

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

DG 14-380

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June 29, 2015

Debra Howland  
Executive Director  
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission  
21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10  
Concord, New Hampshire 03301-7319

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RE: DG 14-380 Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities  
OCA Objection to Staff Request for Waiver

Dear Ms. Howland:

On June 26, 2015 staff filed a Request for Waiver of Puc Rule 203.20(e) the five day deadline for filing settlement agreements. On June 29, 2015, staff filed the final terms of the Settlement Agreement. Also on June 29, 2015, Pipe Line Awareness Network of the Northeast, Inc. (PLAN) filed an objection stating, *inter alia*, that one day for review and preparation regarding a settlement agreement is insufficient time. The Office of the Consumer Advocate (OCA) similarly objects to Staff's motion and supports PLAN's request for a procedural schedule extension.

This is a complex matter of significant public interest. The interests of justice and the orderly and prompt conduct of the proceedings will not be impaired by a short extension to the procedural schedule to a time after July 20, 2015 (per the Company's request) and before the September 1, 2015 company's requested deadline for a commission decision. In fact, additional time to focus and organize argument in relation to the recently filed terms of the proposed settlement agreement will enhance and promote the efficient use of the Commission's time during the adjudicative proceeding.

Therefore the OCA requests the Commission deny the staff waiver request and reschedule the hearing on the merits as recommended above.

Respectfully,

  
Susan W. Chamberlin  
Consumer Advocate

cc: Service list via electronic mail