

Qualifications of Stephen R. Eckberg

My name is Stephen R. Eckberg. I have been employed as a Utility Analyst with the Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA) since 2007. My business address is 21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 18, Concord, New Hampshire 03301.

I earned a B.S. in Meteorology from the State University of New York at Oswego and an M.S. in Statistics from the University of Southern Maine.

After receiving my M.S., I was employed as an analyst in the Boston office of Hagler Bailly, Inc, a consulting firm working with regulated utilities to perform evaluations of energy efficiency and demand-side management programs.

From 2000 through 2003, I was employed at the NH Governor's Office of Energy and Community Services (now the Office of Energy and Planning) as the Director of the federally funded Weatherization Assistance Program. More recently, I was employed at Belknap-Merrimack Community Action Agency as the Statewide Program Administrator of the NH Electric Assistance Program (EAP) – a program funded by the System Benefit Charge included in electric ratepayer rates. In that capacity, I presented testimony before the NH Public Utilities Commission in dockets related to the design, implementation and management of the EAP. I have also testified before Committees of the New Hampshire Legislature on issues related to energy efficiency and low income electric assistance.

In my position with the OCA, I have testified jointly with Kenneth E. Traum, Former Assistant Consumer Advocate, in the following dockets:

- DG 08-048 Unitil Corporation and Northern Utilities, Inc. Joint Petition for Approval of Stock Acquisition.
- DW 08-070 Lakes Region Water Company Financing & Step Increase.

- DW 08-098 Aquarion Water Company of New Hampshire.
- DE 09-035 Public Service of New Hampshire Distribution Service Rate Case.

I have also entered (non-joint) testimony in:

- DT 07-027 Kearsarge Telephone Company, Wilton Telephone Company, Hollis Telephone Company & Merrimack County Telephone Company Petition for Alternative Form of Regulation. Phase II & Phase III.
- DW 08-073 Pennichuck Water Works, Inc. Petition for Rate Increase.
- DW 08-070 Lakes Region Water Company Third Step Increase.
- DW 08-065 Hampstead Area Water Company Petition for Rate Increase.
- DE 09-170 2010 CORE Energy Efficiency Programs.
- DW 10-090 Pittsfield Aquaduct Company Petition for Rate Increase.
- DW 10-091 Pennichuck Water Works Petition for Rate Increase.
- DW 10-141 Lakes Region Water Petition for Rate Increase.
- DE 10-188 2011-2012 CORE and Natural Gas Energy Efficiency Programs.
- DE 12-262 2013-2014 CORE and Natural Gas Energy Efficiency Programs.
- DE 12-292 PSNH 2013 Energy Service Rate.
- DE 12-262 2014 CORE Energy Efficiency Programs Update Filing
- DE 13-108 PSNH 2012 Energy Service Reconciliation
- DE 11-250 PSNH Investigation of Scrubber Costs and Cost Recovery

I have attended regulatory training at New Mexico State University's Center for Public Utilities. I participate in committees of the National Association of State Consumer Advocates (NASUCA) on behalf of the OCA. I am a member of the American Statistical Association.

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Natural gas station proposed to open this fall in Pembroke

By SARAH PALERMO

Monitor Staff

Sunday, March 31, 2013

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A California natural gas company is pursuing plans to build a filling station in Pembroke, that would serve tractor trailers and send natural gas to factories in northern New England.

Clean Energy, which has an office in Concord, appeared before the Pembroke Planning Board last Tuesday, and it is expected to submit an application for a zoning exemption by Friday, to appear before the zoning board April 29.

The northern tip of an interstate natural gas pipeline runs through the 4 acres on Cooperative Way that the company plans to purchase from Associated Grocers of New England.

By fall, company officials hope, the site will be a working fill station for vehicles that use compressed natural gas and for tractor trailers to truck fuel to factories in northern New England. Clean Energy will operate the site, and Vermont-based NG Advantage will truck the fuel to other locations," said Mark Riley, eastern region vice president for Clean Energy.

"We have not been looking for a project like this, it was an opportunity that was brought to us, and we were intrigued by it," Riley said. "We're more focused on fleet vehicle fueling, but this was an opportunity to not only fuel vehicles but provide fuel for trucking to sites that need it, as well."

The 4-acre site will have approximately an acre of impervious pavement and a canopy covering the filling stations, according to papers filed with the town's Technical Design and Review Committee.

"Basically, it will look like a big gas station, but we're not going to have a convenience store or bathrooms," Riley said. "There will be a nice canopy, but most of the development space is to allow proper circulation for tractor trailers. They need room to move around, to turn."

Riley wouldn't put a number on the company's potential financial investment in the project, but he said they hope to be operational by September or October.

The next step is a visit with the town zoning board. The filing deadline for a place on the April 29 meeting agenda is Friday.

There are at least three compressed natural gas fueling stations in New Hampshire already: two used for government vehicles, on Stickney Avenue in Concord and at the University of New Hampshire in Durham, and a public station in Nashua, according to Clean Energy's proposal.

The Pembroke project needs a special use permit for working within the aquifer conservation district, and a special exemption because the zoning ordinances don't include any references to this type of facility, as no natural gas compressing stations were anticipated when the ordinances were written, Town Administrator David Jodoin said.

If the project is approved, he may study whether natural gas is a more efficient or less expensive fuel for town-owned vehicles, he said.

At a publicly accessible Clean Energy station in Boston, compressed natural gas cost about \$2.50 per gallon last Friday, Riley said.

(Sarah Palermo can be reached at 369-3322 or spalermo@cmonitor.com or on Twitter [@SPalermoNews](https://twitter.com/SPalermoNews).)

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Pembroke filling station to deliver natural gas to Claremont paper mill

By MEGAN DOYLE

Monitor staff

Thursday, November 21, 2013

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A Claremont-based paper manufacturer will be among the first companies to receive natural gas from a Pembroke fueling station opening early next year.

APC Paper Co. announced yesterday it will convert its process and climate-heating systems from fuel oil to compressed natural gas from the station operated by NG Advantage.

APC Paper is also the first company from New Hampshire to contract with the Vermont-based NG Advantage, which operates throughout New England and eastern New York. Until the Pembroke station opens in 2014, that natural gas will be delivered to the APC Paper mill from a fueling station in Milton, Vt.

APC Paper manufactures 100 percent recycled paper from used corrugated cartons and newspapers, and its mill operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Frank Tarantino, president of the APC Paper Group, said the switch to natural gas will both reduce air emissions at the mill and significantly reduce its energy costs.

"We compete with other paper mills around the country that use gas as their fuel source, where we use No. 6 fuel oil," Tarantino said. "And No. 6 fuel oil has become very expensive, so we have a tremendous competitive disadvantage."

Tom Evslin, chairman and CEO of NG Advantage, said APC Paper will be replacing about 1.5 million gallons of fuel oil with natural gas.

That could save the paper company about 30 percent on its fuel bills, Evslin said.

"They get a very substantial cash savings that makes them more competitive in a competitive industry," Evslin said.

Tractor-trailers will fill up at the Pembroke station off Route 3 and then transport that natural gas to the mill in Claremont. The filling station will be open to truck drivers 24 hours a day.

"As trailers empty, we replace them," Evslin said.

The six-bay filling station will be operated by NG Advantage, but it is owned by Clean Energy Fuels Corp. of Newport Beach, Calif. Drew Drummond, business development manager for Clean Energy in New England, said construction on the station is under way.

The station is on track to open in early 2014, Drummond said.

Along with APC Paper, Evslin said NG Advantage could announce more partnerships with companies in the state soon.

"There are enough businesses and schools and hospitals (in New Hampshire) that are beyond the reach of pipelines that very much want to get their energy cost down and reduce their environmental footprint," Evslin said. "The reason for having a station in Pembroke, of course, is because we do believe New Hampshire's a good market."

The Pembroke station could also supply natural gas to NG Advantage clients in Massachusetts and Vermont, though Evslin said he could not yet say which clients those were.

"We look forward to serving a lot more businesses and institutions in New Hampshire," Evslin said.

(Megan Doyle can be reached at 369-3321 or mdoyle@cmonitor.com or on Twitter [@megan_e_doyle](https://twitter.com/megan_e_doyle).)

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