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August 3, 2015

Via fax to: (413) 784-1244

The Honorable Maura Healey
Office of Massachusetts Attorney General
One Ashburton Place
Boston, MA 02108-1518

RE: Berkshire Gas' Investment in Proposed Tennessee Gas Pipeline Project

Dear Attorney General:

On behalf of Northeast Energy Solutions (NEES), we respectfully request your examination into Berkshire Gas Company's decision to invest in the proposed Tennessee Gas Pipeline project while at the same time enforcing a moratorium on new natural gas customers in its eastern region, including Berkshire and Franklin Counties.

UIL Holdings Corp., the owner of Berkshire Gas Co., announced last week that it has invested approximately \$80 million for a 2.5 percent interest in the proposed pipeline project. The fact that that Berkshire's potential investment was not disclosed by either the company or Tennessee Gas until NEES questioned the moratorium speaks volumes to the ham-handed nature of their approach to rate payers, land owners, and municipal and state administrators. Further, the fact that Berkshire Gas has pledged only to lift the moratorium if the gas pipeline project is built without disclosing their financial interest in the pipeline is, at a minimum, a breach of public trust and service as a regulated public utility.

Last month, NEES filed a brief with the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities (DPU) citing that Berkshire Gas had not "explained the impact of the moratorium on present and potential future demand or what impact, if any, lifting the moratorium would have on demand." For months, NEES among others has been questioning Berkshire's abnormal move to impose the moratorium without considering alternative solutions. Thank you for your consideration, and NEES is at the ready to share any information helpful to your deliberations.



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Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "V. DeVito". The signature is stylized with a large initial "V" and a prominent "D".

Vincent DeVito

VD:pf

Cc: Congressmen Jim McGovern, via fax: 508-754-0982