

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
RFP No 2019-02
NEW HAMPSHIRE OFFICE OF CONSUMER ADVOCATE
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR EXPERT SERVICES RELATED TO
Natural Gas Matters

	Questions	Answers
1.	<p>In the last Liberty Utilities case (DG 17-048) the OCA hired 3 consultants to address 3 areas: (a) revenue decoupling/cost allocation/rate design; (b) return on equity; and (c) revenue requirements. Is it likely that the OCA will do the same in the upcoming case?</p>	<p>In connection with DG 17-048, the OCA contracted with one consultant (BJA Associates of Tallahassee, Florida) to address cost allocation and rate design issues, including revenue decoupling, and relied on in-house expertise for all other issues. We expect to adopt a similar approach in the upcoming rate case referenced in the Request for Proposals.</p>
2.	<p>The RFP in Section 7E indicates that the winning proposals which result in a contract will become public information. Can the OCA provide electronic copies/links of the winning proposals from the last Liberty case?</p>	<p>The proposal submitted in 2017 by BJA Associates is public information and can be supplied via e-mail upon request. We have e-mailed the document to the potential proposer that submitted the question.</p>
3.	<p>Your Standard Insurance policies are a significant barrier to my ability to make a proposal to your office for any work. . . . All these requirements seem overkill and not applicable to the type of work that your office seeks as consultants and potential expert witnesses. Is there anything that can be done to obtain waivers for these requirements?</p>	<p>Proposers are not required to demonstrate compliance in their proposals with the standard liability insurance requirements applicable to state contracts. The OCA is able to discuss a waiver of such requirements with the winning bidder during contract negotiations.</p>
4.	<p>Does the Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA) require consulting service related to the development of Liberty Utilities proposed Rate Base Valuation and review of the components (including working capital allowance) that make up Liberty Utilities Rate Base?</p>	<p>No.</p>

5.	Does the OCA require consulting services related to the development of revenue requirement for Liberty Utilities, including but not limited to (1) Operating and Maintenance Expenses; (2) Federal and State Income Taxes including the effects of and any updated information regarding the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 on current and deferred taxes?	No.
6.	Regarding “alternatives to traditional utility investments in natural gas infrastructure,” please further define such investments with concrete examples of such investments.	The OCA is unable to provide a substantive answer to this question. Among the purposes of this engagement will be to work with the consulting firm we hire to study the possibilities for such investments.