

**Brief Summary of Expert Witness Findings & Recommendations in DPU Docket 15-178, in which Berkshire Gas is seeking state approval for a proposed long-term contract to transport gas on the “supply path” of the Northeast Energy Direct (NED) pipeline:**

**These are the main points from the Testimony of John A. Rosenkranz**, a consultant with 26 years’ experience in natural-gas supply planning, economics, and pipeline project management.

*\* To the DPU: Do not approve this contract. BG does not need the Supply Path Contract –as proposed, this contract is NOT the best deal for ratepayers.*

*In fact, the consultant presents a great deal of analysis showing that Berkshire’s customers could face higher gas bills under this contract than if Berkshire were to use a different mix of supply resources over the next 20 years.*

*\* The moratorium on new and expanded gas service that Berkshire is imposing on all eight of its Pioneer Valley customer towns until such time as the NED would be built is not necessary, and it never was. But it is not possible to correct overnight, now that the company has made the choices that led up to the moratorium.*

*\* The moratorium could be ended at least one to two years before the NED pipeline is proposed to open, if Berkshire Gas would start working on specific system upgrades right now.*

*\* The consultant recommends those infrastructure upgrades should be started immediately. They are not the only possible solutions, but are the ones he believes will solve the moratorium most quickly and cost-effectively.*

Rosenkranz testimony is available at: [http://web1.env.state.ma.us/DPU/FileRoomAPI/api/Attachments/Get/?path=15-178%2fRosenkranz Testimony Exh JAR1.pdf](http://web1.env.state.ma.us/DPU/FileRoomAPI/api/Attachments/Get/?path=15-178%2fRosenkranz%20Testimony%20Exh%20JAR1.pdf) See especially pages 2-3, 20-30

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**Context to keep in mind regarding the case and consultant’s findings:**

Except for hours of peak demand for gas, Berkshire already has plenty of gas supply for current customers AND projected growth. This is true of the overall supply question and the difficulty Berkshire says it has in maintaining pressure at the northern end of its system at certain times. Both of these issues are “peaking” issues that the company does NOT have most of the time.

Reliability during peak times is an important need for any energy-supply company. But there are lower-impact, lower-cost, incremental ways to achieve reliability, as Mr. Rosenkranz has pointed out.