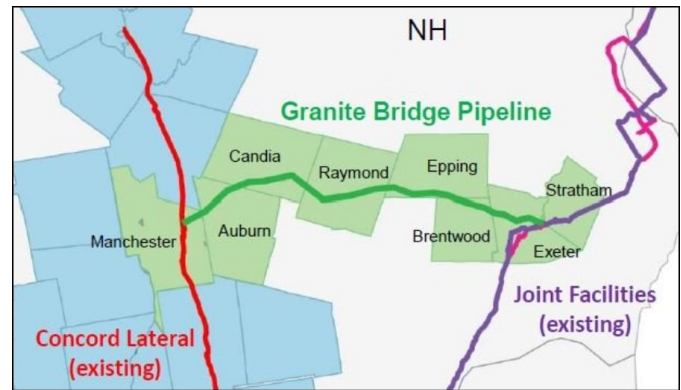


## LIBERTY UTILITIES GRANITE BRIDGE PROJECT - OVERVIEW & ISSUES

### WHAT IS PROPOSED?

- 27-mile, 16-inch diameter, high pressure (950 psi) natural gas pipeline along Route 101 from Stratham to Manchester.
- Liquefied natural gas (LNG) facility in Epping would include LNG storage tank (approx. 160' high, 200' wide, sized to store 2 billion cubic feet) and plant to liquify gas from pipeline, and regasify for distribution.
- Right-of-way for pipeline was designated an Energy Infrastructure Corridor in 2016 by legislation (NH Rev Stat § 162-R:2 (2016)).



### WHAT KEY REGULATORY APPROVALS ARE REQUIRED?

- The Public Utilities Commission (PUC) is now reviewing the project, largely from a financial perspective.
- The Site Evaluation Committee (SEC) will review siting issues (SEC filing planned end of 2018).

### WHY IS THIS BEING PROPOSED?

- Liberty claims demand for gas is expanding beyond what existing infrastructure (the Concord Lateral) can support. However, they have been aggressively marketing gas for years to create this demand.
- Investor-owned utilities have a financial incentive to expand gas infrastructure because they receive a guaranteed rate of return on investment.

### LIBERTY HAS HAD AN AGGRESSIVE EXPANSION PLAN FOR YEARS

- Liberty was the only NH gas utility signed on as customer for Kinder Morgan's failed Northeast Energy Direct project (NED); Liberty proposed new, four-town franchise in the NED-impacted Rindge area (and met with significant local opposition).
- Acquired Concord Steam (biomass plant) customer base to convert to gas.
- Bought out Keene air-propane system, acquired new franchise rights in Pelham & Windham.
- Temporary compressed natural gas facility okayed by Keene for a Liberty franchise.
- New distribution pipelines built in Pelham.
- Lebanon/Hanover franchise conditionally approved (final approval depends on whether Liberty signs up enough customers).
- Possible new franchises mentioned for Epping, Candia, Raymond.



## LIBERTY UTILITIES GRANITE BRIDGE PROJECT - OVERVIEW & ISSUES (p.2)

### LIBERTY DOES NOT DISCLOSE ALL OF THE COSTS AND RISKS OF THE PROJECT<sup>1</sup>

- Much of the financial information about Granite Bridge is currently being kept confidential.
- Costs of such projects typically far exceed initial projections.
- Liberty's ratepayers will be asked to fund the project (currently approximated at \$350 million total cost).
- Liberty cannot guarantee that natural gas prices will remain low.
- The NH Consumer Advocate (who has access to confidential information) is calling for greater transparency about this project and has expressed concern that **ratepayers and the public do not have access to information about the costs** that will ultimately be used by Liberty to request rate increases. He flags a "very, very, very substantial" increase to the rate base proposed by Liberty that he cannot disclose due to a Protective Order filed by the company with the PUC.
- Environmental impacts would include Lamprey River crossings, construction near Massabesic Lake.

### HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

- Become a member of PLAN-NE, which is intervening at the PUC on behalf of ratepayers and concerned residents. Intervenors can gain access to confidential information. PLAN-NE works with legal and technical experts with decades of experience in energy advocacy and analysis.
- Comment on the PUC docket (DG 17-198) to express your concerns.
- Raise your concerns with municipal officials and state legislators.
- Spread local awareness about the project in person, through social media and traditional media.



*Working to prevent the overbuild of fossil fuel infrastructure  
and to champion clean, sustainable energy solutions.*

**An annotated version of this handout is available on our website.**

***We will continue to update our website with information about the Granite Bridge project.***

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<sup>1</sup> On April 10th, Liberty submitted new versions of its expert testimony with less material redacted, but key financial information is still being kept confidential.