



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

NOTICE OF FILING AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

D.P.U. 20-14

February 10, 2020

Petition of Liberty Utilities (New England Natural Gas Company) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities for approval of its Revenue Decoupling Adjustment Factors for the 2020 Off-Peak Period, May 1, 2020, through October 31, 2020.

On January 31, 2020, Liberty Utilities (New England Natural Gas Company) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities (“Company”) filed a petition with the Department of Public Utilities (“Department”) for approval of its revenue decoupling adjustment factors (“RDAFs”), for effect May 1, 2020. This filing was made pursuant to: Liberty Utilities (New England Natural Gas Company) Corp., D.P.U. 15-75 (2016); Reduction in Federal Income Tax Rates, D.P.U. 18-15-A (2018); and the Company’s revenue decoupling adjustment clause (“RDAC”) tariff, M.D.P.U. No. 1025H. The RDAC allows the Company to modify, on a semi-annual basis, its base distribution rates as a result of changes in customer usage, in order to promote the efficient deployment of demand resources. See NSTAR Gas Company, D.P.U. 14-150, at 22-23 (2015). The Department has docketed this petition as D.P.U. 20-14.

The Company proposes RDAF charges of \$0.0384 per therm for residential customers, \$0.0453 per therm for commercial and industrial low-load customers, and \$0.0095 per therm for commercial and industrial high-load customers, effective May 1, 2020 through October 31, 2020. As a result of the proposed changes to the RDAF, the average residential heating customer using 29 therms per month during the off-peak period will experience a bill decrease of \$0.37, or \$0.99 percent as compared to the previously effective off-peak RDAF. The Company states that the average monthly bill impact for all rate classes at each class’s average use will range from a decrease of 0.60 percent to 1.71 percent as compared to last year’s off-peak period RDAF. For specific bill impacts, please contact the Company as shown below.

Any person interested in commenting on this matter may submit written comments no later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **April 17, 2020**. One original 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 copy of all written comments should be sent to the Company’s attorney, Ronald John Ritchie, Esq., Liberty Utilities, 36 Fifth Street, Fall River, Massachusetts 02721.

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 and to the Hearing Officer, Jessica.Ellis@mass.gov or (2) on a CD-ROM. The text of the e-mail or CD-ROM must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (D.P.U. 20-14); (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>.

A copy of the filing is available for public viewing during regular business hours at the Department, One South Station, 5th Floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02110. The filing is also available on the Department's website, <http://web1.env.state.ma.us/DPU/FileRoom/dockets/bynumber> (enter "20-14"). To request materials in accessible formats (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format) contact the Department's ADA Coordinator at DPUADACoordinator@mass.gov or (617) 305-3500.

Any person desiring further information regarding the Company's filing should contact its counsel, Ronald John Ritchie, Esq., at (774) 627-2910. For further information regarding this notice, please contact Jessica Ellis, Hearing Officer, Department of Public Utilities, at (617) 305-3500.