



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

NOTICE OF FILING AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

D.P.U. 16-135

August 26, 2016

Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company, d/b/a Unitil, for approval of its Revenue Decoupling Adjustment Factors for the 2016-2017 Peak Period, November 1, 2016, through April 30, 2017.

On August 1, 2016, 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, 2016. 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. 11-01/11-02, at 126-127. The Department has docketed this petition as D.P.U. 16-135.

The Company proposes RDAF charges of \$0.0909 per therm for the residential non-heating class; \$0.0410 per therm for the residential heating class; \$0.0217 per therm for the high winter use general service class; and \$0.0250 per therm for the low winter use general service class, effective November 1, 2016 through April 30, 2017. As a result of the changes to the RDAF, the average residential heating customer on default service using 125 therms per month in the winter will experience a bill decrease of \$7.13 or 3.1 percent compared to rates currently in effect. Unitil states that the impact for all customers on default service will range between a decrease of 4.2 percent to an increase of 0.9 percent depending on class and usage. 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 14, 2016**. 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 jennifer.cargill@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. 16-135); (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://www.mass.gov/dpu>, by accessing the File Room link. 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 Jennifer Cargill, Hearing Officer, Department of Public Utilities, at (617) 305-3500.