe, reliable and cost-  
9 effective service to customers, while also contributing to the Company's earnings  
10 objectives. The basic structure of the plan included: (1) specific performance goals  
11 that, if achieved, would directly benefit customers and shareholders; and (2) financial  
12 incentives that were linked to various performance levels. For example, the goal  
13 structure established in the Incentive Plan involved three categories of performance  
14 goals: (1) corporate goals; (2) business unit or area-specific goals; and (3) strategic  
15 initiative or assessment goals. Specific performance goals, in turn, were set within  
16 each goal category.

17 **IV. DEPRECIATION RESERVE VARIANCE**

18 **Q. Mr. Normand's testimony discusses Staff's recommendation that the**  
19 **depreciation reserve variance be amortized over 7 years, rather than the longer**  
20 **period that he recommended in his direct testimony. Do you have additional**  
21 **concerns regarding Staff's proposal?**

22 A. Yes. As illustrated in Table 4 on page 9 of Mr. Normand's rebuttal testimony,  
23 changes to cost of removal ("COR") rates result in significant change in the calculated

1 reserve variance as well as the associated revenue requirement. This is most  
2 dramatically depicted in Table 4 by the \$22,257,878 swing in the reserve variance  
3 between the reserve “surplus” of negative \$10,004,279 resulting from Staff’s proposal  
4 to use the existing COR rates of -10% for mains and -60% for services and the  
5 reserve “deficiency” of \$12,253,599 resulting from COR rates calculated at 75% of  
6 the COR rates realized in the depreciation study, i.e. -52% for mains and -132% for  
7 services. This swing in the reserve variance creates an associated swing in the  
8 revenue requirement of \$3,179,697, representing the difference between a \$1,429,183  
9 reduction in the revenue requirement proposed by Staff and a \$1,750,514 increase in  
10 the revenue requirement that would result from the use of COR rates at 75% of those  
11 realized in the depreciation study. The impact to the revenue requirement created by  
12 this swing is exacerbated by Staff’s proposal to amortize the reserve variance over 7  
13 years, rather than the average remaining service life of the assets as proposed by Mr.  
14 Normand. Mr. Normand’s testimony explains the basis for his recommendation and  
15 discusses the data on which it is based.

16 Although the COR rates realized in the depreciation study are within industry  
17 standards, the Company’s intention was to gradually increase the COR rates over  
18 time and after additional depreciation studies are prepared. As a result, the Company  
19 conservatively seeks to increase COR rates from -10% to -15% for mains and from -  
20 60% to -70% for services. Reducing the revenue requirement by \$1.4 million as  
21 proposed by Staff only to potentially increase the revenue requirement by \$3.2  
22 million in a few years creates significant rate instability as well as issues of  
23 intergenerational equity. Depreciation of Mains and Services is a long term process

1 (60 and 40 years respectively) and significant changes to revenue requirements  
2 resulting from the short term amortization of reserve variances that are subject to  
3 significant change can create rate shock and such proposals are not in the best interest  
4 of customers.

5 **Q. What other financial issues were raised in Staff's or the OCA's testimony and**  
6 **where are they addressed in the Company's rebuttal filing?**

7 A. Staff and/or the OCA also raised the issues I have listed below:

- 8 • Calculation of the cash working capital allowance, which is addressed in Mr.  
9 Goble's rebuttal testimony;
- 10 • Inclusion of advertising and promotional expense in rates, which is addressed  
11 in Mr. Stavropoulos' testimony;
- 12 • The level of the Company's bad debt expense, which is addressed by Mr.  
13 Bennett and is also expected to be the subject of a separate phase of this  
14 proceeding;
- 15 • The Company's proposed enhanced collections policy and recovery of the  
16 ongoing costs of the plan, which are also addressed by Mr. Bennett;
- 17 • Pension and OPEB expense, which are addressed in joint testimony from me  
18 and William Richer as well as in Mr. Stavropoulos' testimony;
- 19 • Amortization of the depreciation reserve variance, which is addressed by Mr.  
20 Normand and Mr. Stavropoulos;
- 21 • Return on equity, which is addressed by Mr. Moul as well as by Mr.  
22 Stavropoulos; and

1                   • Weather normalization of revenues and the low income discount, which are  
2                   addressed by Ms. Leary.

3 **Q. Does this conclude your rebuttal testimony?**

4 **A.** Yes it does.

**Energy North Adjustments**

	As Filed	Updates	As Updated		Revised Case
Operating Revenues	180,859,301		180,859,301		180,891,373
Occupant Billing Issue				32,072	
Operation & Maintenance Expenses	159,649,786		159,649,786		159,628,012
Field Collections Costs				123,684	
Pension Burden Adjustment( Audit Issue # 2)				(31,284)	
Right of Way and Appraisal Fees (Audit Issue #6)				90,437	
Dues and Memberships				(19,204)	
Reclass of Contributions (miss coding)				(19,435)	
Advertising Adjustment (Audit Issue #10 and Issue 12)				(79,257)	
Propane Conversion (Audit Issue #11)				(35,675)	
Legal for Case #				(51,040)	
Depreciation	7,770,701		7,770,701		7,785,504
Asset Retirement Obligation (Audit Issue #9)				14,803	
Amortization	-		-		
Loss from Disposition of Property	-		-		
Taxes Other Than Income Taxes	3,812,960		3,812,960		3,805,181
Right of Way and Appraisal Fees (Audit Issue #6)				(4,873)	
Paroll Taxes Capitalized				(2,906)	
Total Operating Revenue Deductions	171,233,447		171,233,447	(138,434)	171,218,697
Operating Income Before Federal Income Taxes	9,625,854		9,625,854	138,434	9,672,676
State Income Taxes	378,300	(4,872)	373,428	4,034	377,462
Federal Income Taxes	1,425,300	(18,355)	1,406,945	49,864	1,422,145
Total Income Taxes	1,803,600	(23,227)	1,780,373	53,898	1,799,608
Operating Income After Federal & State Income Taxes	7,822,254		7,845,481	(192,332)	7,873,068
Rate Base	148,037,338	1,632,853	149,670,191	(18,232)	149,651,959
Rate of Return	5.28%		5.24%		5.26%
	9.64%		9.64%		9.64%
ShortFall	4.35%		4.39%		4.37%
	\$ 6,441,143		\$ 6,575,242		6,545,898
Tax Effect	1.68		1.68		1.6814
Revenue Requirement	10,830,138		11,055,612		11,006,273

**Revenue Requirement (as Filed)**

**10,830,138**

**Energy North Adjustments**

	Adjustment	Revenue Requirement
Cash Working Capital Lead Lag Update	1,632,853	225,474
Additional Payroll Taxes Capitalized (OCA 1-9)	(2,906)	(2,906)
Increase in estimated field collection expenses (Staff 1-64)	123,684	123,684
Occupant Billing Issue	(32,072)	(32,072)
Pension Burden Adjustment( Audit Issue # 2)	(31,284)	(31,284)
Right of Way and Appraisal Fees (Audit Issue #6)	90,437	90,437
Dues and Memberships (OCA 2-10)	(19,204)	(19,204)
Reclass of Contributions (CEO Fund Audit Find)	(19,435)	(19,435)
Advertising Adjustment (Audit Issue #10 and Issue 12)	(79,257)	(79,257)
Propane Conversion (Audit Issue #11)	(35,675)	(35,675)
Legal for Case # (PUC 1-18)	(51,040)	(51,040)
Asset Retirement Obligation (Audit Issue #9)	14,803	14,803
Right of Way and Appraisal Fees (Audit Issue #6)	(4,873)	(4,873)
Propane Conversion (Audit Issue #11)	<b>(18,232)</b>	<b>(2,518)</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>176,134</b>

**Revised Revenue Requirement**

**11,006,272**

**ENERGYNORTH NATURAL GAS, INC d/b/a NATIONAL GRID NH**  
**Schedule 1D - State Income Tax Computation - Utility Operations**

Revised Case

OPERATING INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAXES& INTEREST CHARGES	9,672,676
INTEREST CHARGES	5,252,784
<b>OPERATING INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAXES</b>	<b>4,419,892</b>

**SECTION I - FLOW THROUGH ITEMS**

**Permanent Differences**

Lobbying Expenses	
Meals & Entertainment	(96)
Penalties & Fines	
Medicare Income	20,938
Total Perm M's	<u>20,842</u>
Income Subject To Tax	<u><u>4,440,734</u></u>
<b>Income Tax @ 8.5%</b>	<b>377,462</b>

**ENERGYNORTH NATURAL GAS, INC d/b/a NATIONAL GRID NH**  
**Schedule 1D - Federal Income Tax Computation - Utility Operations**

	Revised Case
OPERATING INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAXES& INTEREST CHARGES	9,672,676
INTEREST CHARGES and Other Charges	5,252,784
<b>OPERATING INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAXES</b>	<u>4,419,892</u>
<b>State Income Taxes</b>	377,462
<b><u>SECTION I - FLOW THROUGH ITEMS</u></b>	
<b>Permanent Differences</b>	
Lobbying Expenses	
Meals & Entertainment	(96)
Penalties & Fines	
Medicare Income	20,938
Total Perm M's	<u>20,842</u>
Income Subject To Tax	<u><u>4,063,272</u></u>
<b>Income Tax @35%</b>	<b>1,422,145</b>

**ENERGYNORTH NATURAL GAS, INC d/b/a NATIONAL GRID NH**  
**Utility Operations Interest Deduction**

Rate Base Proposed	149,651,959
Long Term Debt	<u>3.51%</u>
Interest Deduction	5,252,784

**ENERGYNORTH NATURAL GAS, INC d/b/a NATIONAL GRID NH**  
**Computation of Revenue Deficiency**

	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Revised Case Pro Forma</u>
Rate Base Proposed	EN 2-4	149,651,959
Rate of Return	EN 3-1	<u>9.64%</u>
Income Required		14,418,966
Adjusted Net Operating Income	EN 2-2-1A	7,873,068
Deficiency		6,545,898
Tax Effect		1.6814
<b>Revenue Deficiency</b>		<b><u><u>11,006,273</u></u></b>

**ENERGYNORTH NATURAL GAS, INC d/b/a NATIONAL GRID NH**  
**Overall Rate of Return**  
**For Ratemaking Purposes**

<u>Item</u>	<u>Component Ratio (%)</u>	<u>Component Cost Rate(%)</u>	<u>Weighted Average Cost Rate (%)</u>		
Common Stock <sup>1</sup>	50.00	<b>12.25</b>	6.13	1.6814	<b>10.30</b>
Long Term Debt	50.00	7.02	3.51		<b>3.51</b>
Short Term Debt <sup>2</sup>					
Total	100.00		9.64		<b>13.81 PRETAX Rate Of Return</b>

ENERGYNORTH NATURAL GAS, INC.  
D/B/A NATIONAL GRID NH  
DG 08-009

National Grid NH's Responses to  
OCA Set 3

Date Request Received: August 6, 2008  
Request No. OCA 3-8

Date of Response: August 25, 2008  
Witness: John O'Shaughnessy

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**REQUEST:** What was the 13 month average of Accrued Interest on Customer Deposits in the test year? What amount was deducted in the calculation of rate base?

**RESPONSE:** The 13 month test year average of accrued interest is \$(51,484.68). See response to OCA 3-7.

ENERGYNORTH NATURAL GAS, INC.  
D/B/A NATIONAL GRID NH  
DG 08-009

National Grid NH's Responses to  
OCA Set 3

Date Request Received: August 6, 2008  
Request No. OCA 3-9

Date of Response: August 25, 2008  
Witness: John O'Shaughnessy

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**REQUEST:** What was the 13 month average of Reimbursable Contributions in the test year? What amount was deducted in the calculation of rate base?

**RESPONSE:** The 13 month test year average of reimbursable contributions is \$19,476.92. This amount was included in rate base.

ENERGYNORTH NATURAL GAS, INC.  
D/B/A NATIONAL GRID NH  
DG 08-009

National Grid NH's Responses to  
Staff Set 4

Date Request Received: October 7, 2008  
Request No. Staff 4-6

Date of Response: October 17, 2008  
Witness: John O'Shaughnessy

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**REQUEST:** Ref. Staff DR 3-71 Attachment: please explain how 'customer deposits' and 'accrued interest on customer deposits' are costs borne by the shareholder and how removing it from rate base in the filing provides ratepayers with two cost reductions.

**RESPONSE:** Customer deposits earn interest, which is paid by the Company but has not been included in operating expenses for purposes of determining the Company's revenue requirement. Because the interest expense is not included as an operating expense, removing customer deposits and accrued interest on customer deposits from rate base without including an adjustment for the interest expense associated with these items in Operation and Maintenance expense would have the effect of providing a double benefit to ratepayers.

ENERGYNORTH NATURAL GAS, INC.  
D/B/A NATIONAL GRID NH  
DG 08-009

National Grid NH's Responses to  
Staff - Set 3

Date Request Received: August 6, 2008  
Request No. Staff 3-54

Date of Response: August 26, 2008  
Witness: John O'Shaughnessy

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**REQUEST:** For each non-EnergyNorth employee who directed charged time to EnergyNorth for work on the above dockets, how many hours were spent on each of the dockets during the test year? If unable to determine the amount of time spent on each of the dockets through the source documents, provide an estimate and explain how the estimate was derived.

**RESPONSE:** Separate Project/Tasks were not established for Dockets DG 06-122 or DG-06-154. As a result, there were no direct charges made to EnergyNorth for work performed on these dockets.

It is likely that service company employees who performed work on these dockets had default Project/Task payroll accounting that resulted in some portion of their normal payroll charges being allocated to EnergyNorth through the corporate allocation process.

It is not possible to come up with an estimate without a unique Project/Task specifically established to capture costs associated with time worked on these dockets.

ENERGYNORTH NATURAL GAS, INC.  
D/B/A NATIONAL GRID NH  
DG 08-009

TECH SESSION

Date Request Received: July 25, 2008  
Request No. Tech 1-36

Date of Response: August 26, 2008  
Witness: John O'Shaughnessy

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**REQUEST:** Identify the employees who worked on the Company's short term debt and therm billing dockets during the last year and explain how their payroll expense is allocated to EnergyNorth.

**RESPONSE:** The work required for the therm billing docket was primarily performed by the following employees:

Thomas P. O'Neill (Counsel)  
Jonathan B. Hedman (Gas Dispatch)  
Ann Leary (Rates and Regulatory)  
Leo Silvestrini (Rates and Regulatory)

The following individuals also had some minimal involvement related to matters arising from the docket, although they did not work directly on the proceeding:

Jennifer Feinstein (Rates and Regulatory)  
Gary Ahern (Rates and Regulatory)  
David J. Robins (Customer Billing)  
Debra I. Hale (Community Relations)  
Rocco Dichiarra (Customer Billing)  
John F. Barrett (Field operations)  
Lori Santoro (HR)  
John C. Maloney (Records Management)  
Sarah Mandel (Records Management)  
Christine Clooney (Gas Dispatch)  
John Clifford (IT)  
William Donoghue (Accounting)

The work for the short term debt docket was primarily performed by the following employees:

Thomas P. O'Neill (Counsel)  
Lorraine Lynch (Treasury)

Andrew Dinkel (Treasury)  
Christopher Di Gilio (Treasury)  
Michael Taunton (Treasury)  
Gary Ahern (Rates and Regulatory)  
James G. Holodak, Jr. (Treasury)  
William Donoghue (Accounting)

It could not be determined whether any other individuals recorded any time related to matters arising from the proceeding.

All management employees are assigned a default project and activity to which their payroll costs are charged. Service company project/activities are associated with an allocation code to allocate their labor costs across a specific mix of companies.

See the attached, "Employee List and Allocation Codes" for each employee's 2007 default payroll accounting including the assigned allocation code, company mix and % applied to EnergyNorth, where applicable.

<b>Employee</b>	<b>Employee #</b>	<b>Oracle Default Project Activity</b>	<b>Alloc Code</b>
Andrew Dinkle (Treasury)	21835	202CSV K03461 2004	G0900
Ann Leary (Rates and Regulatory)	24257	464CSV K05445 4660	G0300
Christine Clooney (Gas Dispatch)	22702	467CSV K02106 2000	G0300
Christopher Di Gillio (Treasury)	21668	033CSV K00058 2004	G0100
David J. Robins (Customer Billing)	00876	153CSV K00570 2401	A9100
Debra I. Hale (Community Relations)	25234	279CSV K02758 2004	A8600
Gary Ahern (Rates and Regulatory)	01016	227CSV K05437 2031	G2400
James G. Holodak, Jr. (Treasury)	38455	033CSV K00058 2004	G0100
Jennifer Feinstein (Rates and Regulatory)	26778	464CSV K05442 4660	G2400
John C. Maloney (Records Management)	25284	092CSV K03084 2953	G0300
John Clifford (IT)	05331	067CSV K00135 50% 4075	A9100
		067CSV K00237 50% 4075	B0300
John F. Barrett (Field operations)	23926	319CSV K99177 2000	G2000
Jonathan B. Hedman (Gas Dispatch)	24565	467CSV K02106 2000	G0300
Leo Silvestrini (Rates and Regulatory)	22629	518CSV K02152 2000	G2000
Lori Santoro (HR)	03507	045CSV K00076 2000	N3500
Lorraine Lynch (Treasury)	09803	033CSV K99109 2031	G0100
Michael Taunton (Treasury)	00662	026CSV K00044 2031	G0800
Rocco Dichiarra (Customer Billing)	21443	153CSV K00212 2712	G4100
Sarah Mandel (Records Management)	13350	092CSV K03084 2953	G0300
Thomas P. O'Neill (Counsel)	23635	008CSV K00008 2953	G0300
William Donoghue (Accounting)	25516	433CSV K02104 2004	G0300

<b>Alloc Basis</b>	<b>Company Mix</b>	<b>2007 ENH %</b>
3 Point Formula	Gas - NY	0.00%
3 Point Formula	Delivery Energy - NE	9.80%
3 Point Formula	Delivery Energy - NE	9.80%
3 Point Formula	All Companies excl. KSE	1.80%
Direct	Direct - KeySpan Energy Delivery New York	0.00%
Direct	Direct - EnergyNorth Natural Gas, Inc.	100.00%
3 Point Formula	All Gas	3.20%
3 Point Formula	All Companies excl. KSE	1.80%
3 Point Formula	All Gas	3.20%
3 Point Formula	Delivery Energy - NE	9.80%
Direct	Direct - KeySpan Energy Delivery New York	0.00%
Number of Meters	Delivery Energy - NE	9.20%
3 Point Formula	Gas - Mass.	0.00%
3 Point Formula	Delivery Energy - NE	9.80%
3 Point Formula	Gas - Mass.	0.00%
Number of Employees	All excl. KEP, THEC, GEC, SEC and KSE	1.50%
3 Point Formula	All Companies excl. KSE	1.80%
3 Point Formula	All Companies incl. KSE	1.80%
3 Point Formula	All excl. KOC, KEP, THEC, GEC & SEC	2.30%
3 Point Formula	Delivery Energy - NE	9.80%
3 Point Formula	Delivery Energy - NE	9.80%
3 Point Formula	Delivery Energy - NE	9.80%

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
BEFORE THE  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

ENERGYNORTH NATURAL GAS, INC.  
d/b/a NATIONAL GRID NH

DG 08-009

Affidavit of Thomas P. O'Neill, Esq.

I, Thomas P. O'Neill, do attest and swear to the following:

1. During the period July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007 (the test year in this proceeding), I was employed by KeySpan Corporate Service, LLC as Senior Counsel. During that period, I provided services to various Keyspan Corporation affiliates, including EnergyNorth Natural Gas, Inc.
2. While employed by KeySpan Corporate Service, LLC, including the period of July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2007, I used a software program called Carpe Diem to record my time on the various matters on which I worked.
3. Carpe Diem entries were prepared by me for the legal department, and they are an accurate representation of how my time was spent during the test year.
4. These records show that I reported 2,517.25 total hours during the test year, which included 772 hours related to Energy North Natural Gas Inc. under the heading Regulatory Advice/Compliance. Of those hours, 269 were related to the subject matter of either Docket DG 06-154 or Docket DG 06-122, as opposed to the 837.5 hours I understand have been estimated by the Commission staff.

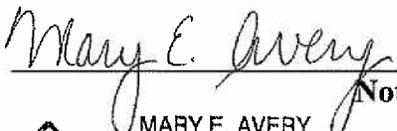
Signed under the pains and penalties of perjury.

Dated: December 15, 2008

  
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Thomas P. O'Neill, Esq.

**Subscribed and sworn to before me**

this 15<sup>th</sup> day of December 2008.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

