



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

NOTICE OF FILING AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

D.P.U. 17-130

August 28, 2017

Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company, d/b/a Unitil, for approval of its Revenue Decoupling Adjustment Factors for the 2017-2018 Peak Period, November 1, 2017, through April 30, 2018.

On August 2, 2017, Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company, d/b/a Unitil (“Unitil” or “Company”) filed a petition with the Department of Public Utilities (“Department”) for approval of its gas division’s revenue decoupling adjustment factors (“RDAFs”), for effect November 1, 2017. This filing was made pursuant to Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company, D.P.U. 15-80/15-81 (2016); Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company, D.P.U. 11-01/11-02 (2011) and the Company’s revenue decoupling adjustment clause (“RDAC”) tariff, M.D.P.U. No. 189. The RDAC allows the Company to modify, on an annual basis, its base distribution rates as a result of changes in customer usage, in order to promote the efficient deployment of demand resources. D.P.U. 15-80/15-81, at 25. The Department has docketed this petition as D.P.U. 17-130.

The Company proposes RDAF charges of \$0.1158 per therm for the residential non-heating class; \$0.0530 per therm for the residential heating class; \$0.0275 per therm for the high winter use general service class; and \$0.0306 per therm for the low winter use general service class, effective November 1, 2017 through April 30, 2018. As a result of the changes to the RDAF, the average residential heating customer using 125 therms per month in the winter will experience a bill increase of \$8.00, or 3.64 percent, compared to RDAF rates currently in effect. Unitil states that the impact for all customers at each class’s average use will range between an increase of 2.2 percent to 5.7 percent as compared to RDAF rates currently in effect. For specific bill impacts, please contact the Company as shown below.

Any person interested in commenting on this matter may submit written comments no later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **October 6, 2017**. One original and two (2) copies of all written documents 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 should be sent to the Company’s attorney, Gary Epler, Esq., Unitil, 6 Liberty Lane West, Hampton, New Hampshire 03842.

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 to the Hearing Officer, Kevin Crane, at Kevin.Crane@state.ma.us or (2) on a CD-ROM. The text of the e-mail or CD-ROM must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (D.P.U. 17-130); (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://www.mass.gov/dpu>.

A copy of the filing is available for public viewing during regular business hours at Unitil's offices at 6 Liberty Lane West, Hampton, New Hampshire 03842; and at 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 "17-130"). To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), contact Theresa Kelly at Theresa.Kelly@state.ma.us or (617) 305-3642.

Any person desiring further information regarding the Company's filing should contact its counsel, Gary Epler, Esq., at (603) 773-6440. For further information regarding this notice, please contact Kevin Crane, Hearing Officer, Department of Public Utilities, at (617) 305-3500.