



Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities

DG 17-135

Winter 2017/2018 Cost of Gas and Summer 2018 Cost of Gas

Staff Data Requests – Technical Session Set 1

Date Request Received: 10/3/17
Request No. Staff Tech 1-5

Date of Response: 10/10/17
Respondent: Deborah Gilbertson

REQUEST:

Reference Testimony of Gilbertson at 9 (Bates 029) which states that the winter 2017/18 forecasted sendout under normal weather conditions is 89,487,445 therms and the weather normalized actual sendout for the winter 2016/17 was 67,985,084 therms.

Please explain this variance in detail.

RESPONSE:

Upon review of the Reconciliation filing, it was discovered that page 5 of the reconciliation was referencing the volumes in Schedule 8 as a comparison to projected sendout volumes. Schedule 8 was populated using purchased volumes for the month, and not delivered citygate volumes. While in some cases purchased volumes in the month may be part of sendout, it is not always the case.

It is also of note that when normalizing the sendout volumes, it is more accurate to use the heat content for each month rather than averaging the heat content over the six month period and applying that average to all months. Colder months will usually have a higher heat content than milder months. Applying the relevant heat content in the applicable month will create a more accurate measure for comparison of actual weather normalized sendout to forecasted volumes.

After correcting Schedule 8 to show delivered volumes in the forecast period and applying the relative heat content for each month in the period, the corrected normalized actual sendout for 2016/2017 was 82,097,585 as opposed to 67,985,084 (Bates 029, line12).