



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

NOTICE OF FILING AND PUBLIC HEARING

D.P.U. 21-10

March 2, 2021

Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 69I, for Review and Approval of its Long-Range Forecast and Resource Plan for the five-year period 2020-2025.

On January 14, 2021, 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 Long-Range Forecast and Supply Plan (“Plan”) for the five-year period November 1, 2020 through October 31, 2025. Pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 69I, the Department must ensure a necessary energy supply for the Commonwealth at the lowest possible cost. Accordingly, the Department will review the Company’s Plan to ensure that the forecast accurately projects the gas sendout requirements of the utility’s market area. The Department has docketed this matter as D.P.U. 21-10.

The Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (“Attorney General”) filed a notice to intervene in this matter pursuant to G.L. c. 12, § 11E(a). Further, pursuant to G.L. c. 12, § 11E(b), the Attorney General filed a notice of intent to retain experts and consultants to assist in her investigation of the Company’s filing, and has requested Department approval to spend up to \$150,000 in this regard. Pursuant to G.L. c. 12, § 11E(b), the costs incurred by the Attorney General relative to her retention of experts and consultants may be recovered in the Company’s rates.

Due to the COVID-19 state of emergency issued by Governor Baker on March 10, 2020, and certain ongoing restrictions and safety measures relating to in-person events, the Department will conduct a virtual public hearing to receive comments on the Company’s filing. The Department will conduct the hearing using Zoom videoconferencing on **Tuesday, March 30, 2021**, beginning at 2:00 p.m. Attendees can join by entering the link, <https://zoom.us/j/91709194244>, from a computer, smartphone, or tablet. No prior software download is required. For audio-only access to the hearings, attendees can dial in at **(646) 558-8656 (not toll free)** and then enter the **Meeting ID# 917 0919 4244**. If you anticipate providing comments via Zoom during the public hearing, please send an email by **Thursday, March 25, 2021**, to kerri.phillips@mass.gov with your name, email address, and mailing address. If you anticipate commenting by telephone, please leave a voicemail message by **Thursday, March 25, 2021**, at (617) 305-3611 with your name, telephone number, and mailing address.

Any person interested in commenting on the Company's filing or the Attorney General's notice of intent to retain experts and consultants may submit written comments to the Department no later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **Tuesday, March 30, 2021**. Additionally, any person who desires to participate otherwise in the evidentiary phase of this proceeding shall file a petition for leave to intervene no later than 5:00 p.m. on **Friday, March 19, 2021**. A petition for leave to intervene must satisfy the timing and substantive requirements of 220 CMR 1.03. Receipt by the Department, not mailing, constitutes filing and determines whether a petition has been timely filed. A petition filed late may be disallowed as untimely, unless good cause is shown for waiver under 220 CMR 1.01(4). To be allowed, a petition under 220 CMR 1.03(1) must satisfy the standing requirements of G.L. c. 30A, § 10. All responses to petitions to intervene must be filed by the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on the fifth business day after the petition to intervene is filed.

At this time, all filings will be submitted only in electronic format in recognition of the difficulty that parties and the Department may have filing and receiving original copies due to the state of emergency and ongoing limitations related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Ordinarily, all parties would follow Sections B.1 and B.4 of the Department's Standard Ground Rules (D.P.U. 15-184-A, App. 1 (March 4, 2020)); however, until further notice, parties must retain the original paper version and the Department will later determine when the paper version must be filed with the Department Secretary. All documents must be submitted to the Department in **.pdf format** by e-mail attachment to dpu.efiling@mass.gov and kerri.phillips@mass.gov. The text of the e-mail must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (D.P.U. 21-10); (2) the name of the person or company submitting the filing; and (3) a brief descriptive title of the document. The electronic file name should identify the document but should not exceed 50 characters in length. Importantly, all large files submitted must be broken down into electronic files that do not exceed 20 MB. In addition, one copy of all written comments and petitions to intervene should be emailed to the Company's attorney, Patrick H. Taylor, Esq., at taylorp@unitil.com. To the extent a person or entity wishes to submit comments or intervene in accordance with this Notice, electronic submission, as detailed above, is sufficient. To the extent a member of the public is unable to send written comments by e-mail, a paper copy may be sent to Mark D. Marini, Secretary, Department of Public Utilities, One South Station, 5th Floor, Boston, Massachusetts, 02110.

The Company's filing and all related documentation submitted to the Department or issued by the Department in this matter will be posted on the Department's website as soon as practicable at: <https://eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us/DPU/Fileroom/dockets/bynumber> (enter "21-10"). At this time, a paper copy of the filing will not be available for public viewing at the Company's offices or the Department due to the state of emergency. To request materials in accessible formats (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), contact the Department's ADA coordinator at DPUADACoordinator@mass.gov.

For further information regarding the Company's filing, please contact the Company's counsel, Patrick H. Taylor, Esq., at taylorp@unitil.com or (603) 773-6544. For further

information regarding this notice, please contact Kerri DeYoung Phillips, Hearing Officer, Department of Public Utilities, at kerri.phillips@mass.gov.