

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



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ORIGINAL	
N.H.P.U.C. Case No.	DG 13-313
Exhibit No.	# 2
Witness	Panel 1
DO NOT REMOVE FROM FILE	

November 12, 2014

Debra A. Howland
Executive Director
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, NH 03301-2429

Re: DG 13-313 Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty
Utilities, Integrated Resource Plan
Staff Recommendation

Dear Ms. Howland:

On November 1, 2013, Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities (Liberty) filed an Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) with the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission (Commission). The IRP covers the planning period of November 1, 2013 through October 31, 2018. A prehearing conference was held on March 14, 2014. The Company, Staff and OCA participated in the prehearing conference and the subsequent technical session. Liberty provided responses to two sets of data requests propounded by the parties, and the parties conducted two further technical sessions during the course of 2014.

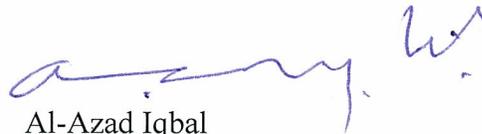
The IRP provides details of Liberty's resource planning process and strategies based on present market conditions and its current forecast of requirements. Liberty's plan includes an overview of its resource planning process, a detailed description of the method Liberty used to forecast demand on its system, a description of the analysis Liberty used to determine its normal and design planning standards, a description of how Liberty designed its resource portfolio to meet customer requirements under design conditions, an inventory of existing resources including savings related to energy efficiency programs, and a demonstration that Liberty's portfolio is adequate to meet customer demands under a range of weather and economic conditions. The Company also addressed the issues identified in the previous IRP review proceeding (in Docket No. DG 10-041).

LINKED

Staff performed a thorough review of the current Liberty IRP during this proceeding. Staff identified a few minor technical concerns related to forecasting, integration of energy efficiency, and other minor methodological issues. Staff also identified some potential enhancements for future Liberty IRPs. Staff understands that Liberty will discuss those issues with Staff before the next IRP filing is made, and address those accordingly. Staff appreciates Liberty's use of open source statistical software programs for its analysis used in this IRP, which served to minimize reviewing costs for all parties.

After reviewing Liberty's testimony and Liberty's responses to the Staff and OCA data requests, Staff believes that the IRP adequately meets the requirements under RSA 374:4 and RSA Chapter 378. Staff recommends that the Commission accept Liberty's IRP as filed. Staff deems it appropriate for the Commission to issue its acceptance of this IRP by means of order *nisi*.

Sincerely,



Al-Azad Iqbal
Analyst, Gas & Water Division

cc: Service List

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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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Docket #: 13-313-1 Printed: November 12, 2014

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- a) Pursuant to N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.02 (a), with the exception of Discovery, file 7 copies, as well as an electronic copy, of all documents including cover letter with:

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
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21 S. FRUIT ST, SUITE 10
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- b) Serve an electronic copy with each person identified on the Commission's service list and with the Office of Consumer Advocate.
- c) Serve a written copy on each person on the service list not able to receive electronic mail.