



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
P.O. BOX 1806
CONCORD, NH 03302-1806
603-271-5603 FAX: 888-908-6609
TDD ACCESS: 1-800-735-2964
www.nh.gov/nhdoc

40 - 6/17/26

WILLIAM RYAN HART, JR.
COMMISSIONER

JESSICA A. KURON
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

May 11, 2026

Ken Weyler, Chairman
Fiscal Committee of the General Court
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

Her Excellency, Governor Kelly A. Ayotte
and the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, NH 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 140, Laws of 2025, class footnote¹ for accounting units identified below, Class 023 *Heat-Electricity-Water*, the New Hampshire Department of Corrections (NHDOC) respectfully requests authorization of additional funding in the amount of \$240,000 to cover shortfalls through June 30, 2026, effective upon Fiscal Committee and Governor and Council approval. 100% General Funds.

The remainder of this page intentionally left blank.

¹ Department of Corrections appropriations budgeted in Class 023 Heat-Electricity-Water, shall not lapse until June 30, 2027. In the event expenditures are greater than amounts appropriated, the Commissioner may request, with prior approval of the Fiscal Committee, that the Governor and Council authorize additional funding. Upon Fiscal Committee and Governor and Council approval, the Governor is authorized to draw a warrant from any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

02-46-46-463510-33730000 Northern NH Correctional Fclty				
Class	Description	FY 2026 Modified Budget	Requested Action	FY 2026 Revised Budget
010-500100	Personal Services - Permanent	\$ 8,344,381		\$ 8,344,381
011-500126	Personal Services - Unclassified	\$ 135,278		\$ 135,278
018-500106	Overtime	\$ 2,000,100		\$ 2,000,100
019-500105	Holiday Pay	\$ 260,075		\$ 260,075
020-500200	Current Expenses	\$ 77,153		\$ 77,153
022-500255	Rents - Leases Other than State	\$ 2,952		\$ 2,952
023-500291	Heat-Electricity-Water	\$ 1,317,734	\$ 240,000	\$ 1,557,734
024-500225	Maint Other Than Build-Grn	\$ 4,425		\$ 4,425
030-500331	Equipment New/Replacement	\$ 30,114		\$ 30,114
039-500188	Telecommunications	\$ 57,950		\$ 57,950
050-500109	Personal Service-Temp/Appointed	\$ 316,248		\$ 316,248
060-500602	Benefits	\$ 5,424,821		\$ 5,424,821
068-500565	Remuneration	\$ 270,823		\$ 270,823
070-500704	In-State Travel Reimbursement	\$ 111,865		\$ 111,865
102-500731	Contracts for Program Services	\$ 57,381		\$ 57,381
103-502664	Contracts for Operational Services	\$ 39,268		\$ 39,268
	Total	\$ 18,450,568	\$ 240,000	\$ 18,690,568
	REVENUES			
	Total General Funds	\$ 18,450,568	\$ 240,000	\$ 18,690,568

EXPLANATION

The Department requests additional appropriations of \$240,000 to address current deficits in Class 023 *Heat-Electricity-Water* in accounting unit 33730000 Northern NH Correctional Facility.

The Northern NH Correctional Facility in Berlin is the only NHDOC facility that gets their gas from the northern pipeline (Canada/ME). Other NHDOC facilities get their natural gas from Pennsylvania through a pipeline that comes north from Massachusetts. This results in the state contract being bid in two separate groups. Some vendors can bid on both groups and some can only bid on one or the other.

When the prices came in last summer, the Berlin area prices were coming in at double what the southern area facilities were. The state signed a contract for the southern group, but not the group that would cover the facility in Berlin. Sprague was only contracted to serve the northern locations through the end of May 2025, and then should have stopped servicing the account. That did not occur and it went unnoticed until the department notified DAS when a significantly higher invoice was received.

It was explained to the department that the State Energy Management Office has reduced staff from three employees to one due to the hiring freeze. They are trying to keep up with tasks, but this item was missed. It was requested Sprague drop the accounts as soon as the office was made aware, but they only drop accounts at the start of a meter read cycle. Unfortunately, most of the colder months were at the higher price. Sprague is currently working on removing the Berlin accounts from their supply so that they can revert to Liberty's utility rate, which is more favorable during the summer months.

This rate spike had a significant and unexpected budgetary impact leading to the deficit.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'William Ryan Hart, Jr.', written over the printed name.

William Ryan Hart, Jr.
Commissioner