THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DG 18-140

LIBERTY UTILITIES (ENERGYNORTH NATURAL GAS) CORP. d/b/a LIBERTY UTILITIES

Petition to Approve Renewable Natural Gas Supply and Transportation Contract ORDER OF NOTICE

On September 7, 2018, Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp., d/b/a Liberty Utilities (Liberty), filed with the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission (Commission) a petition for approval of a renewable natural gas (RNG) supply and transportation agreement with RUDARPA, Inc., for the purchase of processed, pipeline quality RNG produced from a landfill located in Bethlehem, New Hampshire, to be compressed and delivered into Liberty's distribution system or transported to other locations to be used in place of natural gas. The petition, supporting testimony, and subsequent docket filings, other than any information for which confidential treatment is requested of or granted by the Commission, will be posted to the Commission's website at http://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2018/18-140.html.

The filing raises, *inter alia*, issues related to RSA 374:1, RSA 374:2, and RSA 378:7 (requirement for utilities to provide safe and adequate service at just and reasonable rates); RSA 374:3 (Commission's general supervision over utilities); RSA 374:4 (Commission's duty to keep informed); RSA 374:5 and 374:7 (requirement that utilities provide advance notice of plans for substantial capital improvements, and Commission's authority to investigate and approve such plans); RSA 378:28 (whether entry into long-term agreement is prudent and in the public interest); and RSA Chapter 370 *et al.* (whether Liberty's plans and specifications for the use of

RNG meet appropriate supply quality and operating safety standards). Each party has the right to have an attorney represent the party at the party's own expense.

Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby

ORDERED, that a Prehearing Conference, pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.15, be held before the Commission located at 21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire, on November 28, 2018 at 10:00 a.m., and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that, immediately following the Prehearing Conference,
Liberty, the Staff of the Commission, and any Intervenors hold a Technical Session to review the
petition on November 28, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.12, Liberty shall notify all persons desiring to be heard at this hearing by publishing a copy of this Order of Notice no later than October 31, 2018, in a newspaper with general circulation in those portions of the state in which operations are conducted, publication to be documented by affidavit filed with the Commission on or before November 28, 2018; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that consistent with N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.17 and Puc 203.02, any party seeking to intervene in the proceeding shall submit to the Commission seven copies of a Petition to Intervene with copies sent to Liberty and the Office of the Consumer Advocate on or before November 23, 2018, such Petition stating the facts demonstrating how its rights, duties, privileges, immunities, or other substantial interest may be affected by the proceeding, as required by N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.17; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that any party objecting to a Petition to Intervene make said Objection on or before November 28, 2018.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this seventeenth day of October, 2018.

Debra A. Howland Executive Director

Individuals needing assistance or auxiliary communication aids due to sensory impairment or other disability should contact the Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator, NHPUC, 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire 03301-2429; 603-271-2431; TDD Access: Relay N.H. 1-800-735-2964. Notification of the need for assistance should be made one week prior to the scheduled event.