VOLUME 1, PAGES 1-18

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES DPU 23-58, 23-70, 23-91, 23-93

PUBLIC HEARINGS held via Zoom video conference by the Department of Public Utilities, One South Station, Boston, Massachusetts, on Friday, December 15, 2023, commencing at 2:03 p.m., concerning

> Three-Year Energy Efficiency Plans Cape Light Compact JPE; Unitil; Liberty Utilities; The Berkshire Gas Company

SITTING:

Elyssa Klein, Hearing Officer Krista Hawley, Hearing Officer Gas Division: Cara Mottola, Eli Moses Electric Power Division: Sharon Ballard

-----Reporter: David A. Arsenault, RPR-----Farmer Arsenault Brock LLC Boston, Massachusetts 617.728.4404 Page 1

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			Pages 25
1	Page 2	1	Page 4 Rich May, PC
2	Keegan Werlin LLP	2	Joseph Dorfler, Esq.
3	Kevin Penders, Esq.	3	Emmett Lyne, Esq.
4	Michael Hershberg, Esq.	4	176 Federal Street
5	99 High Street, Suite 2900	5	Boston, Massachusetts 02110
6	Boston, Massachusetts 02110	6	617.556.3800
7	617.951.1400	7	jdorfler@richmaylaw.com
8	kpenders@keeganwerlin.com	8	elyne@richmaylaw.com
9	mhershberg@keeganwerlin.com	9	for The Berkshire Gas Company
10	for Unitil in DPU 23-70;	10	in DPU 23-93
11	Liberty Utilities (New England Natural	11	
12	Gas Company) Corp. in DPU 23-91	12	
13		13	
14	KO Law, P.C.	14	
15	Audrey Eidelman Kiernan, Esq.	15	
16	1337 Massachusetts Avenue	16	
17	Box 301	17	
18	Arlington, Massachusetts 02476	18	
19	617.644.7681	19	
20	akiernan@kolawpc.com	20	
21	for Cape Light Compact JPE in DPU 23-58	21	
22		22	
23		23	
24		24	
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1	Office of the Attorney General	1	PROCEEDINGS 2:03 p.m.
2	Office of Ratepayer Advocacy	2	
3	William C. Rose, Esq.	3	MS. KLEIN: We are on the record.
4	One Ashburton Place	4	Good afternoon. This is four public
5	Boston, Massachusetts 02108	5	hearings on the following petitions:
6	617.727.2200	6	The petitions of the Towns of Aquinnah,
7	william.rose@mass.gov	1	Barnstable, Bourne, Brewster, Chatham, Chilmark,
8	for all dockets	8	Dennis, Eastham, Edgartown, Falmouth, Harwich,
9		9	Mashpee, Oak Bluffs, Orleans, Provincetown,
10		10	Sandwich, Tisbury, Truro, Wellfleet, West Tisbury
12	Department of Energy Resources	11	and Yarmouth, and Dukes County, acting together as
13	Rachel Graham Evans, Esq.	12 13	the Cape Light Compact JPE in DPU 23-58; Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric
14	100 Cambridge Street, Suite 1020	13	Light Company doing business as Unitil in DPU 23-70;
15	Boston, Massachusetts 02114	14	Petition of Liberty Utilities (New
16	617.626.7326	16	England Natural Gas Company) Corp. doing business as
17	rachel.evans@state.ma.us	17	Liberty in DPU 23-91;
18	in DPU 23-91 and DPU 23-93	18	And petition of The Berkshire Gas
19		19	Company in DPU 23-93.
20		20	The petitioners are each seeking a
21		20	midterm modification of its 2022-2024 three-year
22		22	energy efficiency plan approved by the Department in
		1	onorgy onlocatory plan approved by the Department in
23		23	2022-2024 three-year energy efficiency plans DPU
		23 24	2022-2024, three-year energy efficiency plans DPU 21-120 through DPU 21-129 in 2022.

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1	This is a public hearing to allow any	1	Liberty Utilities (New England Natural Gas Company)
2	interested persons to provide comment on these	2	Corp. doing business as Liberty, Kevin Penders and
3	petitions. Additionally, pursuant to the notices	3	Michael Hershberg from the law firm of Keegan
4	issued in these four proceedings the Department will	4	Werlin.
5	accept written comments on these proposed midterm	5 6	MS. KLEIN: Great.
6	modifications before close of business on Monday,	_	Mr. Lyne and Mr. Dorfler, would you
7	December 18, 2023.	7 8	please enter your appearances for Berkshire in DPU 23-93.
8	My name is Elyssa Klein. I'm the hearing officer assigned by the Commission to DPU	9	MR. DORFLER: This is Joe Dorfler and
10	23-70, DPU 23-91 and DPU 23-93. With me on the	9 10	
11	Bench today is Krista Hawley, who is the hearing	11	appearing on behalf of The Berkshire Gas Company.
12	officer assigned by the Commission to DPU 23-58.	12	
13	With us from the Department is Cara Mottola, the	13	
14		14	
15		15	
16	Electric Power Division.	16	
17	Also with us today is Shirley Barosy,	17	hearings in accordance with the November 21, 2023
18	the legal assistant from the Department's Legal	18	order of notice issued in these proceedings. The
19	Division. Ms. Barosy is today's virtual monitor.	19	petitioners have provided the Department with the
20		20	
21	Ms. Barosy.	21	appear to be in order and are accepted as such.
22	This public hearing is being	22	
23	live-streamed via the Zoom platform link and audio-	23	
24	•	24	
	Page 7		Page 0
1	Page 7 public hearing issued on November 21, 2023 in the	1	Page 9 Department recognizes the Attorney General as an
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1	but not here today Sarah McDaniel.	1	please correct me in I'm wrong.
2	MS. KLEIN: Great.	2	MS. BAROSY: You are correct.
3	MS. EVANS: Just to clarify, Hearing	3	MS. HAWLEY: Thank you.
4	Officer, we have granted intervention in all four	4	Let the record reflect there are no
5	dockets?	5	members of the public present in the attendee queue
6	MS. KLEIN: I don't think in 23-70 or 23-58.	6	who wish to be heard.
7 8		7	As a reminder, written comments may be
9	MS. EVANS: Thank you. I don't believe we have anybody from LEAN today.	8 9	submitted by the close of business Monday, December 18, 2023. The public hearing for DPU 23-58 is
10	On December 12, 2023 the Department	10	adjourned. Thank you.
11	received proposed settlement agreements filed by	11	MS. KLEIN: Thank you, Krista.
12	Liberty and Berkshire in DPU 23-91 and DPU 23-93,	12	
13	respectively, that are with the Attorney General,	13	DPU 23-70
14	LEAN and the Department of Energy Resources.	14	MS. KLEIN: Good afternoon. This is the
15	Pursuant to the hearing officers' memorandums issued	15	public hearing regarding the petition of Fitchburg
16	yesterday in these dockets, the Department will	16	Gas and Electric Company, doing business as Unitil,
17	accept written comments on the proposed settlement	17	gas division, seeking a midterm modification of
18	agreements before the close of business on Monday,	18	a 2022-2024 three-year energy efficiency plan
19	December 29, 2023.	19	approved by the Department in 2022-2024 three-year
20	The Department will accept reply	20	energy efficiency plans DPU 21-120 through DPU
21	comments on the proposed settlement agreements	21	21-129. The company seeks approval to modify
22	before the close of business on Monday, January 8,	22	its 2022-2024 three-year energy efficiency plan to
23	2024.	23	increase its Department-approved energy efficiency
24		24	budgets in the residential, income-eligible, and
	Dama 11		
1	Page 11 MS. KLEIN: We will now turn to the	1	Page 13 commercial and industrial sectors. The filing is
2	public hearing in DPU 23-58.	2	docketed as DPU 23-70.
3	MS. HAWLEY: Thank you, Elyssa.	3	This hearing is designed to ensure that
4	Good afternoon. My name is Krista	4	members of the public have the opportunity to
5	Hawley, and I'm the hearing officer assigned to this	5	comment on the company's filing. As stated earlier,
6	docket. This is a public hearing regarding the	6	this hearing is being transcribed by a stenographer
7	petition of the Cape Light Compact JPE seeking a	7	and the transcript will become part of the docket in
8	midterm modification of its 2022-2024 three-year	8	this case. To create an accurate written record at
9	energy efficiency plan as approved by the Department	9	this hearing it is essential that each person speaks
10	in 2022-24 three-year energy efficiency plans,	10	clearly and that only one person at a time speaks.
11	Dockets DPU 12-120 through DPU 21-129, issued	11	For those intending to provide comments
12	in 2022. The compact seeks approval to modify	12	today, please use the raise-hand function located at
13	its 2022-2024 three-year energy efficiency plan to	13	the bottom of the screen when instructed to do so.
14	increase its Department-approved energy efficiency	14	Selecting this icon will alert Department staff that
15	budgets in the residential and income-eligible	15	you intend to make a comment; or anyone who called
16	sectors, and to decrease its Department-approved	16	in today by telephone who wishes to raise their hand
17	energy efficiency budget in the commercial and	17	in order to comment, please press Star 9 when
18	industrial sector. This filing is docketed as DPU	18	instructed. After we hear from all members of the
19	23-58.	19	public wishing to speak, I will adjourn this public
20	This hearing is designed to ensure that	20	hearing.
21	members of the public have an opportunity to comment	21	If anyone would like to comment at this
22	on the Compact's filing. Are there members of the	22	time, please raise your hands.
23	public on today who would like to comment on this	23	I see no one has raised their hands.
			dhialan is that serves to
24	filing? I'm seeing no hands raised. Shirley,	24	Shirley, is that correct?

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1	Page 14 MS. BAROSY: That is correct.	1	Page 16 midterm modification of its 2022-2024 three-year
2	MS. KLEIN: Okay. Let the record	2	energy efficiency plan approved by the Department
3	reflect that there are no members of the public	3	in 2022-2024 three-year energy efficiency plans DPU
4	present in the attendee queue who wish to be heard.	4	21-120 through DPU 21-129. The company seeks
5	As a reminder, written comments may be submitted by	5	approval to modify its 2022-2024 three-year energy
6	the close of business on Monday, December 18. The	6	efficiency plan to increase its Department-approved
7	public hearing for DPU 23-70 is adjourned. Thank	7	energy efficiency budgets in the residential,
8	you for attending.	8	income-eligible, and commercial and industrial
9		9	sectors. The filing is docketed as DPU 23-93.
10	MS. KLEIN: We are now going to DPU	10	On December 12, 2023 the company filed a
11	23-91. This is a public hearing regarding the	11	proposed settlement agreement with the Attorney
12	petition of Liberty Utilities, (New England Natural	12	General, LEAN and DOER. After we hear from all
13	Gas Company) Corp. doing business as Liberty,	13	members of the public wishing to speak, I will
14	seeking a midterm modification of its 2022-2024	14	adjourn the public hearing.
15	three-year energy efficiency plan approved by the	15	If anyone wishes to speak, please raise
16	Department in 2022-2024 three-year energy efficiency	16	your hand.
17	plans DPU 21-120 through DPU 21-129. The company	17	I see no hands raised.
18	seeks approval to modify its 2022-2024 three-year	18	Shirley, is that correct?
19	energy efficiency plan to increase its Department-	19	MS. BAROSY: That's correct.
20	approved energy efficiency budgets in the	20	MS. KLEIN: Great. Let the record
20	residential, income-eligible, and commercial and	21	reflect that there are no members of the public
22	industrial sectors. The filing is docketed as DPU	22	present in the attendee queue who wish to be heard.
22	23-91. On December 12, 2023 the company filed a	23	As a reminder, written comments on the
23 24		23	
24	proposed settlement agreement with the Attorney	24	petition may submitted by the close of business on
	Page 15		Page 17
1	General, LEAN, and DOER.	1	Monday, December 18. Written comments on the
2	After we hear from all members of the	2	proposed settlement may be submitted by the close of
3	public wishing to speak, I will adjourn this public	3	business on Monday, December 29. Any reply comments
4	hearing. If anyone wishes to speak, please raise	4	on the proposed settlement may be submitted by the
5	your hand now.	5	close of business on Monday, January 8th.
6	I see no one has raised their hand.	6	The public hearing for DPU 23-93 is
7	Shirley, is that correct?	7	adjourned. Thank you for attending. We are off the
8	MS. BAROSY: That is correct.	8	record.
9	MS. KLEIN: Okay. Let the record	9	(2:18 p.m.)
10	reflect there are no members of the public present	10	
11	in the attendee queue who wish to be heard.	11	
12	As a reminder, written comments on the	12	
13	petition may be submitted by the close of business	13	
14	on Monday, December 18. Written comments on the	14	
15	proposed settlement may be submitted by the close of	15	
16	business on Monday, December 29. Any reply comments	16	
17	on the proposed settlement may be submitted by the	17	
18	close of business on Monday, January 8.	18	
19	The public hearing for DPU 23-91 is	19	
20	adjourned. Thank you for attending.	20	
21	-[21	
22	MS. KLEIN: We will move on to our last	22	
23	one, DPU 23-93. This is a public hearing regarding	23	
24	the petition of The Berkshire Gas Company seeking a	24	
		1	

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		5
1	Page 18 CERTIFICATE	
2		
3		
4	I, David A. Arsenault, Registered	
5	Professional Reporter, and Certified Reporter in the	
6	Commonwealth of Massachusetts, #100693, do hereby	
7	certify that the foregoing record is a true and	
8	accurate transcript of my stenographic notes taken	
9	on December 15, 2023 in the above-captioned matter.	
10		
11		
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14		
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16		
17	David A. Arsenault, RPR	
18		
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22		
23		
24		

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