

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

NOTICE OF FILING, PUBLIC HEARING, AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

D.P.U. 24-102

August 7, 2024

Petition of Liberty Utilities (New England Natural Gas Company) Corp. d/b/a Liberty for approval of an Asset Management Agreement with NRG Business Marketing, LLC, for effect November 1, 2024 through October 31, 2027, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94A.

On July 12, 2024, Liberty Utilities (New England Natural Gas Company) Corp. d/b/a Liberty ("Company") filed with the Department of Public Utilities ("Department") a petition for approval of an asset management agreement ("Agreement") with NRG Business Marketing, LLC ("NRG"). The Department has docketed this matter as D.P.U. 24-102.

Pursuant to G. L. c. 164, § 94A, the Company is required to submit for the Department's approval contracts for the purchase of natural gas with a term in excess of one year. The Agreement is for a three-year period commencing November 1, 2024. According to the Company, NRG will provide supply, storage, and transportation asset management services to the Company using the Blackstone service area's storage and transportation assets, which the Company would release to NRG during the term of the Agreement.

The Department will conduct a public hearing to receive comments on the Company's petition on **Wednesday, September 11, 2024, beginning at 2:00 p.m.** The hearing will be virtual and use Zoom videoconferencing. Attendees can join the public meeting by entering the link, <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82763539187>, from a computer, smartphone, or tablet. No prior software download is required. For audio-only access to the public hearing, attendees can dial in at **(646) 558-8656 or (309) 205-3325 (not toll free)** and then enter the **Meeting ID# 827 6353 9187**. If you anticipate providing comments via Zoom during the public hearing, please send an email by **Tuesday, September 10, 2024**, to elizabeth.c.mcnamara@mass.gov with your name, email address, and mailing address.

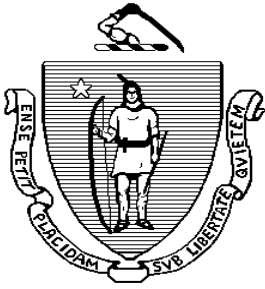
Any person interested in commenting on this matter may submit written comments no later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **Thursday, September 12, 2024**. Please note that, in the interest of transparency, any comments will be posted to our website as received and without redacting personal information such as addresses, telephone numbers, or email addresses. Therefore, consider the extent of information you wish to share when submitting comments. The Department strongly encourages public comments to be submitted by email using the methods described below. If, however, a member of the public is unable to send written comments by email, a paper copy may be sent to Mark D. Marini, Secretary, Department of Public Utilities, One South Station, Boston, Massachusetts, 02110.

Any person who desires to participate otherwise in the evidentiary phase of this proceeding shall file a petition for leave to intervene no later than 5:00 p.m. on **Friday, August 30, 2024**. A petition for leave to intervene must satisfy the timing and substantive requirements of 220 CMR 1.03. Receipt by the Department constitutes filing and determines whether a petition has been timely filed. A petition filed late may be disallowed as untimely, unless good cause is shown for waiver under 220 CMR 1.01(4). To be allowed, a petition under 220 CMR 1.03(1) must satisfy the standing requirements of G.L. c. 30A, § 10. All responses to petitions to intervene must be filed by the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on the second business day after the petition to intervene was filed.

To the extent a person or entity wishes to submit comments or a petition to intervene in accordance with this Notice, electronic submission is sufficient. All documents must be submitted to the Department in .pdf format by e mail attachment to dpu.efiling@mass.gov and elizabeth.c.mcnamara@mass.gov. The text of the e-mail must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (D.P.U. 24-102); (2) the name of the person or company submitting the filing; and (3) a brief descriptive title of the document. In addition, a copy of all comments or petitions to intervene should be sent to the Company's attorney, Ronald Ritchie, Esq., at r.j.ritchie@libertyutilities.com. All documents submitted in electronic format will be posted on the Department's website through our online File Room as soon as practicable (enter "24-102") at: <https://eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us/DPU/Fileroom/dockets/bynumber>.

To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), contact the Department's ADA coordinator at Jenyka.Spitz-Gassnola2@mass.gov.

For further information regarding the Company's filing, please contact the Company's attorney, Ronald Ritchie, Esq., at r.j.ritchie@libertyutilities.com or (774) 320-5801. For further information regarding this Notice, please contact Elizabeth McNamara, Hearing Officer, Department of Public Utilities, at elizabeth.c.mcnamara@mass.gov.



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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

ORDER OF NOTICE

D.P.U. 24-102

August 7, 2024

Petition of Liberty Utilities (New England Natural Gas Company) Corp. d/b/a Liberty for approval of an Asset Management Agreement with NRG Business Marketing, LLC, for effect November 1, 2024 through October 31, 2027, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94A.

Liberty Utilities (New England Natural Gas Company) Corp. d/b/a Liberty (“Company”) is required to publish the attached Notice of Filing, Public Hearing, and Request For Comments (“Notice”) no later than **August 14, 2024**, in either the Boston Globe or the Boston Herald.

The Company is required to serve a copy of the attached Notice no later than **August 12, 2024** on the service list in: (1) Liberty Utilities (New England Natural Gas Company) Corp., D.P.U. 21-88 (2021); (2) Liberty Utilities (New England Natural Gas Company) Corp., D.P.U. 22-129 (2023); and (3) on any person who has asked to be notified by the Company. The Company’s service may be by electronic distribution, which the Department finds reasonable and consistent with the public interest.

Finally, the Company shall prominently display the Notice on its website from three business days following receipt of the notice from the Department through the end of the comment period.

The Company shall make return of service and proof of publication (including evidence of the required website posting) no later than **September 10, 2024**.

By Order of the Department,

/s/

Mark D. Marini, Secretary