



ATTORNEY GENERAL GEORGE JEPSEN

For immediate release

June 2, 2011

Statement by Attorney General George Jepsen concerning a draft decision today by the state Department of Public Utility Control to reduce Yankee Gas Services Company's rates by \$5 million.

"The state Department of Public Utility Control took a positive step forward today with a draft decision reducing the proposed rates of Yankee Gas Services Company by \$5 million. I'm pleased the regulators worked so hard to find an appropriate balance between ratepayer and company interests, especially as so many customers are still suffering the effects of the greatest economic downturn in the past 60 years.

"While the overall impact on customers' bills would be small, any reduction in rates is a benefit to consumers. I believe further reductions can be made and attorneys for my office will be making that case in written exceptions June 14 and at oral argument June 23."

"Another important point is the DPUC determined that Yankee Gas was likely to see large savings from the proposed merger between their parent company, Northeast Utilities and NStar, and used those estimated savings to further reduce rates."

"If the DPUC had decided to do a full regulatory review of this proposed merger, there may have been additional benefits to Connecticut utility customers."

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