

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DG 14-380

LIBERTY UTILITIES (ENERGYNORTH NATURAL GAS) CORP.  
d/b/a LIBERTY UTILITIES

Petition for Approval of Long-term Firm Transportation Agreement

**Staff's Motion to Accept Late-filed Settlement or Reschedule Hearing**

1. On December 31, 2014, Liberty filed with the Commission a Petition for Approval of a Firm Transportation Agreement With Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, LLC (Tennessee) in which Liberty sought approval to enter into a 20 year contract with Tennessee pursuant to which the Company would purchase on a firm basis up to 115,000 Dekatherm (Dth) per day of capacity from the proposed Northeast Energy Delivery (NED) pipeline.
2. A hearing on the Petition is scheduled for Tuesday, June 30, 2015.
3. Yesterday, the Commission Staff and the Company agreed to a settlement in principle, which they are now in the process of memorializing for filing.
4. The deadline for filing of the settlement, however, has passed. N.H. Code of Admin. Rules Puc 203.20 (e) (stipulations and settlements to be filed "no less than 5 days prior to the hearing, except as provided in (f)").
5. Puc 203.20 (f) allows the Commission to accept late-filed stipulations and settlements when such acceptance:
  - (1) Promotes the orderly and efficient conduct of the proceeding; and
  - (2) Will not impair the rights of any party to the proceeding.

6. The Commission's acceptance of a late-filed Settlement meets those standards as it reduces the number of parties contesting the Company's Petition and will require only a modest addition to scope of the hearing.
7. In the alternative, if the Commission declines to accept the Staff and Company's late-filed settlement, Staff asks that the Commission reschedule the hearing.

WHEREFORE, Staff respectfully requests that the Commission:

- A. Grant this Motion to Accept Late-filed Settlement; or
- B. In the alternative, reschedule the June 30, 2015 hearing; and
- C. Grant such other relief as is just and equitable.

Respectfully submitted,



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Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that I provided a copy of this Motion to the individuals on the service list for this docket.

June 26, 2015



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Rorie E. Patterson