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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Docket No. DG 15-XXX

Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities Petition for Expansion of Franchise to the Town of Hanover and City of Lebanon, New Hampshire

DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

DANIEL G. SAAD

July 24, 2015

I. INTRODUCTION

- 2 Q. Please state your name and business address.
- 3 A. My name is Daniel G. Saad. My business address is 15 Buttrick Road, Londonderry, NH 03053.
- 5 Q. By whom are you employed and in what capacity?
- 6 A. I am the President of Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp. ("EnergyNorth")
- and Liberty Utilities (Granite State Electric) Corp. ("Granite State"), together referred to
- as "Liberty" or "the Company." Previously, I was employed as Vice President,
- 9 Operations & Engineering by Liberty Energy Utilities (New Hampshire) Corp. ("Liberty
- Energy NH"). In that capacity, I was responsible for the day-to-day operations of
- EnergyNorth and Granite State, including all day-to-day field activities, maintenance,
- construction, LNG/LPG, dispatch and control, and engineering.
- 13 Q. On whose behalf are you testifying today?
- 14 A. I am testifying on behalf of EnergyNorth.
- 15 Q. Please state your educational background and professional experience.
- 16 A. In 1982, I earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from the
- University of Massachusetts, and, in 1993, I earned a Masters of Business Administration
- from Boston College, with a concentration in finance and operations management. From
- 1982 to 1988, I worked in various progressive engineering roles for Stone & Webster

Engineering Corporation in its nuclear engineering-mechanics division. From 1988 to
2 2000, I was employed by Boston Gas Company. From 2000 until the time of Liberty
Energy NH's acquisition of EnergyNorth and Granite State, I worked for National Grid
USA and its predecessor company, KeySpan Corporation, in various capacities, including
Vice President, Gas Operations & Construction, New England. I am also a registered
professional engineer, a member of the American Gas Association, a Director of the
Northeast Gas Association and a former director of the Energy Council of the Northeast.

8 Q. Have you previously testified before this Commission?

Yes. I testified in Docket No. DG 11-040, the docket in which the Commission approved the sale of Granite State and EnergyNorth to Liberty Energy NH, in Docket No. DG 14-155, involving the sale of New Hampshire Gas Corporation to EnergyNorth, and in Docket No. DG 14-180, the EnergyNorth distribution service rate case.

Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?

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My testimony provides an overview of EnergyNorth's business plan to construct, own and operate an "off pipeline" natural gas distribution system in Hanover and Lebanon, New Hampshire. I will provide an explanation of how this new system fits within EnergyNorth's current operations, as well as its future goals for providing gas to New Hampshire customers. I will also provide testimony about the Company's managerial, financial and technical capabilities. Other witnesses and the topics of their testimony include:

- Mr. William J. Clark who describes the proposed "off pipeline" distribution system and
 the benefits that will be realized by existing and future customers;

 Mr. Francisco C. DaFonte who discusses fuel procurement for the new distribution
 system;

 Mr. Richard G. MacDonald who discusses how EnergyNorth will construct and operate
 the new system; and

 Mr. Steven E. Mullen who discusses how the Company will determine rates and charges
- 9 Q. Please provide a brief history of Liberty and its operating areas.

for customers served by the new system.

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Liberty Utilities purchased National Grid's assets in New Hampshire, EnergyNorth and 10 A. Granite State Electric, in July 2012. Granite State Electric provides local distribution of 11 electricity to approximately 44,000 customers in New Hampshire, including the Town of 12 Hanover and City of Lebanon. EnergyNorth provides local gas distribution services to 13 approximately 90,000 customers, mainly located in the south-central region of the state. 14 EnergyNorth also has the franchise rights for the City of Berlin. See Attachment DGS-1 15 for a map showing the Company's combined service areas. EnergyNorth has 16 17 interconnects with Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company on the Concord Lateral, as well as a single interconnect on the Portland Natural Gas Transmission System pipeline to serve 18 the Berlin franchise. Also included in the EnergyNorth portfolio are three liquefied 19 20 natural gas ("LNG") facilities and three propane facilities, which are utilized for both

supply and pressure enhancement, and a propane storage facility in Amherst. For more information on how these facilities operate, please see the testimony of Mr. DaFonte.

In January 2015, EnergyNorth acquired New Hampshire Gas Company, located in Keene, New Hampshire, from Iberdrola, USA. The Company now operates this entity as the Keene Division of EnergyNorth under a separate tariff. The Keene Division consists of approximately 1,250 customers who are supplied with a propane/air mixture through approximately 30 miles of underground distribution piping, which is supplied from a central fuel facility.

9 Q. Please describe the areas to be served by this petition.

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EnergyNorth's franchise application will encompass the Town of Hanover and the City of Lebanon in their entirety. Both municipalities have vibrant economies with growing businesses and institutions looking for options for obtaining cleaner, more affordable energy. They also have potential anchor customers that provide economies of scale. In addition, EnergyNorth has infrastructure, operations, personnel and customer relationships in this franchise area because of the electric distribution network provided by its sister company, Granite State Electric. For more detail about the plans for development of this franchise see the testimony of Mr. Clark.

1 Q. How does an "off pipeline" natural gas system fit EnergyNorth's growth model?

In order to provide customers with diversified options for fuel, EnergyNorth is 2 A. continuously looking for ways to expand its footprint and grow its business in New 3 Hampshire. Growing EnergyNorth's distribution system brings benefits to new customers 4 in the form of lower energy costs, to existing customers due to the spreading of fixed 5 costs over more sales volume, and to the state as a whole by attracting new business 6 development as a result of lower energy costs. EnergyNorth is developing plans to 7 expand to new franchise areas through traditional pipeline expansion, as well as to other 8 areas of New Hampshire through "off pipeline" facilities. For more detail about how an 9 "off pipeline" distribution system works and how the Company plans to utilize both LNG 10 and compressed natural gas (CNG) for the distribution system see the testimony of Mr. 11 12 Clark.

Q. What experience does the Company have operating "off pipeline" and LNG facilities?

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Liberty has three LNG facilities currently in operation on the EnergyNorth system which have been operating successfully for decades. I personally have 25 years of gas experience, including Director of LNG/LPG Operations for four states with KeySpan Energy Delivery. Together, KeySpan's facilities had approximately 9.0 billion cubic feet (Bcf) of storage capacity and approximately 1.0 Bcf of vaporization capability, and 16 million cubic feet per day of liquefaction capability. In addition to my experience, Norman Gallagher, Director of Production, Dispatch and Control, has decades of

experience operating, maintaining and controlling LNG facilities. Mr. Gallagher's

Dispatch and Emergency Control team operates from a secure facility located in Liberty's

Londonderry headquarters. This control room is manned 24 hours a day, seven days a

week. The Keene propane/air facility is monitored by this team and is wired into the

supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) system. EnergyNorth will be utilizing

this team and control room for monitoring of the Hanover/Lebanon system as well.

- Q. What facilities does Liberty currently own in Hanover or Lebanon that are used by

 Granite State Electric?
- In addition to the electric distribution facilities associated with the poles and distribution
 lines, Liberty currently owns an operations center for Granite State Electric located at 407
 Miracle Mile in Lebanon, New Hampshire. This facility is a walk-in center, call center,
 and is used by electric operations personnel including line workers, meter readers and
 engineers.
- Q. What synergies could be realized by having Granite State Electric and EnergyNorth operating in the same franchise towns?
- 16 A. The Company envisions utilizing this facility as a combination gas/electric customer
 17 service and operations center. EnergyNorth would be able to employ existing personnel
 18 to perform common tasks such as meter reading, bill payment and customer service.
 19 Employees would charge their time appropriately to either Granite State Electric or
 20 EnergyNorth. This should result in direct benefit to existing Granite State Electric

customers. There would also be synergies for existing EnergyNorth customers. It is not 1 anticipated that EnergyNorth would need to hire any incremental dispatch, finance, call 2 center or senior leadership employees to accommodate these new franchise towns. 3 Therefore, these current costs would be spread among new customers of these new 4 franchise areas resulting in beneficial impact to existing EnergyNorth customers. These 5 synergies will also result in lower operating costs and lower rates for new customers in 6 Hanover and Lebanon when compared to a new, start-up company that would be required 7 to either hire full-time employees or contract with a third party for these services. 8 Please describe EnergyNorth's financial capability in so far as it pertains to this Q. 9 Petition? 10 EnergyNorth is a wholly owned subsidiary of Liberty Energy Utilities (New Hampshire) 11 Α. Corp., which is itself owned by Liberty Utilities Co., which provides gas, electricity and 12 water service to 485,000 customers in ten states. Liberty Utilities Co. is owned by 13 14 Algonquin Power & Utilities Corp. Consequently, EnergyNorth has access to sufficient capital from a strong and diversified corporate parent. 15 For the development of this new franchise area, EnergyNorth plans to finance the project 16 either through internally generated funds, and/or funds provided by its corporate parent 17 which will inject equity and/or debt into EnergyNorth. 18

Does EnergyNorth have the managerial capability to own and operate an "off 1 Q. pipeline" distribution system? 2 Yes, it does. As stated above, EnergyNorth currently operates the Keene Division as a A. 3 separate entity. That portion of EnergyNorth's service territory is served by a propane air 4 system. Therefore, managing and operating a system that is not physically connected to a 5 pipeline is a function that Liberty has been doing successfully since it acquired the Keene 6 Division on January 2, 2015. 7 Additionally, Liberty has in place an extremely capable and experienced senior 8 management team that is well suited for this type of business expansion. Many members 9 of the management team were previously employees of National Grid who transferred to 10 Liberty when Liberty acquired EnergyNorth. Other members of the senior management 11 team were hired externally from other companies or organizations, bringing with them a 12 wealth of knowledge of the business. The team has many years of experience operating a 13 distribution utility (in addition to the experience in operating LNG facilities, which I 14 described above). A chart showing the current managerial structure is included as 15 Attachment DGS-2. 16

I became president of the Company approximately one year ago. In that time frame, we have implemented several process changes that are aimed at improving the Company's performance. Those process changes have occurred in virtually every area of the

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Company, and we are seeing some very positive results. For example, since September 1 2014, the Company has: 2 Made all of its regulatory filings on time (40 - 50 filings per month); 3 Improved its collections activity to reduce EnergyNorth's 60-day uncollectible 4 balance by 37%; 5 Terminated the remaining Transition Service Agreements with National Grid; 6 Improved its call answering service levels from 54% in September/October 2014 7 to 93% in May/June 2015; 8 Increased its sales activity to achieve an annual customer growth rate of 9 approximately 1,500 and an annual dekatherm growth rate of approximately 10 620,000; and 11 Implemented a Compliance Assurance Committee to review all Commission 12 rules, orders and audits to ensure follow up and compliance with all regulatory 13 14 requirements. I mention these improvements to illustrate the fact that the management team of the 15 Company is focused on excellent performance. It is a mind-set that I have stressed in my 16 twelve months as president, and that I will continue to stress to ensure we are providing 17 top-quality service to our key constituents: our customers and the Commission. I am 18

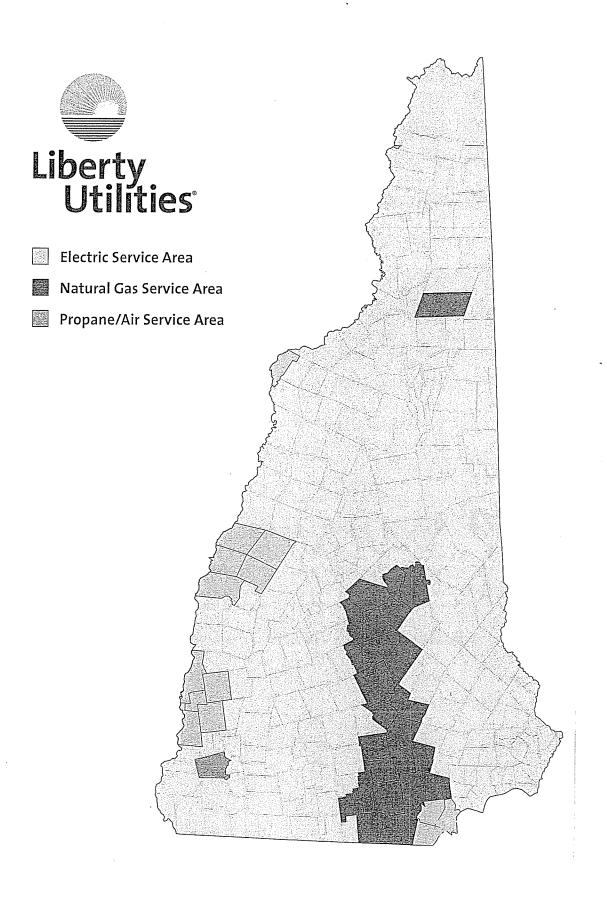
highly confident that adding the franchise area to the Company's footprint will be done in

- a manner that is seamless to other customers, and that will provide long-term benefits to customers and the state as a whole.
- Q. In your opinion, would the granting of the Hanover/Lebanon franchise expansion to EnergyNorth serve the public good?
- Yes. As explained in my testimony and the testimony of the Company's other witnesses, 5 A. 6 EnergyNorth has the managerial, financial and technical ability to construct and operate this system. We also have access to first-rate legal, accounting, billing, regulatory, 7 finance, engineering, operations, and other services through the corporate parent and 8 affiliated companies. This new franchise system in Hanover and Lebanon would have a 9 positive impact on current and future EnergyNorth and Granite State Electric customers 10 11 through multiple synergies. This expansion would greatly benefit customers of this new system by offering fuel diversity, reduction in energy prices and access to energy 12 efficiency programs otherwise not available to them. This new system would also be 13 14 consistent with the 2014 New Hampshire State Energy Strategy. For all these reasons, EnergyNorth's proposed "off pipeline" distribution network and fuel storage/delivery 15 16 facility is in the public good and EnergyNorth should be awarded the franchise rights for Hanover and Lebanon, New Hampshire. 17

Q. Does this conclude your testimony?

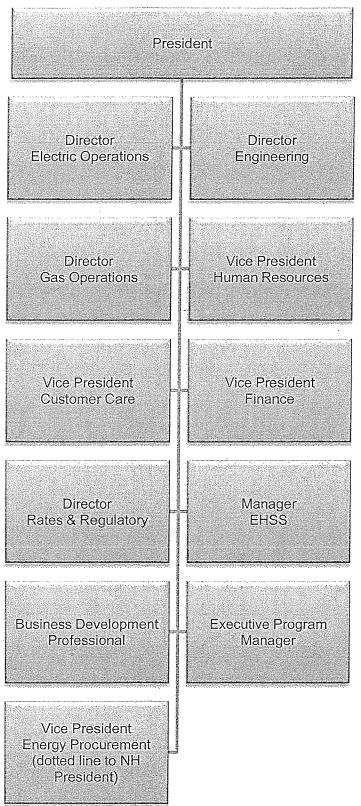
19 A. Yes, it does.

Combined Franchise Area



LIBERTY UTILITIES - New Hampshire

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Docket No. DG 15-XXX

Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities
Petition for Expansion of Franchise to the Town of Hanover and City of Lebanon, New
Hampshire

DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

WILLIAM J. CLARK

July 24, 2015

I. INTRODUCTION

- 2 Q. Please state your name and business address.
- A. My name is William J. Clark. My business address is 15 Buttrick Road, Londonderry,
 NH 03053.
- 5 Q. By whom are you employed and in what capacity?
- I am employed by Liberty Utilities Service Corp. ("Liberty") as the Business 6 A. Development Professional. In that capacity, I am responsible for creating new business 7 opportunities for Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp. ("EnergyNorth" or 8 "the Company") and Liberty Utilities (Granite State Electric) Corp. ("Granite State 9 Electric") while identifying and recommending new products, services and businesses 10 including enhancements of existing offerings to improve the overall profitability, 11 earnings production and strategic positioning of the companies. Another aspect of my job 12 description includes customer satisfaction enhancements such as community engagement 13 with local, regional and state officials to ensure their needs are being met by Liberty 14 15 Utilities. This also allows Liberty to understand local concerns or opportunities, which are acted upon in a positive and timely manner. 16
- 17 Q. On whose behalf are you testifying today?
- 18 A. I am testifying on behalf of EnergyNorth.

- 1 Q. Please state your educational background and professional experience.
- 2 A. I graduated from St. Anselm College in Goffstown, New Hampshire, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Financial Economics in 1991. In 1992, I began my career at Boston 3 Gas Company. During this time, I was a member of the Steel Workers of America, Local 4 5 12007 and held various positions in gas distribution and customer service, as well as being a union official. In 1998, I was employed by National Grid to start an unregulated 6 energy service subsidiary, where I worked as a Sales Account Manager until 2010. In 7 2010, when National Grid sold this business, I was employed by National Grid as a 8 Commercial Gas Sales Representative, working in EnergyNorth's service territory. In 9 2012, I joined Liberty and progressed into my current position. In this role, I am 10 responsible for organic growth opportunities and commercial development for both 11 EnergyNorth and Granite State Electric. 12

13 Q. Have you previously testified before this Commission?

14 A. Yes. I testified before the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission ("Commission")

15 in Docket No. DG 14-091 regarding a Special Contract and Lease Agreement with

16 Innovative Natural Gas, LLC d/b/a iNATGAS pertaining to construction of a compressed

17 natural gas ("CNG") facility in Concord, New Hampshire, as well as Docket No. DG 14
18 380 regarding the Precedent Agreement between EnergyNorth and Tennessee Gas

19 Pipeline Company ("TGP") for capacity on the proposed Northeast Energy Direct

20 Pipeline.

1 Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?

- A. My testimony provides details on how the proposed "off pipeline" natural gas
 distribution system in Hanover and Lebanon, New Hampshire, will be supplied by natural
 gas, as well as the benefits for existing and future customers.
- When did Liberty begin the process of evaluating the "off pipeline" model for Hanover and Lebanon?
 - A. Liberty began the process of evaluating the "off pipeline" local distribution company

 ("LDC") model in 2013. The first public mention of this model occurred during a

 presentation at the New Hampshire Business and Industry Association's annual Energy

 Seminar, which was held on December 11, 2013, by F. Chico DaFonte, then-Senior

 Director, Energy Procurement¹. See Attachment WJC-1. Also in 2013, EnergyNorth

 began the due diligence process on the possible acquisition of New Hampshire Gas. As

 stated above, EnergyNorth acquired New Hampshire Gas in January 2015 and is

 currently evaluating plans to convert that system to natural gas utilizing LNG and CNG

 as the primary fuels. As EnergyNorth's sister company, Granite State Electric, is the local

 electric distribution company in Hanover and Lebanon, EnergyNorth is aware of the

 customer demand for a cleaner, more convenient and less expensive fuel option. The

 Company has been in discussions with large anchor customers in the area on their fuel

 requirements and responded to a Request for Indicative Bids from Dartmouth College to

¹ Mr. DaFonte is now Vice President, Energy Procurement

supply its central boiler plant with LNG and/or CNG in January 2014. See Attachment 1 2 WJC-2 (indicative price range redacted). As indicated in Mr. Saad's testimony, EnergyNorth is also developing plans to expand to new franchise areas through traditional pipeline expansion, as well as other areas of New Hampshire that could benefit 5 from "off pipeline" facilities.

How does an "off pipeline" distribution system work? Q.

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An "off pipeline" distribution system has two key components. The first component is the underground gas distribution piping along with service risers and meters located at the customer's premises. This component of the system is identical to the existing EnergyNorth network that has been operated safely, reliably and efficiently by Company employees for decades. The second unique component of the "off pipeline" distribution system is the fueling facility that will be utilized to supply the distribution system with natural gas.

A conventional local distribution network has an interconnection with an interstate pipeline company. At this interconnection, an LDC would receive shipments of natural gas from its supplier, regulate pressure down to LDC operating pressure (typically 60 PSI), and add mercaptan, which is a gas odorant, and distribute the gas to customers. Because there is not an interstate pipeline within 50 miles of the Hanover/Lebanon franchises with which to interconnect, the Company plans to construct an LNG storage

gas to the distribution system and customers. 2 LNG will be trucked to the facility and off-loaded into LNG storage tanks. From the 3 tanks, the liquid will be vaporized into gaseous form, odorized as needed and injected 4 into the distribution system. This same procedure has been working reliably and safely at 5 EnergyNorth's current LNG plants for approximately 40 years. CNG will also be trucked 6 7 to the facility and attached to decompression skids, which will decompress the gas from approximately 3600 PSI to the working LDC pressure of 60 PSI and injected into the 8 system. This process is relatively new, but has been working reliably and safely in New 9 Hampshire for the past few years. 10 Why is the Company planning to utilize both LNG and CNG for the distribution 11 Q. system? 12 A. The Company plans to operate this system in accordance with all New Hampshire Public 13 Utilities Commission (PUC) rules and within the terms and conditions of the existing 14 EnergyNorth tariff, with the exception of the Cost of Gas ("COG") calculation and 15 transportation customer service. For information on how the Hanover/Lebanon franchises 16

will be treated with respect to rates and tariff requirements, please see the testimony of

and vaporization facility along with a CNG decompression facility to supply the natural

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Mr. Mullen.

PUC 500 rules stipulate that the LDC have seven peak days of storage available to all firm, non-interruptible customers. EnergyNorth plans to fulfill this requirement by utilizing the storage ability of LNG, as CNG storage options are limited at this time. However, there may be instances where CNG is the less expensive fuel and a more cost effective choice for customers. By utilizing both LNG and CNG, EnergyNorth will be able to diversify the fuels and provide the most reliable and least-cost service to customers. There are currently seven CNG "virtual pipeline" compression facilities in operation or under construction in New England that could provide fuel. Currently, Xpress Natural Gas has two facilities in Maine and NG Advantage/Clean Energy has one facility in Vermont and another in New Hampshire. Global Partners, LP has a single facility in Maine. iNATGAS has two facilities under construction with one in New Hampshire and the other in Massachusetts. EnergyNorth and iNATGAS have received approval of a special contract from the Commission under which EnergyNorth will supply firm quantities of CNG to iNATGAS's open access facility.

Q. Is there another component to this facility that would be a benefit to the region?

A. Yes, the facility may also contain a natural gas vehicle fueling station. The vehicle fueling facility would be an open access facility which may be utilized by private vehicle owners as well as commercial fleet applications. Liberty Utilities is currently utilizing CNG vehicles in its commercial fleet which has decreased costs and emissions.

Q. What work has been done to date regarding design of the fuel facility?

- 2 A. EnergyNorth has plans to design a fully scalable facility that will support a growing customer base in the region. The Company has been utilizing internal engineers and 3 4 professionals along with retaining a leading, local firm in the LNG arena, Sanborn, Head 5 & Associates, Inc. of Concord, New Hampshire. Sanborn, Head has provided services to the Company with respect to its existing LNG and propane facilities for many years and 6 7 has an excellent relationship with our Operations and Engineering teams. Sanborn, Head also designed and engineered the largest, non-utility, LNG facility in New England for 8 9 OMYA, Inc. in Florence, VT. EnergyNorth has also been working closely with Algas-10 SDI, a world leader in decompression technology for the CNG market. Both Algas-SDI and Sanborn, Head have drafted plans for a new LNG/CNG facility in our Keene 11 12 Division with an initial capacity of 300,000 annual dekatherms (ADTH), scalable up to 550,000 ADTH. EnergyNorth will be utilizing these plans as representative of a mid-size 13 "off pipeline" system, such as Keene, and other potential areas to which EnergyNorth 14 may expand service. 15
- Q. What does EnergyNorth perceive to be the potential market/load in Hanover and Lebanon and how does that impact the facility design?
- 18 A. The Company believes the potential market in Hanover and Lebanon to be on the order
 19 of 1.3 to 1.6 billion cubic feet (Bcf) of annual load. The Company has been in discussions
 20 with three large anchor customers that alone would represent 1 Bcf of this annual load.
 21 Utilizing data gathered from our Keene Division and similar communities within

EnergyNorth's existing service territory with similar demographics, the Company believes there is an opportunity of 300,000 to 600,000 ADTH in addition to the 1 Bcf of anchor customer load. The Company is working with these three large potential customers to determine their individual fuel storage preferences in order to fully design the facility. EnergyNorth will acquire control of a parcel of land that would be capable of obtaining all required permits for the final design of a facility. This would include full vapor dispersion modeling, and all required federal, state and local permits. However, due to the uncertainty of the timing of these customers connecting to the system, EnergyNorth would optimize capital expenditures by adding vaporizers, decompression and storage as customer additions warrant.

Q. How does EnergyNorth plan to procure and treat the fuel purchases for the Hanover/Lebanon franchises?

A. EnergyNorth's plan is to procure the fuel for the Hanover/Lebanon franchise area consistent with its Least Cost Integrated Resource Plan, through an open request for proposal (RFP) process and treat it as a pass-through cost, without mark-up to the customer. For more information on the procurement process and rate treatment please see the testimonies of Mr. DaFonte and Mr. Mullen.

Q. How do the economics compare to alternative fuels?

19 A. The savings from oil and propane when compared to LNG and/or CNG can be
20 compelling. For a comparison of oil and propane to First Tier pricing for utility natural

gas service in New Hampshire please see Attachment WJC-3. First Tier pricing reflects 1 the higher distribution charge associated with the first therms used per billing cycle. It 2 also includes the COG as well as the Local Distribution Adjustment ("LDAC") charge. 3 4 See the testimony of Mr. Mullen for more on this. As you can see from the chart, there is the potential for significant savings when utilizing natural gas versus other alternatives. 5 Even when allowing for the increased costs of liquefaction, compression, delivery and 6 7 facility construction, there is potential for significant savings to the customer. 8 Q. Are there customers in the Lebanon and Hanover area that are currently utilizing 9 LNG and/or CNG? Yes, I am aware of two customers in Lebanon utilizing CNG, and another that is utilizing 10 A. LNG. Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center and Pike Industries are currently utilizing 11 12 CNG and Kleen Laundry is utilizing LNG. See Attachment WJC-4. All three of these customers have substantial annual usage. 13 14 Q. What advantage could these customers gain by connecting to a centrally located EnergyNorth facility via an underground distribution network? 15 EnergyNorth believes there are several advantages to receiving gas through its utility 16 A. 17 model. The first advantage would be participation in the Company's award winning CORE energy efficiency programs. Since these customers would be contributing to the 18 program through the LDAC charge, they would qualify for all of EnergyNorth's general 19

and custom rebate programs. These programs would assist the customers with reducing

their consumption, lowering their energy bills and reducing their carbon footprint. A second advantage would be lower commodity costs due to increased purchasing power that will be realized by aggregating their fuel purchases with all customers connected to the system through the Company's Energy Procurement department. The Company will be purchasing fuel for its entire system, which should result in reduced pricing through economies of scale. The fuel pricing paid will directly pass-through, without mark-up to the customer, as is the case with EnergyNorth currently. Another advantage would be the release of valuable real estate on the customer's property, which is currently utilized for LNG storage or CNG trailer decompression. This real estate could be utilized for increased parking, facility expansion or other beneficial purposes. Removing the truck traffic required for direct service should also result in better logistics and reliability for customers and employees at each location. Since each customer currently has a single fuel source, they will benefit from fuel diversification in the form of both LNG and CNG as proposed by the company as part of a centralized distribution system and supply network. Being reliant on a single fuel supply exposes customers to the price vagaries inherent in each individual fuel source while a mix of fuel sources provides optionality and mitigates the price risk of any one-fuel source. Lastly, the customers will benefit from the considerable resources which the Company has available to it and which it will bring to bear in servicing customers in the Hanover and Lebanon area.

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- Q. Could there be other safety enhancements with a centrally located EnergyNorth facility?
- Yes. The EnergyNorth facility will fall under the oversight of the Safety Division of the 3 A. New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission and will be subject to all inspections and 4 reporting currently in place under the EnergyNorth tariff and PUC rules. This added level 5 of scrutiny should result in the safest facility in operation. Another potential enhancement 6 is a reduction in reliance on local public emergency personnel to respond to situations at 7 various locations. The Company has, and will add, local, trained employees that can 8 respond to an emergency in the same manner and timelines as currently stipulated in the 9 10 EnergyNorth tariff.
- 11 Q. How would new commercial and residential customers benefit from EnergyNorth's centralized facility?

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Large commercial customers that have a load profile which would otherwise warrant conversion to CNG, but do not have the available physical space required to construct a decompression terminal(s) at their facility, would be able to receive service through an underground service line, a service riser and meter, with minimal space utilization and disruption. There may also be savings for these new commercial customers from socializing the construction and equipment costs of a larger, more efficient central facility, rather than bearing the cost of a stand-alone, individual facility. Due to the costs associated with trailers and decompression units, CNG is usually uneconomical for customers utilizing less than 50,000 Dth of gas annually. That leaves small and mid-size

commercial customers and all residential customers that do not have access to pipeline natural gas with few options. These customers, due to their relatively small size, also face higher oil and propane costs than the much larger industrial and commercial customers do. EnergyNorth's facility would open a new supply option to these customers, as well as energy efficiency programs and the convenience of having their fuel piped directly to their home or business. As stated above, these customers would also have access to Liberty's award winning CORE energy efficiency programs and be served by a safety award winning utility. See Attachment WJC-5.

- Q. Please describe EnergyNorth's customer acquisition processes and the resources committed to new customer growth.
- A. Within the last two years, EnergyNorth has expanded its Sales and Marketing department to nine full time employees from a previous level of three. This includes two commercial and industrial account managers along with three residential sales representatives. In addition, Liberty Utilities has a hired a marketing coordinator/analyst which greatly enhances the Company's ability to reach existing and potential customers in a timely and efficient manner.

Within EnergyNorth's existing franchise territory the Sales and Marketing team utilize various methods to acquire new customers. The team has identified all potential customers who currently reside within 100 feet of an existing gas main, customers who live within a franchise town but require a main extension for service, and all customers

that currently have an active gas meter but do not utilize natural gas for heating. Liberty actively communicates with these customers via various methods depending on the situation. The Sales and Marketing manager will also utilize third party data to update the prospects list and offer conversion incentives at various times of the year. Other effective methods of customer acquisition have been meeting with City and Town engineers to asses timing of DPW projects and street repaving projects, along with neighborhood open houses in targeted areas to explain the conversion process to customers residing in neighborhoods that have expressed interest in extension of gas service.

Other than existing customer data, the Liberty Sales and Marketing team will utilize all of these available resources in Hanover and Lebanon to ensure a robust growth rate is achieved and customers have access to natural gas as expeditiously as possible.

Q. What is the timing to provide service to Hanover and Lebanon?

A.

EnergyNorth has narrowed the possible location of the fueling facility to a few locations within the City of Lebanon and plans to have site control shortly. The Company is prepared technically and financially to move forward with facility construction upon receipt of all required federal, state, municipal and regulatory approvals. EnergyNorth fully expects construction of both the fueling facility and underground distribution system to commence in 2016. The company will also be utilizing temporary LNG or CNG trailers in certain areas while the local distribution system is being built out in order to serve customers in a more timely manner.

Q. Is this project consistent with the State's Energy Strategy?

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Yes, EnergyNorth's franchise expansion to Hanover and Lebanon through an "off pipeline" satellite local distribution system is consistent with the 2014 New Hampshire 10-Year State Energy Strategy on several levels. The State Energy Strategy states in section 5.4.4 Natural Gas: "As indicated in the Business as Usual forecast, natural gas currently provides 16% of residential heating needs, 44% of commercial thermal needs and 54% of industrial thermal needs. In total, only 51 New Hampshire cities and towns have access to natural gas, and the state's two gas utilities, Unitil and EnergyNorth, only serve approximately 117,000 customers." See Attachment WJC-6. A major contributor to these low saturation rates is access to natural gas pipelines. TGP owns and operates the Concord Lateral transmission pipeline, which supplies gas to approximately 90,000 EnergyNorth customers. The Portland Natural Gas Transmission System ("PNGTS") pipeline crosses the northern part of the state and crosses into Maine. EnergyNorth has a single interconnection to the PNGTS pipeline in Berlin which is used to supply natural gas to EnergyNorth's Berlin franchise area. Unitil supplies natural gas to customers along the seacoast through a combination of the TGP, PNGTS, and Granite State Gas Transmission pipeline systems. Lack of pipeline access in many other parts of the state forces residents and businesses to procure more expensive and possibly less cleaner burning fuels. The State Energy Strategy recommends fuel diversity strategies. A centrally located facility, supplied by LNG and CNG, connected to a network of local distribution piping is consistent with this diversity strategy. There are currently two LNG

import facilities in New England: the Canaport LNG terminal owned and operated by Repsol in New Brunswick, Canada, and the Distrigas terminal owned and operated by GDF-Suez in Everett, Massachusetts. However, only the Distrigas terminal offers trucked LNG. Others currently offering trucked LNG include Gaz Metro in Montreal, Canada, and UGI Corp of Reading, Pennsylvania. In addition to these facilities, there are multiple proposals for new facilities in various stages of development in the Northeast and New England. As stated previously, there will be seven CNG facilities in operation by winter of 2015 in New England. These facilities are connected to various transmission pipelines in New Hampshire, Maine, Massachusetts, Vermont and New York. These varied options certainly constitute a diverse supply chain option that EnergyNorth could tap through competitive bidding, and as a result, its strategy is consistent with the State Energy Strategy.

Another recommendation of the State Energy Strategy is "reducing usage through efficiency and conservation." See Attachment WJC-6. By participating in EnergyNorth's energy efficiency programs, these "off pipeline" customers would have significant incentives and rebates available to assist in conservation measures. Finally, Sub-Recommendation 13.B Monitor Development of Trucked CNG of the State Energy Strategy notes that some areas are simply too remote to expand to with traditional distribution expansion, yet the demand for natural gas in these areas is great. "The State should encourage targeted, strategic installations of trucked CNG in areas where the impact will be maximized. The State should monitor these developments and work to

- clarify and simplify the permitting processes for such installations." See Attachment
- 2 WJC-6. A centrally located facility connected to a local distribution network like this
- EnergyNorth proposal would maximize the benefit to a region and reduce the impact to
- 4 the community as well.
- 5 Q. Does this conclude your testimony?
- 6 A. Yes, it does.



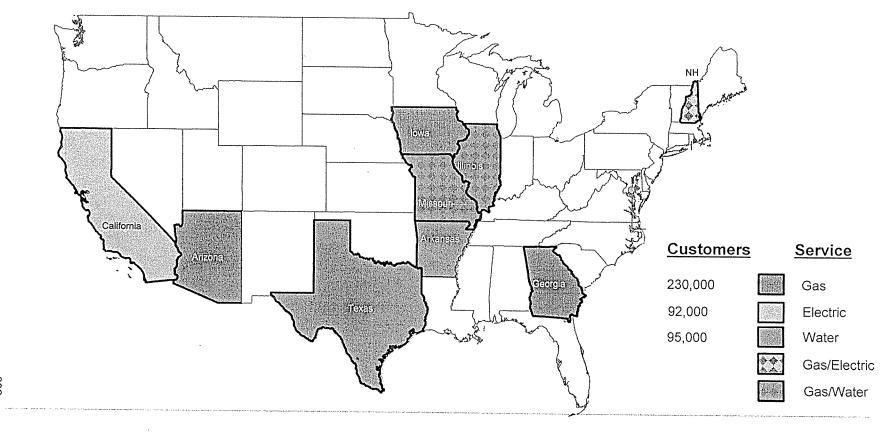
Pricing, Growth, Opportunity... The LDC Perspective

New Hampshire Business & Industry Association Annual Energy Seminar December 11, 2013

> F. Chico DaFonte Sr. Director, Energy Procurement Liberty Utilities

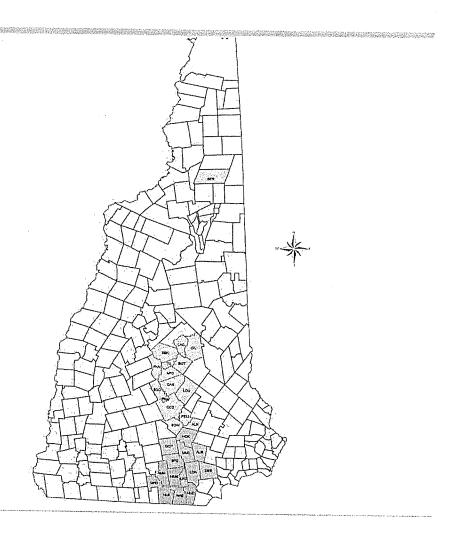
About Liberty Utilities

- 29 gas, electric and water utilities across the U.S.
- Serving over 410,000 customers



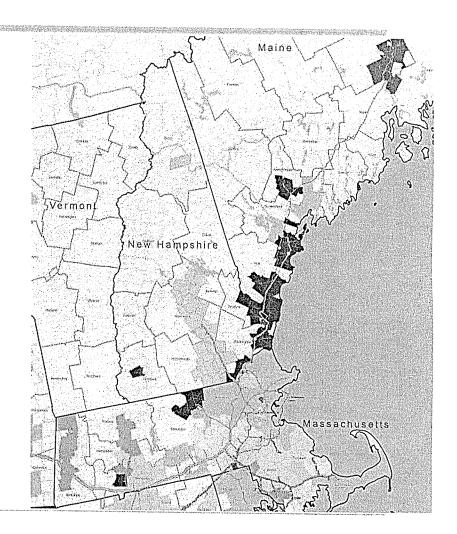
EnergyNorth Natural Gas, Inc.

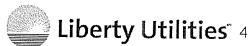
- Largest Liberty Utility
- Almost 90,000 Natural Gas Customers
- Footprint in southern to central NH
- Isolated system in Berlin
- Largest concentration of customers in Nashua and Manchester



Pipeline Resources

- Capacity on 7 interstate pipelines and 4 underground storage facilities
- 7 direct interconnects with Tennessee Gas Pipeline
- Single interconnect with PNGTS in Berlin
- Supplement pipeline gas with on-system LNG (3) and propane (3)

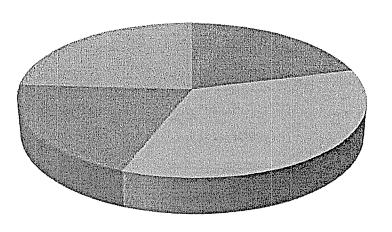




Portfolio Diversity

- Combination of pipeline, underground storage and on-system peaking resources
- Gulf, Marcellus, Canadian and Market Area purchase points

EnergyNorth Design Day Resources 2013-14

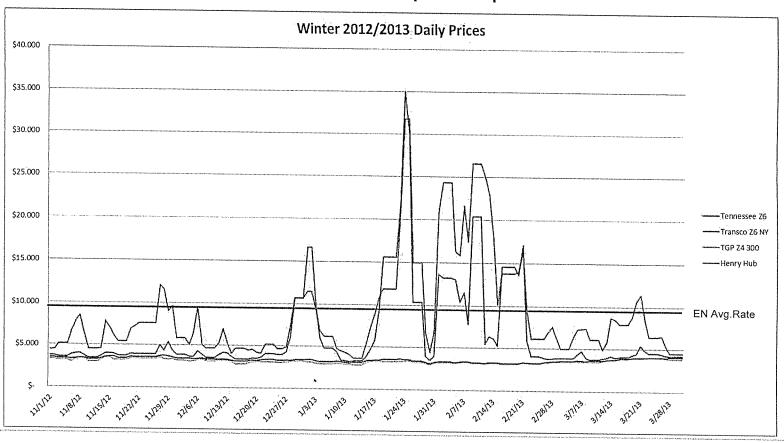


- Canadian 5.3%
- Gulf Coast 15.2%
- Market Area Supply -35.2%
- Market Area Storage -19.9%
- LNG/Propane 24.4%

Pricing Diversity

037

Diversity of supply helps to minimize price spikes but...



...new pipeline infrastructure is long-term solution



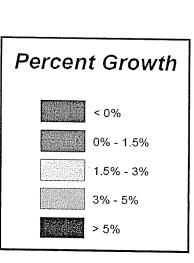
Current Growth...Future Opportunity

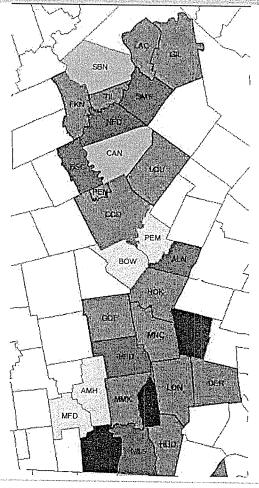
Opportunities

- 15,000 potential customers within 100 feet of gas main
- Over 80,000 potential customers more than 100 feet

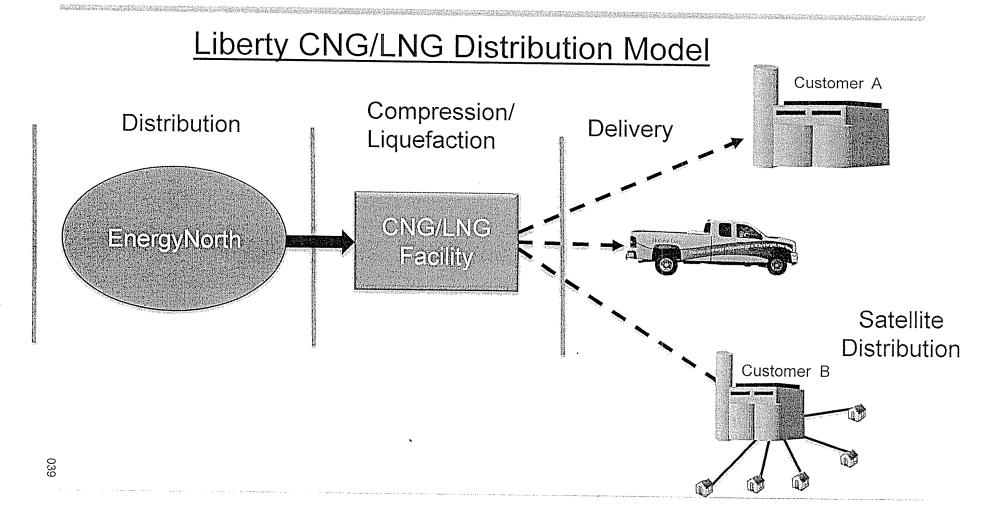
Challenges

- Geology The Granite State
- Geography Load Pockets
- Costs Traditional Pipeline





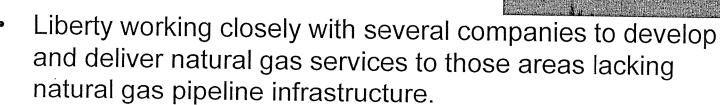
Overcoming The Challenge



New England Leading The Way

- New England states are seeing increased delivery by truck of CNG and LNG to industrial facilities, paper mills, etc.
- Companies include:
 - NG Advantage
 - OsComp Systems
 - > Irving Oil
 - > AVSG

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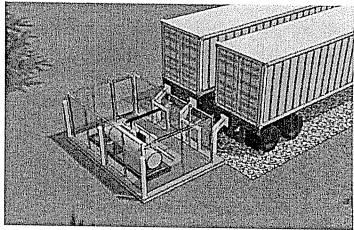
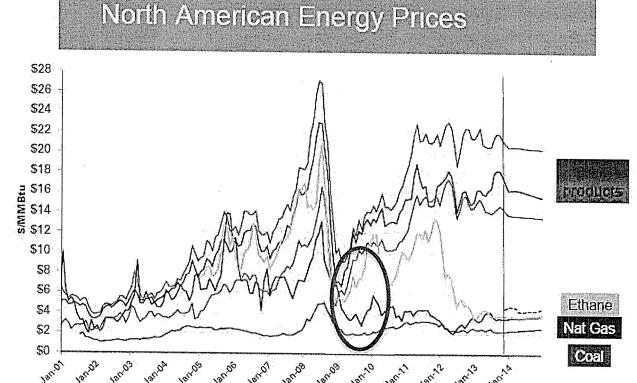


Illustration: NG Advantage

Why Natural Gas Products?

- Natural gas decoupled from oil products in 2009
- Coincident with growth in Marcellus shale production
- Low natural gas prices are here to stay
 - Natural gas futures currently trading below \$5.00 until 2020



HH/NYMEX 6-mths ago

Resid Oil

041

Source: Various, Nov 1, 2013

Coal NYMEX (unadi)



The Economics Are Compelling

<u>CNG - Fueling</u>

LNG - Thermal

Input	Cost per DGE		
Natural Gas	\$.56		
Transport Costs & Fees	\$.19		
Distribution Charges	\$.09		
Maintenance per DGE	\$.26		
Federal and State Taxes	\$.25		
Fuel Card Fees per DGE	\$.05		
Electricity Costs per DGE	\$.15		
CNG at the Pump	\$1.55		
Avg. Diesel Price	\$3.82		

Input	Cost per MMBtu		
Natural Gas	\$3.78		
Transport Costs & Fees	\$1.50		
Distribution Charges	\$.68		
Delivered Cost to LNG Facility	\$6.58		
Liquefaction Cost (w/Fuel at 15%)	\$3.25		
Trucking (Mileage Based)	\$1.00		
Vaporization cost	\$.50		
Total Delivered Cost	\$10.71		
Oil Equivalent per Dth	\$21.88		
Propane Equivalent per Dth	\$17.57		

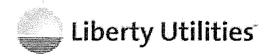
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Questions?

Thank You!





REQUEST FOR INDICATIVE BIDS TO PROVIDE COMPRESSED NATURAL GAS (CNG) AND/OR LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS (LNG) "CNG/LNG" TO DARTMOUTH COLLEGE

Competitive Energy Services, LLC

File No. 3672.00 January 16, 2014

DVDC	TTTTVIT CLÍNAN	ARŸ	ż	
EXEC	OTIVE SOMIN	AKY	نبک ،	
A,	FUEL SUPPLY			
В.	SERVICE PERIOD			
C.	COST/BID STRUCTURE			
D,	FUEL AVAILABILITY			
E.	CNG/LNG TRAILERS			
F.	LEAD TIME			
G.	UNLOADING SITE			
Н.	CONTRACT	rerms	.4	
Attach Attach	ament A ament B ament C ament D	LNG/CNG/Pipeline Conceptual Layout LNG/CNG/Pipeline Conceptual Equipment Layout Conceptual LNG/CNG/Pipeline Schematic Simplified LNG/CNG/Pipeline Schematic		

Page 2 3672.00

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Liberty Utilities (Liberty) is pleased to provide a response to this request for indicative bids for supply of natural gas to Dartmouth College.

A key component of Liberty's comprehensive growth strategy is focused on the development of satellite natural gas distribution systems to serve areas of New Hampshire that are currently stranded from existing gas pipelines and where extension of the pipeline infrastructure is uneconomical for both Liberty and the customer. Our satellite LDC strategy for the Hanover/Lebanon region is to serve not only Dartmouth College, but also the residential and commercial loads of downtown Hanover, Centerra Business Park, and, in the fullness of time, the Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center. A longer term portion of our strategy is to continually expand the system after the initial build-out is complete in an effort to bring low cost natural gas to more customers in the Hanover region beyond the downtown center. Our fuel supply plan for satellite LDCs is to use a combination of LNG and CNG with each supplied to a central operations facility that will have the LNG storage and vaporization equipment and the CNG decompression equipment. operations center is intended to be located in low density industrial zones to minimize the impact of trucking and noise. A critical element of our expansion plan is to allow new natural gas customers to become full utility customers of Liberty Utilities and benefit from our obligation to serve, fuel procurement services, 24-hour customer care center, energy efficiency programs, and other services that are traditionally provided by a regulated utility.

Liberty's mission is to provide a reliable and cost-efficient supply of natural gas and other energy services to meet the current and future needs of our customers. We maintain gas rates and charges at as low a level as possible consistent with safety and supply reliability. Further, we recognize and embrace our responsibility to serve our customers promptly and courteously. Liberty recognizes its special, regulated role as the provider of energy services vital to the well-being of residential consumers and to the economic success of commercial and industrial customers.

Liberty seeks to fulfill our civic and charitable responsibilities, to enhance the vitality of our service area, to maintain our role as a leading corporate citizen in the community, with an outstanding reputation for integrity and public spiritedness. Finally, in all our efforts, we will conduct ourselves and our business in accordance with the highest ethical principles.

Liberty currently serves approximately 90,000 natural gas customers in New Hampshire. Our pipeline resources include:

- Capacity on seven (7) interstate pipelines and four (4) underground storage facilities
- Seven (7) direct interconnects with Tennessee Gas Pipeline's New Hampshire transmission system.
- A single interconnect with PNGTS in Berlin, NH.
- Three (3) LNG peak shaving facilities and three (3) propane/air peak shaving facilities.

Page 3 3672.00

With respect to Section 4 Products and Services Requested of the Request for Indicative Bids (RIB), we offer the following responses.

A. FUEL SUPPLY

With respect to facility location, Liberty is planning to design, procure and construct an LNG/CNG station at a centralized off campus location which will allow Liberty to serve Dartmouth College, residential, and business customers in the Hanover/Lebanon area. This facility will also have the capacity to be expanded to accommodate a CNG vehicle refueling station that could be utilized by the Dartmouth fleet along with local business and private vehicles.

Please see the attached drawings which provide conceptual overviews of the satellite natural gas distribution system. It is anticipated that LNG will be the primary source of natural gas supplemented by CNG dependent on pricing and system demand dynamics.

The following bullet points outline Liberty's approach to fuel supply:

- LNG: Liberty is planning to install, own and operate an LNG vaporization facility to be sited at an off campus location. Liberty will procure and arrange delivery from regional LNG providers utilizing industry leading hedging strategies.
- CNG: Liberty is planning to install, own and operate a CNG decompression station
 within the same satellite facility. Dependent on market and weather conditions as
 well as distribution system demands, Liberty will utilize the delivery of CNG as a
 supplement to the primary LNG fuel source.
- Distribution Piping: Liberty will install, own, and operate approximately 4 miles of HDPE piping that will supply the natural gas to Dartmouth College as well as Liberty's other local customers. Liberty will be responsible for the installation of all underground supply service piping along with the installation of the gas meter.
- Liberty will generate monthly bills reflecting actual usage by the customers subject to any applicable New Hampshire Public Utilities tariff.
- Expedited LNG Service: In an effort to expedite the fuel switch to natural gas, Liberty suggests that consideration be given to serving a portion of Dartmouth College's fuel requirements with natural gas supplied from a portable LNG vaporization system. This option could be implemented while construction of the permanent LNG/CNG facility and associated piping infrastructure is underway. A similar system is currently being utilized successfully at the University of Massachusetts -Amherst. LNG storage can be accomplished by the use of LNG trailers and a direct-fired portable water bath vaporizer. This option could be implemented within a 3 month

time frame with respect to securitization of the LNG commodity, equipment and required permits.

B. SERVICE PERIOD

We understand that the RIB is stipulating 5 and 10 year contract terms. Liberty will offer standard terms and conditions for firm service that it provides all its regulated customers.

C. COST/BID STRUCTURE

A unique advantage of being served by a regulated natural gas utility is a mandated focus of providing a reliable and cost effective supply of fuel. Since Liberty will manage all elements contained in the cost/bid structure presented, Liberty is offering an indicative price range of per MMBTU.

D. FUEL AVAILABILITY

Liberty would be constructing a regulated satellite natural gas distribution system. As a regulated gas utility Liberty would be subject to existing NHPUC storage requirements. As such, no interruption of service is anticipated.

E. CNG/LNG TRAILERS

As part of Liberty's fuel procurement process the delivery of LNG and CNG from all available sources to the facility will be coordinated by Liberty.

F. LEAD TIME

Liberty would welcome a discussion with Dartmouth College so that a timeline for the conversion can be built into Liberty's proposed expansion strategy for the Hanover/Lebanon region. Nonetheless, a fall of 2016 in-service date for expedited LNG service or CNG service is achievable while the broader distribution system is built-out.

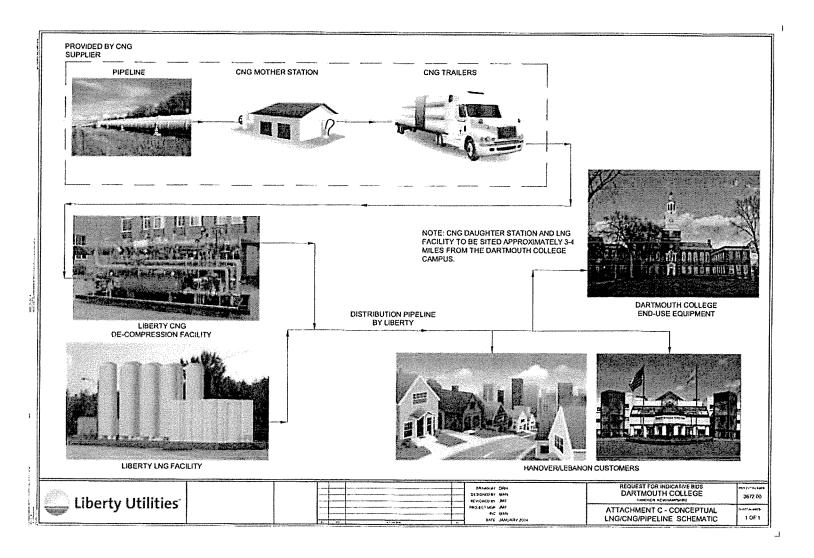
G. UNLOADING SITE

Please refer to Section A above.

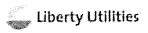
H. CONTRACT TERMS

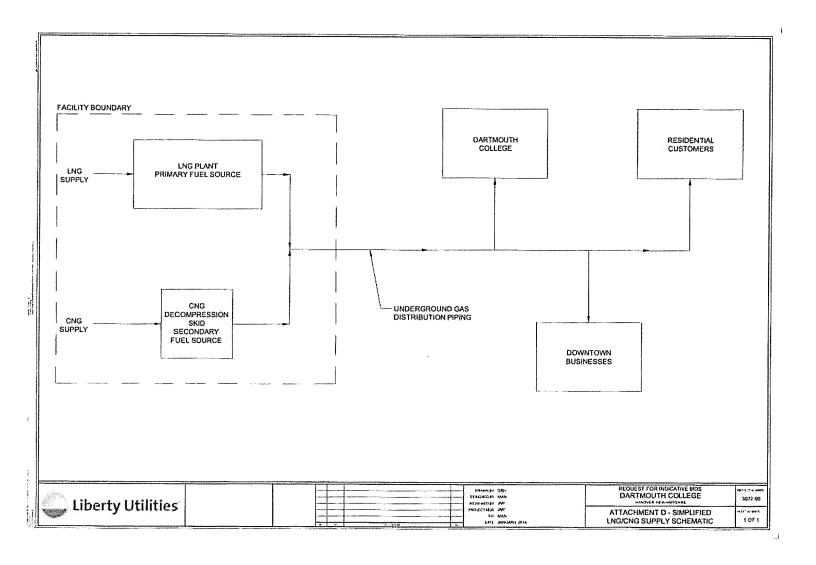
Please refer to Section B above.

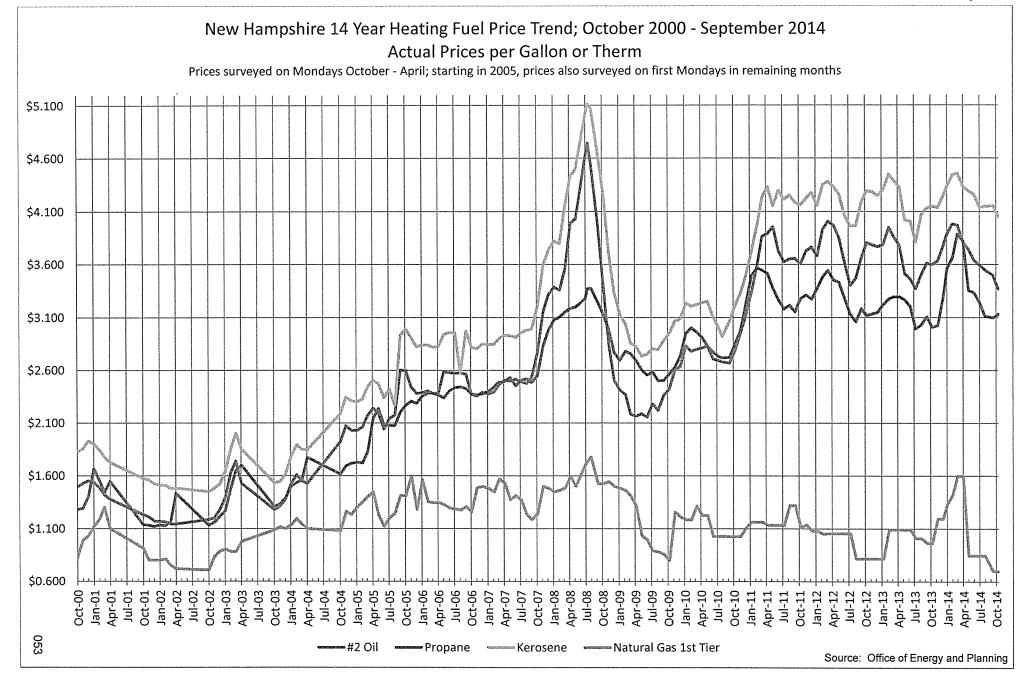
CONCEPTUAL LNG/CNG/PIPELINE SCHEMATIC **ATTACHMENT C**



ATTACHMENT D SIMPLIFIED LNG/CNG/PIPELINE SCHEMATIC







Industrial Plant LNG Fuel Conversion Case Study

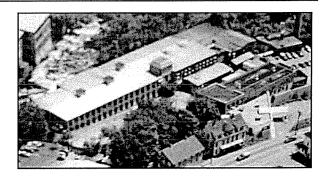
Company: Kleen Laundry and Dry Cleaning Services, Inc.

Business: Commercial Laundry

Location: Lebanon, NH

2011 Fuel Consumption: 830,000 gallons of Propane

Conversion Date: February 2012



Background

Kleen, Inc. is a commercial laundry processing the linens for 26 hospitals, nursing homes and clinics in New Hampshire, Vermont and Maine. Since 1996, Kleen, Inc. had burned propane as its primary fuel for their boilers and dryers. The unpredictability of propane prices and the high cost of propane led Kleen, Inc. to investigate other fuel options. Kleen, Inc. looked very closely at a biomass system in 2009 before deciding that the biomass system did not meet all of their goals. Kleen, Inc. continued to investigate other options and started to look at liquefied natural gas (LNG) in December of 2010. After fully vetting LNG and visiting multiple LNG installations, Kleen, Inc. decided that a conversion to LNG met all of their goals.

Process

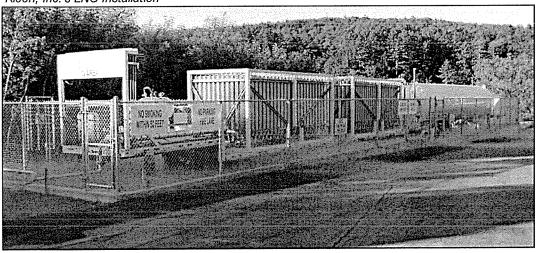
After receiving proposals from multiple LNG suppliers, Kleen, Inc. awarded their installation and fuel supply business to Prometheus Energy of Houston, TX. Prometheus Energy provided the design and engineering for the project, and worked with the city of Lebanon, NH, in the permitting and approval process. Prometheus Energy structured a turnkey solution, coordinating the complete installation from delivery of equipment, to site work, and commissioning. Prometheus Energy worked closely with Kleen, Inc. on the conversion of the fuel consuming equipment, providing technical expertise and advice throughout the entire conversion process. The fuel system includes the LNG storage tank, gas vaporization equipment and gas distribution system.

Results

The savings resulting from the fuel conversion have been impressive. Below are the fuel costs for the months of April and May 2011 vs. the fuel costs for April and May 2012.

April/May 2011 \$155,120 April/May 2012 \$103,126 Difference \$51,994 % Difference 33.5%

Kleen, Inc.'s LNG Installation



In addition to the cost savings, Kleen, Inc. is also experiencing a 10% lower level of CO₂ greenhouse gas emissions.

"Prometheus Energy's expertise and experienced team enabled the success of this project"
—Greg Gosselin,
President of Kleen, Inc.



Liberty Utilities New Hampshire Award Summary

01/08/2015

- The 2012 AGA Safety Achievement Award for achieving the lowest reportable motor vehicle accident rate among combination companies.
- LU NH was awarded by EPA the EnergyStar Sustained Excellence Award in 2013 & 2014.
- LU NH was awarded by EPA the EnergyStar Partner of the Year Award for implementation of the EnergyStar Homes program in 2013 & 2014.
- LU NH was awarded by EPA the EnergyStar Partner of the Year Award for implementation of the Home Performance with Energy Star program in 2013.
- LU NH was awarded by EPA the EnergyStar Housing Leadership Award in 2013.

Same information in table format

Recognition	Year	Organization	Comment
Energy Star Partner of the Year for implementation of the EnergyStar Homes program	2013 & 2014	EPA	 For achieving highest number of ENERGY STAR Certified new construction homes that exceeded the local and state code requirements.
EnergyStar Sustained Excellence Award	2013 & 2014	EPA	 Recognizing our exemplary marketing of the ENERGY STAR program. We had to submit a list of our branding activities on the ENERGY STAR program.
EnergyStar Partner of the Year Award for implementation of the Home Performance with Energy Star program	2013	EPA	 For achieving highest number of ENERGY STAR Certified retrofit projects that exceeded the local and state code requirements.
EnergyStar Housing Leadership Award	2013	EPA	 For demonstrating superior dedication and results in all aspects of the ENERGY STAR program.
AGA Safety Achievement Award	2012	American Gas Association	Lowest reportable motor vehicle accident rate among combination companies.

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Docket No. DG 15-XXX

Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities
Petition for Expansion of Franchise to the Town of Hanover and City of Lebanon, New
Hampshire

DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

FRANCISCO C. DAFONTE

July 24, 2015

1 I. INTRODUCTION

- 2 Q. Please state your name and business address.
- 3 A. My name is Francisco C. DaFonte. My business address is 15 Buttrick Road,
- 4 Londonderry, New Hampshire 03053.
- 5 Q. By whom are you employed and in what capacity?
- 6 A. I am employed by Liberty Utilities Service Corp. as the Vice President, Energy
- 7 Procurement for Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp. ("EnergyNorth" or
- 8 "the Company").
- 9 Q. On whose behalf are you testifying today?
- 10 A. I am testifying on behalf of EnergyNorth.
- O. Mr. DaFonte, please state your educational background and professional
- 12 experience.
- 13 A. I attended the University of Massachusetts at Amherst where I majored in Mathematics
- with a concentration in Computer Science. In the summer of 1985, I was hired by
- 15 Commonwealth Gas Company (now NSTAR Gas Company) where I was employed
- primarily as a supervisor in gas dispatch and gas supply planning for nine years. In 1994,
- I joined Bay State Gas Company (now Columbia Gas of Massachusetts) where I held
- various positions including Director of Gas Control and Director of Energy Supply
- Services. At the end of October 2011, I was hired as the Director of Energy Procurement

- by Liberty Energy Utilities (New Hampshire) Corp. and promoted to Sr. Director in July 2013 and Vice President in July 2014. In this capacity, I provide gas procurement
- 3 services to EnergyNorth.

4 Q. Have you previously testified before this Commission?

Yes, I have testified on numerous occasions in various filings, including the Company's 5 A. most recent Least Cost Integrated Resource Plan filing in Docket No. DG 13-313, its 6 Special Contract and Lease Agreement with Innovative Natural Gas, LLC d/b/a 7 iNATGAS pertaining to construction of a compressed natural gas (CNG) facility in 8 Concord, New Hampshire, its request for approval of Precedent Agreement between 9 EnergyNorth and Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company for capacity on the proposed 10 Northeast Energy Direct Pipeline in Docket No. DG 14-380 and numerous semi-annual 11 cost of gas filings. 12

Q. What is the purpose of your testimony today?

14 A. My testimony discusses the Company's experience and capabilities associated with
15 natural gas resource planning, liquefied natural gas (LNG) and propane logistics and,
16 specifically, the benefits associated with the provision of LNG and CNG service to the
17 Town of Hanover and the City of Lebanon, New Hampshire, assuming the Company is
18 awarded franchise rights for those municipalities.

- 1 Q. Please provide the experience and capabilities of the Company's Energy
- 2 Procurement group.
- 3 A. The Company's Energy Procurement group is comprised of 14 highly capable and
- 4 experienced personnel with an average of over 15 years of energy industry experience.
- The Energy Procurement group is responsible for demand forecasting, scheduling,
- 6 purchasing, retail choice and overall portfolio planning and logistics, including the
- 7 solicitation and scheduling of LNG and propane supplies to its three LNG and four
- 8 propane facilities.
- 9 Q. Please describe EnergyNorth's existing LNG and propane facilities and the role they
 10 play in meeting customer needs.
- A. EnergyNorth has three LNG facilities located in Manchester, Concord and Tilton and 11 three propane facilities located in Nashua, Manchester and Tilton that are connected 12 directly to its distribution system, and a fourth "satellite" propane facility in Amherst that 13 14 is used solely for storage. These facilities are part of the Company's diversified portfolio of assets, which include various pipeline transportation contracts on seven interstate 15 pipelines and four underground storage facilities in Pennsylvania and New York. The 16 LNG facilities each have a storage capacity of approximately 4,200 Dth and the propane 17 facilities have a storage capacity of approximately 137,000 Dth. Combined, these 18 facilities can provide over 47,000 Dth of peak day supply to supplement EnergyNorth's 19 20 interstate pipeline capacity.

Q. How are these facilities used?

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- A. These LNG and propane facilities are used primarily for supplemental supply on the

 coldest winter days, but in some cases they are used to provide pressure support for

 EnergyNorth's distribution system. Because the LNG facilities have small storage

 capacities in comparison to the high gas demand during extended cold periods during the

 winter, it is necessary to refill them on almost a daily basis. The refilling logistics of the

 EnergyNorth LNG facilities would be similar to those required for "off pipeline" service

 territories.
- 9 Q. How has the Company managed the trucking and refill requirements of its LNG
 10 and propane facilities during the past two colder than normal winters?
 - As mentioned earlier, the limited LNG storage requires almost daily trucking of LNG to replenish the Company's inventory in preparation for the fuel requirements in subsequent days. For example, in each of the past two winter periods, the Company has used over 500,000 dekatherms (Dth) of LNG. Given that its LNG facilities only hold 12,600 Dth, that translates into approximately 40 full turns of its LNG inventory and over 500 truckloads of LNG. In fact, the Company operated its Tilton facility for over 70 consecutive days this past winter for pressure support on the system. It did this with no reliability issues even in the face of several large snowstorms and blizzards where roads were shut down for a period of time.

- Q. Would the "off pipeline" distribution systems in Hanover and Lebanon be subject to similar logistical planning?
- A. 3 While this type of frequent and recurring trucking is needed for small capacity LNG 4 facilities, the Company would install sufficient and scalable LNG storage tanks so as to require less trucking. This onsite storage would also be used satisfy the Puc 500 rules 5 requirement that the LDC have sufficient storage capacity to satisfy a seven day cold 6 snap. Nevertheless, EnergyNorth's experience in managing trucking logistics positions it 7 to reliably meet the needs of all potential customers in the proposed Hanover and 8 Lebanon "off pipeline" distribution system through a combination of LNG and CNG 9 fuels. 10
- Q. What are the benefits of relying on both LNG and CNG fuels to supply the "off pipeline" distribution systems in Hanover and Lebanon?

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A. As stated in Mr. Clark's testimony, fuel diversification in a centralized distribution system means that customers are not reliant on a single fuel source, which can expose customers to the price vagaries inherent in that fuel source from time to time. In addition, having both LNG and CNG supplies allows the Company to better manage trucking logistics to optimize delivery and price. That is, with a secondary fuel supply, the Company can expand its list of suppliers to include those from a greater distance, which in the case of LNG in particular, could be more cost-effective given that some LNG is priced off low cost Marcellus gas supply. Knowing that it can rely on one fuel source

while awaiting truck delivery from the other fuel source provides optionality, which leads to lower cost and enhanced reliability.

Q. How does EnergyNorth currently contract for LNG supplies?

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- A. The Company conducts a comprehensive RFP process on a semi-annual basis for winter
 and summer supply and refill. The RFP process is necessary to determine the "best-cost"
 supply that takes into consideration both price and non-price factors such as reliability,
 flexibility and viability. The RFP is issued to all potential LNG providers in order to get
 the best possible pricing. In addition, the Company also issues a trucking RFP to
 determine the best available service for transporting LNG from LNG suppliers who do
 not offer a delivered service.
- 11 Q. What are the benefits of combining the LNG requirements for EnergyNorth with 12 those for the "off pipeline" distribution system in Hanover and Lebanon?
- A. Combining the requirements of both EnergyNorth and the satellite distributions system
 would lead to greater economies of scale and a streamlined request for proposal (RFP)
 process. EnergyNorth already has well-established relationships with LNG suppliers.
 Adding more volume in a combined RFP would provide negotiating leverage and allow
 for the potential awarding of volumes to multiple LNG providers, which would enhance
 supplier diversity. In addition, trucking logistics would be enhanced as trucks could be
 diverted from one LNG facility to another based on need.

- Q. Does EnergyNorth have any prior experience demonstrating that economies of scale combined with its RFP process provide customer savings?
- Yes. After its acquisition of the New Hampshire Gas Company, located in Keene, New Hampshire, Liberty's Energy Procurement group took over the propane procurement process. Using its comprehensive RFP process, relationships with other propane suppliers as well as combining its propane needs with those of the Keene Division, the Company saved approximately \$0.45 per Dth or approximately 11% for Keene customers.
- Q. Please describe the logistics of providing propane service to the Company's Keene
 Division and how it compares to the potential provision of LNG and CNG service to
 Hanover and Lebanon?

A. The Company's Keene Division has similar fuel procurement logistics to what would be encountered if it served the "off pipeline" distribution systems for Hanover and Lebanon. That is, the Keene Division is an "off pipeline" system served only via propane throughout the year. While the Hanover and Lebanon fuel supplies would be more diverse through the use of both LNG and CNG, the systems each require a constant supply of fuel year round that must be managed via trucking and reliable inventory management. With its experience in providing a reliable and least-costs supply service to the Keene Division, the Company is well positioned to provide that same quality of service to future customers in Hanover and Lebanon, assuming the Company is awarded franchise rights for those municipalities.

- 1 Q. Does this conclude your testimony?
- 2 A. Yes, it does.

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Docket No. DG 15-XXX

Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities
Petition for Expansion of Franchise to the Town of Hanover and City of Lebanon, New
Hampshire

DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

RICHARD G. MACDONALD

July 24, 2015

2	Q.	Please state your name and business address.
3	A.	My Name is Richard G. MacDonald. My business address is 130 Elm Street, Manchester,
4		New Hampshire, 03101-2716.
5	Q.	By whom are you employed and in what capacity?
6	A.	I am employed by Liberty Utilities Service Corp. as the Director of Gas Operations for
7		Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp. ("EnergyNorth" or "the Company").
8	Ο.	On whose behalf are you testifying today?

10 Q. Mr. MacDonald, please state your educational background and professional

I am testifying on behalf of EnergyNorth.

11 experience.

INTRODUCTION

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I.

- 12 A. In 1977, I received an Associate's Degree in Applied Science in Industrial Electricity
 13 from the NH Community College in Nashua, NH. In 1997, I received an Associate's
 14 Degree in Mechanical Engineering Technology from the New Hampshire Technical
 15 Institute in Concord, NH. In July of 2012, I assumed the position of Director Gas
 16 Operations for EnergyNorth. My responsibilities as Director include managerial oversight
 17 of all gas operations and construction processes.
- From 1977 to 2000, I was employed by EnergyNorth Natural Gas, Inc. where I held various supervisory and managerial positions in gas operations. From 2000 to 2008, I

- was employed by KeySpan Energy Delivery where I was the Manager of Field

 Operations and Construction. In 2008, I accepted a position at National Grid as the New

 England Resource Planning Manager responsible for operating and maintenance work

 plans and capital construction project planning for the New England region and held this

 position until 2012.
- 6 Q. Have you previously testified before this Commission?
- Yes, I testified in Docket No. DG 06-045, EnergyNorth's Petition for Termination of
 Propane Service to Kaunas Circle, Manchester, NH, as well as recent Cast Iron/Bare
 Steel dockets, DG 13-149 and DG 14-041.
- 10 Q. What is the purpose of your testimony today?
- 11 A. My testimony discusses the Company's plans for constructing and operating a gas

 12 distribution system in the Town of Hanover and the City of Lebanon, New Hampshire,

 13 assuming the Company is awarded franchise rights for those municipalities.
- 14 Q. Please provide a general description of the facilities that will be constructed.
- The Company will install gas mains from the location of the liquefied natural gas (LNG)
 vaporization and compressed natural gas (CNG) decompression facility, as described in
 Mr. Clark's testimony, to the initial anchor customers and lead residential and
 commercial customers. Such construction will include installation of plastic gas mains
 and service lines, which will be designed and sized appropriately to support the initial
 customer base as well as expected growth from customers requesting service during or

- following construction. These facilities will be installed and maintained under 1 2 EnergyNorth's existing maintenance and construction standards and in accordance with 3 industry standards and all applicable codes.
- Q. Please describe how the gas distribution system will be constructed. 4
- 5 A. The Company will issue a request for proposal (RFP) for the construction of the distribution system consistent with contracts we issue in our normal course of business 6 throughout the EnergyNorth service area. We will issue the RFP to: (a) qualified 7 8 contractors that have previously provided services to EnergyNorth and who have 9 demonstrated, through successful completion of projects, their ability to meet our standards of safety, reliability, and performance; and/or (b) contractors that have a 10 demonstrated expertise within the scope of work identified in the RFP. EnergyNorth has 11 worked with a pool of qualified contractors such as RH White Construction, Inc., 12 Midway Utility Contractors LLC and Mears Construction LLC that have successfully 13 completed multi-year contracts for construction services. These qualified contractors 14 have offices and/or staging areas within our service territories, are familiar with the 15 subsurface conditions of New Hampshire, and have considerable experience in the 16 construction of gas distribution systems and facilities. The contract strategy ultimately 17 18 selected will depend largely on the scope and amount of work over the initial startup period and on the long-term growth estimates and projections. All main and service 19 facilities will be constructed to EnergyNorth's current operating, maintenance and 20 construction standards, which meet or exceed US Department of Transportation Pipeline

- and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) and New Hampshire State

 Chapter Puc 500 rules and any and all other applicable federal state and local standards or

 permitting requirements.
- 4 Q. What is the time frame for construction of the distribution system?
- The time frame will be dependent upon when approvals are received, the location of the LNG/CNG facility, and the number and location of anchor customers to be served from this facility. Construction of the distribution system will commence in parallel with the construction of the LNG/CNG facility. The major distribution system construction to support the growth opportunities will likely be performed in phases over a two- to three-year period.
 - Q. How will the Company support the safe operation of the plant and distribution system?

A. The LNG/CNG facility and distribution system will be constructed and operated in accordance with current established operating and maintenance standards and procedures, with which EnergyNorth has extensive experience. The location of operations personnel to support the day-to-day operation of the proposed gas facilities will be managed from our Lebanon Operations facility and customer service walk-in center. The staffing support for the processes and customers will be a combination of current and incremental employees working out of the Lebanon Operations Center. These employees will receive all required certification training and training necessary to support the gas operations

processes. The intent is for the Lebanon team to support gas operations similar to that of EnergyNorth's Keene Division.

3 Q. How will the Company construct the distribution system within these communities?

A.

The Company will meet with the City of Hanover and Town of Lebanon municipal and public works officials to determine the specific local requirements for utility use and occupancy within their public Rights-of-Way (ROWs). Additional meetings will be scheduled as needed to review the proposed preferred routes for this project and coordinate to an appropriate level the short- and long-term scope of the gas distribution system construction project. EnergyNorth has an excellent working relationship with the New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT). We will work closely with the local state division highway road agents and engineers to review and submit any NHDOT road permits for construction. Since the Company coordinates its excavation and restoration activities for its utility maintenance and construction processes in 29 cities and towns across New Hampshire within our existing service territories, we have extensive knowledge and experience to accomplish this effectively in a manner that is the least disruptive to local traffic, businesses and residences.

Q. How will the Company meet the emergency response requirements?

A. The Company will have the necessary resources reporting out of the Lebanon Operations facility to meet the current emergency response requirements of Puc 504.07. The monitoring of the gas system reliability and dispatching of emergency job orders will be

- supported by the Emergency Dispatch and Gas Control Center located at Liberty's

 Corporate office in Londonderry, New Hampshire.
- Q. Will the addition of this franchise area place any additional burden on existing resources that will impact service to EnergyNorth's existing customers?
- No, it will not. Gas dispatching and emergency response contact will be handled from the
 Company's Londonderry headquarters. Operational and customer related functions will
 be managed locally in Hanover/Lebanon. This staffing structure is similar to how
 EnergyNorth manages its Keene Division. The Company successfully transitioned the
 Keene Division into its operations without adverse effect on existing EnergyNorth
 customers and expects to similarly transition the new franchise area, assuming the
 Company is awarded franchise rights.
- 12 Q. Please describe the staffing requirements and operation of the LNG facility.
- The LNG/CNG facility will be designed with the latest, proven equipment and A. 13 technology available. The Company expects to automate most control and safety 14 functions. Staffing will be adequate to handle day-to-day facility tasks such as off-15 loading of LNG transports, connecting CNG trailers, performing maintenance and 16 monitoring functions. EnergyNorth's Production and Instrumentation/Regulation team 17 will manage this facility and assure reliability and compliance. The Gas Control team in 18 Londonderry will monitor the facility with the current SCADA system deployed today at 19 other EnergyNorth production facilities. 20

Docket No. DG 15-XXX Direct Testimony of Richard G. MacDonald Page 7 of 7

- 1 Q. Does this conclude your testimony?
- 2 A. Yes, it does.



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Petition for Expansion of Franchise to the Town of Hanover and the City of Lebanon, New
Hampshire

DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

STEVEN E. MULLEN

July 24, 2015

1 I. INTRODUCTION

- 2 Q. Please state your name and business address.
- 3 A. My name is Steven E. Mullen. My business address is 15 Buttrick Road, Londonderry,
- 4 NH 03053.
- 5 Q. By whom are you employed and in what capacity?
- 6 A. I am employed by Liberty Utilities Service Corp. ("Liberty") as Manager, Rates and
- Regulatory. I am responsible for rates and regulatory affairs for Liberty Utilities
- 8 (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp. ("EnergyNorth" or "the Company") and Liberty
- 9 Utilities (Granite State Electric) Corp.
- 10 Q. On whose behalf are you testifying today?
- 11 A. I am testifying on behalf of EnergyNorth.
- 12 Q. Mr. Mullen, please state your professional experience and educational background.
- 13 A. Prior to joining Liberty in 2014, I was employed by the New Hampshire Public Utilities
- 14 Commission from 1996 through 2014, in various roles. From 1996 through 2008, I held
- positions first as a PUC Examiner, then as a Utility Analyst III and Utility Analyst IV.
- In those roles, I had a variety of responsibilities that included field audits of regulated
- utilities' books and records in the electric, telecommunications, water, sewer and gas
- industries, rate of return analysis, review of a wide variety of utility filings and
- presentment of testimony before the Commission. In 2008, I was promoted to Assistant

Director of the Electric Division. Working with the Electric Division Director, I was responsible for the day-to-day management of the Electric Division, including decisions on matters of policy. In addition, I evaluated and made recommendations concerning rate, financing, accounting and other general industry filings. In my roles at the Commission, I represented Commission Staff in meetings with utility officials, outside attorneys, accountants and consultants relative to the Commission's policies, procedures, Uniform System of Accounts, rate case, financing and other industry and regulatory matters.

From 1989 through 1996, I was employed as an accountant with Chester C. Raymond, Public Accountant in Manchester, NH. My duties involved preparation of financial statements and tax returns, as well as participation in year-end engagements.

In 1989, I graduated from Plymouth State College with a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting. I attended the NARUC Annual Regulatory Studies Program at Michigan State University in 1997. In 1999, I attended the Eastern Utility Rate School sponsored by Florida State University. I am a Certified Public Accountant and have obtained numerous continuing education credits in accounting, auditing, tax, finance and utility related courses.

Q. Have you previously testified before this Commission?

19 A. Yes. I have testified in numerous proceedings before the Commission.

1	0.	What is	the pur	rpose of	vour t	estimony	today?
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- A. My testimony discusses the Company's plans for establishing rates and charges for customers in the Town of Hanover and the City of Lebanon, New Hampshire, following Commission approval of the franchise expansion request and construction of the gas supply and distribution system.
- 6 Q. How will the rates, charges and terms of service for customers in the expanded
 7 franchise area be established?
- A. As customers in Hanover and Lebanon will be customers of EnergyNorth, the rates, charges and terms of service in EnergyNorth's current tariff will apply to those customers, with the following exceptions:
 - The Cost of Gas (COG) rate applicable to customers in Hanover and Lebanon will be separately calculated and a separate provision will be added to EnergyNorth's tariff; and
 - Due to the nature of the liquefied natural gas (LNG) and compressed natural gas
 (CNG) supply strategy discussed in Mr. Clark's testimony, customers in those
 communities will not be allowed the option to be transportation customers, at
 least initially.

- Q. Please explain why the COG rate for the Hanover and Lebanon customers would be separately calculated from the COG rate applicable to other EnergyNorth
- A. The supply strategy that would be developed for the Hanover/Lebanon franchise territory would use both LNG and CNG, but not natural gas from an interstate or intrastate pipeline. Therefore, it would be a self-contained system. As such, the gas supply costs would be distinct from those that are included in the COG rate that is charged to other EnergyNorth customers.
- 9 Q. How would the Hanover/Lebanon COG rate be calculated?

customers.

- The COG rate applicable to customers in those communities would include the
 commodity costs of acquiring the LNG and CNG to supply the system. In addition, as
 the LNG and CNG storage, vaporization, decompression and related facilities would be
 used for supply purposes, the COG rate would include the revenue requirement
 associated with the LNG and CNG plant investments. The total commodity and facility
 costs would then be divided by the total forecasted therm sales to calculate the COG rate.
- O. Does the Company have an estimate of the total cost to construct the supply facility or of the COG rate?
- 18 A. Not at this time. As discussed in the testimony of Mr. Clark, the Company is developing
 19 plans to construct a supply facility that will be scalable in size to best suit the needs of a
 20 growing customer base. In order to estimate the COG rate, we would need an estimate of

the cost of the facility, as well as an estimate of therm sales, which will depend on the
number of customers on the system at any given time, as well as their annual therm
usage. However, as explained in Mr. Clark's testimony, LNG and CNG provide for
significant economic advantages as compared to alternative fuels, so the resultant pricing
is expected to be beneficial to customers.

- 6 Q. How often would the COG rate for the Hanover/Lebanon area be adjusted?
- A. Similar to EnergyNorth's existing COG rate, the COG rate for the Hanover/Lebanon area would be adjusted twice a year, with the same summer and winter COG rate periods.
- 9 Q. Would it be appropriate to charge the same delivery rates to the Hanover/Lebanon 10 customers as customers in other areas of EnergyNorth's service territory?
- Yes. Assuming approval of the franchise expansion, EnergyNorth would construct a 11 A. distribution system for delivery of gas to its customers. This system would be no 12 different than the distribution system that exists in the remainder of EnergyNorth's 13 service territory. Therefore, the costs of constructing, owning, operating and maintaining 14 the distribution system should not differ in any material way. That also justifies the 15 application of the same general terms and conditions that currently exist in 16 EnergyNorth's tariff. Given that there would be no difference in the distribution system 17 constructed in the Hanover/Lebanon service territory as compared to the rest of 18 EnergyNorth's system, for ratemaking purposes the costs associated with the 19

- Hanover/Lebanon distribution system would be included in EnergyNorth's total distribution plant and operation and maintenance costs.
- Would the applicable terms and conditions also include the same customer rate classifications?
- Yes. Those customer rate classifications include residential non-heating, residential heating, low-income residential heating, and small, medium and large commercial and industrial rate classes that differentiate based on both annual and winter usage.
- 8 Q. Would the Local Distribution Adjustment Clause (LDAC) apply to all customers in
 9 the Hanover/Lebanon service territory?

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Yes. Consistent with the terms of the tariff, the LDAC (which includes charges for demand-side management lost revenues and program costs, energy efficiency programs, certain environmental remediation costs for the clean-up of former manufactured gas sites in New Hampshire, and lost revenues and program costs associated with the Residential Low Income Assistance Program) is applicable to all therms sold or transported by the Company and is used to recover costs of general applicability to all customer classes. As Hanover/Lebanon customers would be EnergyNorth customers, it would be appropriate that they be charged the LDAC rate. This would also provide the new EnergyNorth customers in this new service territory access to the Company's award winning CORE energy efficiency programs.

- Q. Why would customers not be allowed the option to be transportation customers?
- 2 A. LNG and CNG supplies would be obtained by trucking in the commodity. If a customer 3 wished to obtain its own supply, that would necessitate the customer making its own trucking arrangement, which would then need to be coordinated with the Company's own 4 5 supply scheduling. If customers were able to obtain their own supply, the logistical 6 challenges would become more complex. Therefore, at least initially, all customers would be sales customers. That said, the Company would evaluate potential alternatives 7 and would not rule out providing transportation-only service if there were a demand for 8 such service. 9
- Q. Could there be situations where it may be appropriate to serve certain customers pursuant to a special contract?
- Yes. Consistent with Section 5(C) of EnergyNorth's tariff, there may be circumstances,

 such as a large dual-fuel customer, where a customer may be served pursuant to a special

 contract that involves such terms as longer service periods, revenue guarantees through

 minimum take-or-pay amounts or other terms to ensure recovery of the Company's

 investment in the system and facilities necessary to serve a particular customer's needs.

 Any such situations would be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.
- 18 Q. Does this conclude your testimony?
- 19 A. Yes, it does.