



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

NOTICE OF FILING AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

D.P.U. 18-87

August 28, 2018

Petition of Liberty Utilities (New England Natural Gas Company) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities for approval of its annual pension adjustment factor reconciliation filing for effect November 1, 2018.

On August 3, 2018, 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 annual pension and post-retirement benefits other than pensions ("PBOP") adjustment factors ("PAFs"). The Company made this filing pursuant to New England Gas Company, D.P.U. 07-46 (2007); Liberty Utilities (New England Gas Company) Corp., D.P.U. 15-75 (2015); and M.D.P.U. No. 1002N. The Department has docketed this petition as D.P.U. 18-87. In separate filings, the Company is proposing other changes to its rates effective November 1, 2018, that may also have an impact on customers' bills. See Liberty Utilities (New England Natural Gas Company) Corp., D.P.U. 18-GAF-P6.

The Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts ("Attorney General") filed a notice to intervene in this matter pursuant to G.L. c. 12, § 11E(a). Further, pursuant to G.L. c. 12, § 11E(b), the Attorney General filed a notice of intent to retain experts and consultants to assist her investigation of the Company's filing, and has requested Department approval to spend up to \$150,000 in this regard. Pursuant to G.L. c. 12, § 11E(b), the costs incurred by the Attorney General relative to her retention of experts and consultants may be recovered in the Company's rates. Any person who desires to comment on the Attorney General's notice of intent to retain experts and consultants may submit written comments to the Department not later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **September 26, 2018**.

The Company proposes the following PAFs, effective November 1, 2018, and included for billing purposes in the Company's local distribution adjustment factor:

Rate Classes	PAF (per therm)
Residential (R-1, R-2, R-3, R-4, T-1, T-2, T-3, and T-4)	\$0.0371
Commercial/Industrial (Low Load) (G-41, G-42, G-43, T-41, T-42, and T-43)	\$0.0219
Commercial/Industrial (High Load) (G-51, G-52, G-53, T-51, T-52, and T-53)	\$0.0114

Any person who desires to file written comments or to participate otherwise in this proceeding shall file written comments or a petition for leave to intervene no later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **September 26, 2018**. One original and two (2) copies of all written documents or petition to intervene 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 or petition to intervene should be sent to the Company's attorney, Ronald J. Ritchie, Esq., Liberty Utilities, 36 Fifth Street, Fall River, Massachusetts 02721.

A petition for leave to intervene must satisfy the timing and substantive requirements of 220 C.M.R. § 1.03. Receipt by the Department, not mailing, 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 C.M.R. § 1.01(4). To be allowed, a petition under 220 C.M.R. § 1.03(1) must satisfy the standing requirements of G.L. c. 30A, § 10.

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@state.ma.us and the hearing officer, Sarah Spruce, at sarah.spruce@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. 18-87); (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://web1.env.state.ma.us/DPU/FileRoom/dockets/bynumber> (enter docket number "18-87").

A copy of the filing is available for public viewing during regular business hours at the offices of 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 "18-87"). To request materials in accessible formats (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), contact the Department's ADA Coordinator at DPUADACoordinator@state.ma.us or (617) 305-3642.

Any person desiring further information regarding the Company's filing should contact counsel for the Company, Ronald J. Ritchie, Esq., at (774) 627-2910. For further information regarding this notice, please contact Sarah Spruce, Hearing Officer, Department of Public Utilities, at (617) 305-3632.