



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

NOTICE OF FILING AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

D.P.U. 17-24

March 8, 2017

Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company, d/b/a Unitil, for approval of its Revenue Decoupling Adjustment Factors for the 2017 Off-Peak Period, May 1, 2017, through October 31, 2017.

On January 30, 2017, Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company, d/b/a Unitil (“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 May 1, 2017. This filing was made pursuant to Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company, D.P.U. 15-80/15-81 (2016) 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 use, 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. 17-24.

The Company proposes RDAF credits of \$0.0110 per therm for the residential non-heating and heating class; \$0.0073 per therm for the high winter use general service class; \$0.0022 per therm for the low winter use general service class, effective May 1, 2017 through October 31, 2017. As a result of the changes to the RDAF, the average residential heating customer using 25 therms per month during the off-peak period will experience a bill decrease of \$2.73 or 5.17 percent from the previously effective off-peak RDAFs. Unitil states that the average monthly bill impact for all customers, will range between a decrease of 0.47 percent and 7.41 percent depending on rate class and use. 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 **Friday, April 7, 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, Lauren Morris, at Lauren.Morris@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. 17-24);

(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 Unital'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 "17-24"). 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 Lauren Morris, Hearing Officer, Department of Public Utilities, at (617) 305-3500.