



# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

### NOTICE OF FILING AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

D.P.U. 19-GAF-P6

September 16, 2019

Petition of Liberty Utilities (New England Natural Gas Company) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities pursuant to G.L. c. 164 and 220 CMR 6.04, 6.11 for approval of its 2019/20 peak local distribution adjustment factor and gas adjustment factor filings, effective November 1, 2019.

On August 2, 2019, Liberty Utilities (“Company” or “Liberty”) filed with the Department of Public Utilities (“Department”) its seasonal local distribution adjustment factor filing (“LDAF”), pursuant to G.L. c. 164 and 220 CMR 6.11. The filing includes the residential assistance adjustment factor (“RAAF”), remediation adjustment factor (“RAF”), attorney general consultant expense factor (“AGCEF”), energy efficiency surcharge (“EES”), and pension adjustment factor (“PAF”). The proposed rates are for effect November 1, 2019. The Department has docketed this petition as D.P.U. 19-GAF-P6.

The table below summarizes the proposed rates in dollars per therm:

<b><u>Rate Class</u></b>	<b><u>RAAF</u></b>	<b><u>RAF</u></b>	<b><u>PAF</u></b>	<b><u>EES</u></b>	<b><u>AGCEF</u></b>	<b><u>LDAF<sup>1</sup></u></b>
Residential	\$0.0436	\$0.0406	\$0.0382	\$0.1361	\$0.0003	\$0.3219
Low Load C&I	\$0.0354	\$0.0329	\$0.0226	\$0.0448	\$0.0003	\$0.1732
High Load C&I	\$0.0218	\$0.0203	\$0.0119	\$0.0448	\$0.0002	\$0.1362

If the Department approves the Company’s LDAFs as proposed, a typical residential heating customer will see an average monthly bill decrease of \$3.84, or 3.85 percent, compared to the LDAFs currently in effect. For specific bill impacts, please contact the Company as shown below.

The Company will file its peak gas adjustment factor filing (“GAF”) in this docket at least 45 days prior to the date on which the proposed GAFs are to be effective. The Company is required to file its peak GAF filing no later than September 17, 2019. Liberty may, at any time during the peak period, submit an amended GAF filing. The amended GAF filing must be submitted seven business days before the first billing cycle of the month in which it is proposed to take effect.

<sup>1</sup> The LDAF rate contains additional components not set forth in the table.

Any person interested in commenting on the **LDAF** filing may submit written comments no later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **Monday, September 30, 2019**. Any person interested in commenting on the **GAF** filing may submit written comments no later than the close of business on **Tuesday, October 1, 2019**. One original and one (1) copy of all written documents must be filed with Mark D. Marini, Secretary, Department of Public Utilities, One South Station, 5th Floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02110. In addition, one (1) copy of all written documents must be sent to counsel for the Company, Ronald Ritchie, Liberty Utilities, 36 Fifth St., P.O. Box 911, Fall River, MA 02722.

All documents should also be submitted to the Department in electronic format using one of the following methods: (1) by e-mail attachment to [dpu.efiling@mass.gov](mailto:dpu.efiling@mass.gov) and the hearing officer, Andrew Strumfels at [andrew.w.strumfels@mass.gov](mailto:andrew.w.strumfels@mass.gov); or (2) on a CD-ROM. The text of the e-mail or CD-ROM label must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (D.P.U. 19-GAF-P6); (2) the name of the person or company submitting the filing; and (3) a brief descriptive title of the document. All documents submitted in electronic format will be posted on the Department's website: <http://www.mass.gov/dpu>.

Copies of the filing are available for inspection during regular business hours at the offices of the Department, One South Station, 5th Floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02110. The petition is also available on the Department's website and may be accessed by docket number (D.P.U. 19-GAF-P6) in the file room at <https://eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us/DPU/Fileroom>. To request materials in accessible formats (braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), contact the Department's ADA coordinator at [DPUADACoordinator@mass.gov](mailto:DPUADACoordinator@mass.gov) or (617) 305-3500. For further information regarding the filing, please contact the counsel for the Company, Ronald Ritchie at (774) 627-2910. For further information regarding this notice, please contact Andrew Strumfels, Hearing Officer, Department of Public Utilities, at (617) 305-3500.