

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

COMMISSIONER
Jared S. Chicoine

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10
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April 10, 2024

Michael J. Sheehan, Esq.
Director, Legal Services
Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp.
116 Noth Main Street
Concord, NH 03301

Re: WVR 2024-003; Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) corp. d/b/a Liberty;
Request to Extend Deadline to file F-16G Annual Report

Dear Attorney Sheehan:

On March 29, 2024, the Department of Energy (DOE) received your letter on behalf of Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp. ("Liberty" or "Company") in which the Company is requesting an extension to file its F-16G Annual Report from March 31, 2024, as required by New Hampshire Administrative Rule En 509.02, to May 31, 2024. In support of its request, Liberty explains that it has hired PwC to review its books and records for 2022 and 2023 as part of Liberty's currently pending rate case, DG 23-067. Liberty would like additional time to file its F-16G in case PwC's review yields relevant information that would require adjustments to Liberty's 2023 records, which would impact the information contained in the F-16G.

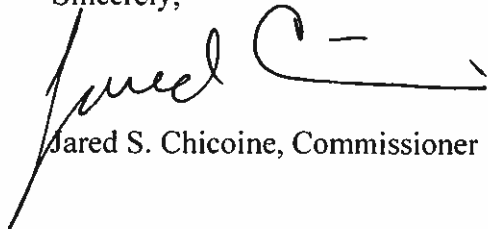
On July 1, 2021, the DOE came into existence and many functions previously performed by the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) were transferred to the DOE. Under RSA 12-P:14, "[e]xisting rules, orders, and approvals of the public utilities commission which are associated with any functions, powers, and duties, transferred to the department of energy pursuant to RSA 12-P:11 or any other statutory provision, shall continue in effect notwithstanding any provision of RSA 541-A:17, II to the contrary, and be enforced by the commissioner of the department of energy . . . until they otherwise expire or are repealed or amended in accordance with applicable law, or for a period of 5 years, whichever occurs first." The transfer of functions also operated to authorize the DOE to exercise the waiver standards established in Puc 201.05. Therefore, the DOE is able to exercise the waiver authority found in Puc 201.05 to waive the requirements of En 509.02. *See* RSA 12-P:14.

The Department finds that Liberty's request will serve the public interest and increase the orderly and efficient resolution of matters before the DOE. Both the public and the DOE will benefit from having one F-16G issued after PwC's review as opposed to potentially

receiving an F-16G on March 31, 2024, per the rule, and an updated version after PwC's review.

As such, pursuant to the statutory and rules authority cited above, I approve Liberty's request to waive the requirements of En 509.02 and file its 2023 F-16G on May 31, 2024, instead of March 31, 2024.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jared S. Chicoine", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jared S. Chicoine, Commissioner

cc: Christopher J. Elms Jr., Deputy Commissioner
Paul B. Dexter, Legal Director
Thomas Frantz, Regulatory Director
Faisal Deen Arif, Gas Director
Molly Lynch, Staff Attorney/Hearings Examiner