

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DG 13-261

NEW HAMPSHIRE GAS CORPORATION

Winter 2013-2014 Cost of Gas

SUPPLEMENTAL ORDER OF NOTICE REGARDING PROPOSED INCREASE IN
COST OF GAS RATE

On January 27, 2014, New Hampshire Gas Corporation (NHGC) filed a petition with the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission (Commission) to increase its cost of gas (COG) rate for non-Fixed Price Option (FPO) customers for the remainder of the winter 2013-2014 COG period, from March 1, 2014, through April 30, 2014, beyond the approved maximum COG rate. In Order No. 25,588 (October 29, 2013), in the instant docket, the Commission approved the 2013-2014 winter COG rate for NHGC; the rate was set at \$1.6785 per therm for non-FPO customers, which could be adjusted monthly pursuant to Order No. 25,588 without further Commission approval to a maximum rate of \$2.0981 per therm, or 25 percent above the approved COG rate. Order No. 25,588 at p. 6.

In its petition, NHGC proposes to further increase the COG rate for the March 1, 2014-April 30, 2014 period to \$2.5355 per therm. (NHGC expects to charge the maximum COG rate of \$2.0981 beginning on February 1, 2014, during the pendency of this petition). Included in NHGC's filing were revised tariff pages and supporting materials for the changed rate. The proposed increase in the COG rate is to reduce a projected under-collection of at least \$180,000 based on actual and projected costs for the remainder of the 2013-2014 winter COG period, driven by a propane shortage in the northern United States. In its supporting testimony, NHGC indicates that it would seek to have the Commission grant NHGC the authority to adjust the

requested COG rate of \$2.5355 per therm “either up or down within certain parameters in a final [COG] rate calculation five business days prior to March 1.” *See* Testimony of Brian R. Maloney, filed January 27, 2014, at p. 3. 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/2013/13-261.html>.

The filing raises, inter alia, issues related to the reasonableness of rates and charges pursuant to RSA 378, the price forecasts, the rate impacts of the proposed changes to the COG rate, and the development of any rate-adjustment mechanisms to be applied before or after March 1, 2014. 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 Street, Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire on February 13, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.12, NHGC shall notify all persons desiring to be heard at this hearing through individual notice to customers via a bill insert and by publishing a display ad summarizing this Order of Notice no later than February 4, 2014, in *The Keene Sentinel*, publication to be documented by affidavit filed with the Commission on or before February 10, 2014; 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 NHGC and the Office of the Consumer Advocate on or before February 10, 2014, 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

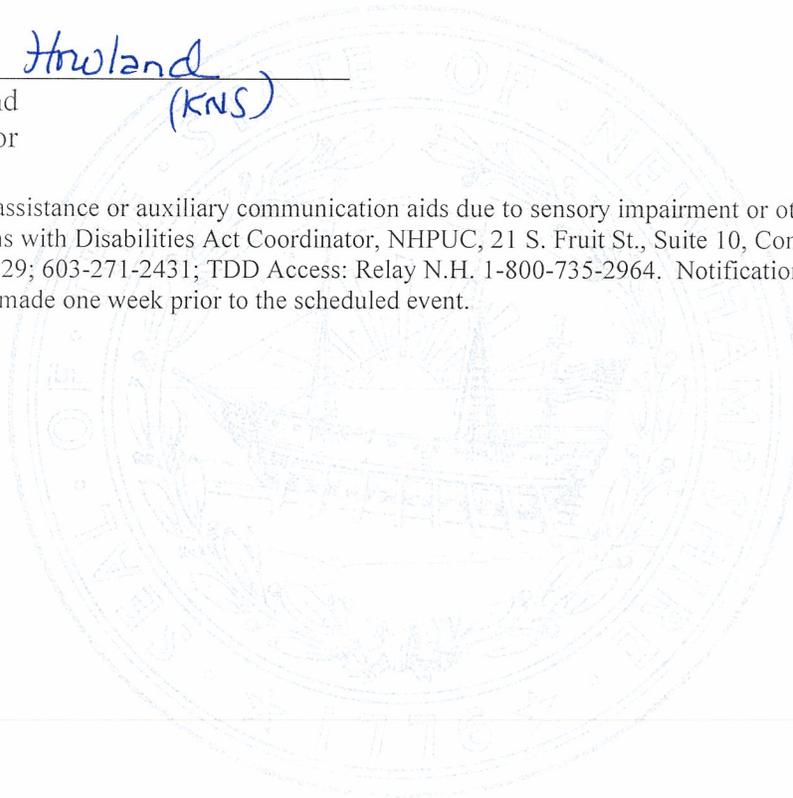
FURTHER ORDERED, that any party objecting to a Petition to Intervene make said Objection on or before February 13, 2014.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this twenty-eighth day of January, 2014.

Debra A. Howland
Debra A. Howland
Executive Director

(KNS)

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 - EMAIL ADDRESSES - DOCKET RELATED

Pursuant to N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.11 (a) (1): Serve an electronic copy on each person identified on the service list.

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