



# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

### NOTICE OF FILING AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

D.P.U. 24-PGAF-LIB

September 9, 2024

Petition of Liberty Utilities (New England Natural Gas Company) Corp. d/b/a Liberty pursuant to G.L. c. 164 and 220 CMR 6.04, 6.11 for approval of its 2024/25 local distribution adjustment factor and peak gas adjustment factor filings, effective November 1, 2024.

On August 5, 2024, Liberty Utilities (New England Natural Gas Company) Corp. d/b/a Liberty (“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 Company revised its filing on August 21, 2024. These filings include 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, 2024. The Department has docketed this petition as D.P.U. 24-PGAF-LIB.

The tables below summarize the proposed rates in dollars per therm:

<u>Fall River/North Attleboro Service Area</u>		<u>Blackstone Service Area</u>	
<u>Rate Class</u>	<u>LDAF</u>	<u>Rate Class</u>	<u>LDAF</u>
Residential	\$0.7419	Residential	\$0.4040
Low Load C&I	\$0.4551	Low Load C&I	\$0.2351
High Load C&I	\$0.3817	High Load C&I	\$0.2073

If the Department approves the Company’s LDAFs as proposed, a typical residential heating customer in the Company’s Fall River and North Attleboro service area will see an **average monthly bill (increase) of \$34.64, or 19.09 percent** compared to the LDAF currently in effect, and a typical residential heating customer in the Company’s Blackstone service area will see an **average monthly bill increase of \$27.82, or 21.30 percent**, compared to the LDAF currently in effect. For specific bill impacts, please contact the Company as shown below.

The Company is required to file its peak gas adjustment factor filing (“GAF”) filing in this docket, for both its Fall River and North Attleboro service area and its Blackstone service area, no later than September 17, 2024, at least 45 days prior to the date on which the proposed GAFs are to be effective (November 1, 2024). 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.

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 **Friday, October 4, 2024**. Any person interested in commenting on the **GAF** filing may submit written comments no later than the close of business on **Friday, October 11, 2024**.

Written comments from the public may be sent by email to [dpu.efiling@mass.gov](mailto:dpu.efiling@mass.gov), Mathieu Cunha, at [Mathieu.Cunha@mass.gov](mailto:Mathieu.Cunha@mass.gov), and the Company's attorney, Ronald J Ritchie, Esq., at [r.j.ritchie@libertyutilities.com](mailto:r.j.ritchie@libertyutilities.com). 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. As such, consider the extent of information you wish to share when submitting comments. The Department strongly encourages public comments to be submitted by email. 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.

All documents should be submitted to the Department in PDF format by e-mail attachment to [dpu.efiling@mass.gov](mailto:dpu.efiling@mass.gov) and [Mathieu.Cunha@mass.gov](mailto:Mathieu.Cunha@mass.gov). The text of the e-mail must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (D.P.U. 24-PGAF-LIB); (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 through our online File Room as soon as practicable (enter "24-PGAF-LIB") at: <https://eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us/DPU/Room/dockets/bynumber>. In addition, one copy of all written comments should be emailed to the Company's attorney, Ronald J Ritchie, Esq., at [r.j.ritchie@libertyutilities.com](mailto:r.j.ritchie@libertyutilities.com).

The Company's filing and all subsequent related documents submitted to the Department or issued by the Department will be available on the Department's website as referenced above as soon as is practicable. To the extent a person or entity wishes to submit comments in accordance with this Notice, electronic submission, as detailed above, is sufficient. To request materials in accessible formats (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), contact the Department's ADA coordinator at [Jenyka.Spitz-Gassnola2@mass.gov](mailto:Jenyka.Spitz-Gassnola2@mass.gov).

For further information regarding the Company's filing please contact the Company's attorney, identified above. For further information regarding this Notice, please contact Mathieu Cunha, Hearing Officer, Department of Public Utilities, at [Mathieu.Cunha@mass.gov](mailto:Mathieu.Cunha@mass.gov).