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June 22, 2017

Via Electronic Mail and Hand Delivery

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

**Re: Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities
Special Contract with Joshua and Angela Ford**

Dear Ms. Howland:

Enclosed for filing with the Commission are originals and six copies of a special contract between Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities and Joshua and Angela Ford arising out of Order No. 26,017 (May 11, 2017) in Docket No. DG 16-827. The parties seek Commission approval of this special contract pursuant to RSA 378:18, which states: "Nothing herein shall prevent a public utility from making a contract for service at rates other than those fixed by its schedules of general application, if special circumstances exist which render such departure from the general schedules just and consistent with the public interest and ... the commission shall by order allow such contract to take effect."

This special contract satisfies RSA 378:18 because, first, the Commission made findings of "special circumstances" through its approval of Staff's "Alternative Proposal for Transition Assistance" (the "Proposal"). Order No. 26,017, at 13 ("FURTHER ORDERED, that the Staff Alternative Proposal for transition assistance is hereby APPROVED, with individual special contracts entered into to be reviewed pursuant to RSA 378:18"). The now Commission-approved Proposal states: "The Settling Parties recommend that due to special circumstances associated with certain of those customers, [they] be offered some assistance in making the transition away from steam utility service to natural gas service, so long as they meet the following eligibility test" (emphasis added).

Second, the Proposal states that "PUC staff will qualify participating customers," Proposal at 2, meaning Staff will confirm that these "Customers [have] demonstrate[d] that the cost of their conversion cannot be recovered in five years or less from energy savings resulting from switching from steam to natural gas," Proposal at 1. Attached to the special contract are a list of the Fords' last 12 Concord Steam bills and the contractor's proposal for the Fords to convert their home heating system to natural gas. Staff can use this information to determine whether the Fords qualify for a special contract under the Proposal and to support its ultimate recommendation in this matter.

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Third, the special contract incorporates the Proposal's material terms, including: on-bill financing; fixed monthly payments over a period not to exceed ten years included on Liberty's natural gas bills with no interest; how Liberty will account for the loans and their repayment; that payment obligations will follow the original owner and the property, jointly and severally; that Commission rules for collections, deposits, and termination of service for non-payment will apply; and that Liberty may refuse service to subsequent customers at the same location if payment is not made.

Liberty and the Fords ask that the Commission "by order allow ... to take effect" their attached special contract calling for a \$12,800 loan to be repaid through on-bill payments over ten years.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Sheehan", written in a cursive style.

Michael J. Sheehan

Cc: Alexander F. Speidel, Esq., Counsel for Commission Staff
D. Maurice Kreis, Consumer Advocate
Joshua and Angela Ford