



April 5, 2013



By E-Filing and Overnight Delivery

Debra A. Howland, Executive Director and Secretary
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, NH 03301-2425

Re: DG 13-083 Affidavit of Publication

Dear Director Howland:

Pursuant to the Order of Notice issued by the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission on March 20, 2013, in the above-referenced docket, enclosed please find an Affidavit of Publication on behalf of Northern Utilities, Inc.

Sincerely,

Gary Epler
Attorney for Northern Utilities, Inc.

Enclosure

cc: Service List (via e-mail)

Gary Epler
Chief Regulatory Attorney
6 Liberty Lane West
Hampton, NH 03842-1720

Phone: 603-773-6440
Fax: 603-773-6640
Email: epler@unitil.com

Legal Notice ✓

**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
DG 13-083
NORTHERN UTILITIES, INC.
2013 Summer Period Cost of
Gas Adjustment
ORDER OF NOTICE**

On March 15, 2013, Northern Utilities, Inc. (Northern) filed with the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission (Commission) its proposed cost of gas (COG) rates for the summer period, May 1, 2013 through October 31, 2013. Included in the filing were revised tariff pages, and supporting materials for the changed rates. Northern also filed a motion for confidential treatment with respect to certain gas supply-related information. The petition 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 <http://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2013/13-083.html>.

The proposed residential COG rate is \$0.5553 per therm, a \$0.1444 per therm increase from the weighted residential COG rate of \$0.4109 per therm for last summer. The proposed change to Northern residential COG rate, combined with an increase in the Local Distribution Adjustment Charge approved as part of the winter COG by Order No. 25.434 (October 30, 2012) in Docket No. 12-273, are expected to increase a typical residential heating customer's summer bill by approximately \$43, or 11.5 percent, compared to last summer.

The proposed commercial/industrial low winter use COG rate is \$0.5180 per therm and the proposed commercial/industrial high winter use COG rate is \$0.5780 per therm. The rate increase for the commercial/industrial customers over the comparable rates for last summer is commensurate with the residential COG rate increase.

The filing raises, *inter alia*, issues related to: RSA 378 and the justness and reasonableness of rates, fares, and charges; the reasonableness of sales forecasts, supplier prices, and transportation prices; reconciliation of prior period costs and revenues; the causes and treatment of a prior period over-recovery and supplier refund credit; purchasing decisions related to the current and past summer supplies and capacity; revenue projections related to transportation services and released capacity; and revenues and rate impacts resulting from the proposed rate changes. 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 a hearing be held before the Commission located at 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire on April 16, 2013 at 10:00 a.m.; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that Northern, the Staff of the Commission and any intervenor hold a Technical Session on April 2, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. to review the petition and allow Northern to provide any amendments or updates to its filing; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.12, Northern shall notify all persons desiring to be heard at this hearing by publishing a copy of this Order of Notice no later than March 26, 2013, in a newspaper with general circulation in those portions of the state in which operations are conducted, publication to be documented by affidavit filed with the Commission on or before April 11, 2013; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.17, any party seeking to intervene in the proceeding shall submit to the Commission seven copies of a Petition to Intervene with copies sent to Northern and the Office of the Consumer Advocate on or before April 11, 2013, such Petition stating the facts demonstrating how its rights, duties, privileges, immunities or other substantial interest may be affected by the proceeding, as required by N.H. Code Admin. Rule Puc 203.17 and RSA 541-A:32.I(b); and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that any party objecting to a Petition to Intervene make said Objection on or before April 16, 2013.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this twentieth day of March, 2013.

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.

(UL - Mar. 25)