

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DG 25-078

LIBERTY UTILITIES (ENERGYNORTH NATURAL GAS) CORP. d/b/a LIBERTY

Request to Change Tariff Effective Date for Updated Per Foot Charge

Order *Nisi* Granting Request for Change in Effective Date

ORDER NO. 28,206

February 6, 2026

On December 19, 2025, Liberty Utilities (EnergyNorth Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty (Liberty) filed a petition to change the effective date of the annual adjustment of their “extra footage” charge from April 1 to July 1. The petition and subsequent docket filings, other than information for which confidential treatment is requested of or granted by the Commission, are posted to the Commission’s website at

<https://www.puc.nh.gov/VirtualFileRoom/Docket.aspx?DocketNumber=DG%2025-078>. The Commission GRANTS the request and sets the effective date of the extra footage charge to July 1.

I. BACKGROUND AND PROCEDURAL HISTORY

In Liberty’s most recent rate case, Docket No. DG 23-067, the Commission approved their Tariff NHPUC No. 12, which imposes a charge for the portion of a service extension that exceeds 100 feet, known as the “Extra Footage” charge. *See* Tariff Page 4 and 5. An effective date of April 1 was set for updates to the charge. *Id.* In Liberty Utilities (Granite State Electric) Corp. d/b/a Liberty’s electric rate case Docket No. DE 25-039, the Commission ordered Liberty to submit petitions to update their analogous line extension rate at least sixty days prior to the

effective date. *See Order 28,162 at 5 (June 27, 2025).* In its request, Liberty states that if the same sixty-day notice is applied to the gas tariff, the deadline for submission would be around January 30. According to the petition, the cost data and service records necessary to file an updated extra footage charge is not available in time to submit a filing to the Commission by January 30. Petition at 2. Liberty is requesting the effective date of the Extra Footage charge be extended to July 1, to allow the necessary information to be produced and submitted sixty days prior to the effective date.

The request was filed pursuant to Puc 1605, which allows for a simplified process for approval of minor “service or tariff changes” that do not affect the return on a utility’s property used and useful in the provision of services, less accrued depreciation.

II. COMMISSION ANALYSIS

A. Format of Request

Puc 1605 allows a utility to file a shortened procedure for a “service or tariff change”, including a change in rate for a line or main extensions Puc 1605.01(a)(3). As this is a request related to a change in rate for a line or main extension that will not result in a significant change to the return on the cost of the property, the request is considered a “service or tariff change”. However, in the future, all requests for Commission action must be made in the form of a pleading in compliance with New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules, Puc 203.06.

B. Extending Effective Date

Liberty makes its request based on an assumption that a requirement imposed on a similar tariff structure should or will be imposed on the tariff at hand. Technically, the request is unnecessary because no such sixty-day deadline exists relative to the submission of information on the updated extra footage charge. However, the Commission does appreciate the anticipation

that such a requirement could be imposed in the future and agrees that sixty days is an appropriate amount of time to review the required information.

The New Hampshire Department of Energy (DOE) noted in its review of Liberty's filing that the effect of the proposed change will not have a significant impact on rates.

Therefore, the Commission GRANTS the request and changes the effective date of the extra footage rate to July 1, with Liberty being required to file any request for such change at least sixty days in advance.

Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby

ORDERED *NISI*, that subject to the effective date below, Liberty's petition to amend its tariff is GRANTED; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that Liberty shall post a copy of this order on the Company's website within two business days of the date of this order, with an affidavit of publication to be filed with this office on or before March 4, 2026; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that all persons interested in responding to this order be notified that they may submit their comments or file a written request for a hearing, stating the reason and basis for a hearing, no later than February 12, 2026, for the Commission's consideration; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that any party interested in responding to such comments or request for hearing shall do so no later than February 19, 2026; and it is

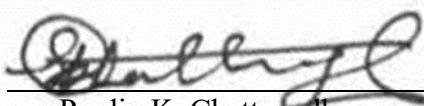
FURTHER ORDERED, that this order shall be effective March 7, 2026, unless Liberty fails to satisfy the publication obligation set forth above or the Commission provides otherwise in a supplemental order issued prior to the effective date; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that Liberty shall file any future petitions to update its extra footage charge at least sixty days before the effective date to provide sufficient time for the Commission to review its filing.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this sixth day of February 2026.



Mark W. Dell'Orfano
Interim Chairman



Pradip K. Chattopadhyay
Commissioner

Service List - Docket Related

Docket#: 25-078

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