

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

NOTICE OF FILING AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

D.P.U. 24-OGAF-LIB

March 29, 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 revised 2023/24 local distribution adjustment factor and peak gas adjustment factor filings, effective May 1, 2024.

On March 15, 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 off-peak gas adjustment factors (“GAFs”), pursuant to G.L. c. 164 and 220 CMR 6.00. The filing includes the Company’s off-peak GAF for effect May 1, 2024, through October 31, 2024, as well as the reconciliation of its 2023 off-peak period gas costs. The Company also filed a revision to its seasonal local distribution adjustment factor filing (“LDAF”), pursuant to G.L. c. 164 and 220 CMR 6.11. The filing includes updated residential assistance adjustment factor (“RAAF”), energy efficiency surcharges (“EES”). The proposed rates are for effect May 1, 2024. The Department has docketed both of these petitions as D.P.U. 24-OGAF-LIB.

The tables below summarize the proposed LDAF 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	\$0.8283	Residential	\$0.5380
Low Load C&I	\$0.3838	Low Load C&I	\$0.1954
High Load C&I	\$0.3416	High Load C&I	\$0.2059

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 decrease/increase of \$10.91, or 24.76 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 \$9.32, or 25.82 percent**, compared to the LDAF currently in effect. For specific bill impacts, please contact the Company as shown below.

For its Fall River/North Attleboro service area, the Company submitted a proposed off-peak GAF of \$0.2612 per therm for all customers. If the Department approves the Company’s GAF as proposed, a typical residential heating (R-3) customer in the Company’s Fall

River/North Attleboro service area will see an average monthly bill increase of \$5.81 per month, or 12.67 percent, compared to the 2023 off-peak period.

For its Blackstone service area, the Company submitted a proposed off-peak GAF of \$0.4210 per therm for all customers. If the Department approves the Company's GAF as proposed, a typical residential heating (R-3) customer in the Company's Blackstone service area will see an average monthly bill decrease of \$0.33 per month, or 0.78 percent, compared to the 2023 off-peak period. For specific bill impacts, please contact the Company as shown below.

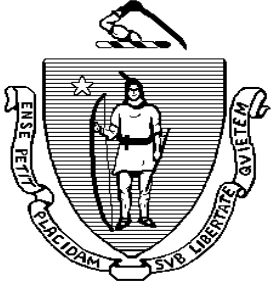
Liberty may, at any time during the offpeak period, submit an amended GAF filing. The amended GAF filing must be submitted seven business days before the first billing cycle of the month in which it is proposed to take effect.

Any person interested in commenting on this matter may submit written comments no later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **Friday, April 12, 2024**. Written comments from the public may be sent by email to dpu.efiling@mass.gov, Mathieu Cunha, at Mathieu.Cunha@mass.gov, and the Company's attorney, Ronald Ritchie, Esq. at 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 and Mathieu.Cunha@mass.gov. The text of the e-mail must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (D.P.U. 24-OGAF-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-OGAF-LIB") at: <https://eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us/DPU/Fileroom/dockets/bynumber>. In addition, one copy of all written comments should be emailed to the Company's attorney, Ronald Ritchie, Esq. at 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 Andrea.R.Casul@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.



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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

ORDER OF NOTICE

D.P.U. 24-OGAF-LIB

March 29, 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 revised 2023/24 local distribution adjustment factor and peak gas adjustment factor filings, effective May 1, 2024.

Liberty Utilities (New England Natural Gas Company) Corp. d/b/a Liberty (“Company”) is required to serve a copy of the attached Notice of Filing and Request for Comments no later than **Wednesday, April 3, 2024**, on the service lists for D.P.U. 23-OGAF-LIB and D.P.U. 23-PGAF-LIB, the Attorney General of the Commonwealth, and 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 must make return of service at the close of the comment period.

By Order of the Department,

/s/

Mark D. Marini, Secretary