



February 24, 2020

RECEIVED MAIL ROOM

# VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Honorable Aida Camacho-Welch, Secretary
New Jersey Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Ave, 9th Floor
P.O. Box 350
Trenton, NJ 08625-0350

Re: IN THE MATTER OF THE RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF FAIR HAVEN, MONMOUTH COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF THE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT WITH NEW JERSEY NATURAL GAS COMPANY: RESOLUTION NO. 2019-60

BPU DOCKET NO. GE20020167

Dear Secretary Camacho-Welch:

Enclosed for filing please find an original and ten (10) copies of a Petition of New Jersey Natural Gas Company ("NJNG") in the referenced matter. Copies of the petition are being served upon the persons listed on the attached service list.

Kindly acknowledge receipt of this filing by date stamping the enclosed copy of this letter and returning same in the self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Respectfully submitted,

NEW JERSEY NATURAL GAS COMPANY

By:

Andrew K. Dembia, Esq.

DAGI RPA ENERGY (5)-TOC

CVMS

AKD:sf

cc: Service List

# NEW JERSEY NATURAL GAS COMPANY PETITION FOR AUTHORIZATION AND APPROVAL OF A MUNICIPAL FRANCHISE IN THE BOROUGH OF FAIR HAVEN, MONMOUTH COUNTY

#### SERVICE LIST

#### **BOROUGH OF FAIR HAVEN**

Allyson M. Cinquegrana RMC, CMR Municipal Clerk Borough of Fair Haven 748 River Road Fair Haven, New Jersey 07704

## **NJNG**

Mark G. Kahrer New Jersey Natural Gas Company 1415 Wyckoff Road P.O. Box 1464 Wall, NJ 07719

Andrew K. Dembia Regulatory Affairs Counsel New Jersey Natural Gas Company 1415 Wyckoff Road P.O. Box 1464 Wall, NJ 07719

# DEPT. OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY – DIVISION OF LAW

Pamela Owen, ASC (email only)
Department of Law & Public Safety
Division of Law
Public Utilities Section
R.J. Hughes Justice Complex
25 Market Street
P.O. Box 112
Trenton, N.J. 08625

## NJ BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

Stacy Peterson
N.J. Board of Public Utilities
Division of Energy
44 South Clinton Avenue, 9th Floor
Post Office Box 350
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350

Megan Lupo NJ. Board of Public Utilities Division of Energy 44 South Clinton Avenue, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor Post Office Box 350 Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350

Christopher Oprysk Board of Public Utilities 44 South Clinton Avenue, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor Post Office Box 350 Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350

#### **DIVISION OF RATE COUNSEL**

Stefanie A. Brand, Director Division of Rate Counsel 140 East Front Street - 4<sup>th</sup> Floor P.O. Box 003 Trenton, NJ 08625

Felicia Thomas-Friel, Esq. Division of Rate Counsel 140 East Front Street - 4<sup>th</sup> Floor P.O. Box 003 Trenton, NJ 08625

Brian O. Lipman, Litigation Manager Division of Rate Counsel 140 East Front Street - 4<sup>th</sup> Floor P.O. Box 003 Trenton, NJ 08625

Brian Weeks Division of Rate Counsel 140 East Front Street - 4<sup>th</sup> Floor P.O. Box 003 Trenton, NJ 08625

#### STATE OF NEW JERSEY BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF
NEW JERSEY NATURAL GAS COMPANY
FOR APPROVAL OF A MUNICIPAL
FRANCHISE IN THE BOROUGH OF
FAIR HAVEN, MONMOUTH COUNTY

PETITION
BPU DOCKET NO.

GE 2002016

TO:

# THE HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

New Jersey Natural Gas Company ("NJNG" or the "Company"), hereby petitions the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities ("BPU" or "Board") pursuant to *N.J.S.A.* 48:2-14 and *N.J.A.C.* 14:1-5.5 to approve the franchise granted by the Borough of Fair Haven, Monmouth County, New Jersey through Resolution No. 2019-60. In support of its petition, NJNG states the following:

1. Communications and correspondence relating to this Petition should be sent to:

Mark G. Kahrer, Vice President - Regulatory Affairs Andrew K. Dembia, Esq., Regulatory Affairs Counsel New Jersey Natural Gas Company 1415 Wyckoff Road, P.O. Box 1464 Wall, New Jersey 07719 (732) 938-1214 (M. Kahrer) (732) 938-1073 (A. Dembia) MKahrer@njng.com ADembia@njng.com

NJNG is a corporation duly organized under the laws of the State of New Jersey and is a public utility engaged in the distribution and transportation of natural gas subject to the jurisdiction of the Board. The Company's principal place of business is located at 1415 Wyckoff Road, Wall, New Jersey 07719. NJNG distributes natural gas and provides transportation service at retail to over half a million residential, commercial and industrial customers in Monmouth, Ocean, Morris, Middlesex and Burlington counties.

3. Attached hereto in support of this petition are the following exhibits:

Exhibit A: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF THE

FRANCHISE AGREEMENT WITH NEW JERSEY NATURAL

GAS COMPANY Resolution No. 2019-60

Exhibit B: Letter Accepting Terms and Conditions of the Resolution

Exhibit C: Proposed Notice of Municipal Consent Hearing

4. NJNG is currently providing natural gas service within the Borough of Fair Haven in Monmouth County.

- 5. NJNG's current franchise with the Borough of Fair Haven expired on March 24, 2019. On March 11, 2019, the Borough of Fair Haven, by Resolution, renewed NJNG's franchise for a period of fifty (50) years. A copy of the Resolution (to be effective upon approval of the Board) is attached hereto as Exhibit A to this petition. By letter to the Borough of Fair Haven, dated March 14, 2019, NJNG accepted and agreed to the terms and conditions of such Resolution pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:3-16, which acceptance letter is attached as Exhibit B to this petition. A proposed Notice of Municipal Consent hearing is attached to this petition as Exhibit C. A copy of this petition also has been served on Allyson M. Cinquegrana, RMC/CMR, Municipal Clerk of the Borough of Fair Haven.
- 6. *N.J.S.A.* 48:2-14 requires Board approval of a franchise granted by a municipality to a public utility subject to the Board's jurisdiction. The franchise, which is the subject matter of this petition, complies with all statutory and administrative requirements necessary for its approval. The Board's approval of the franchise is necessary and proper for the public convenience and properly conserves the public interests.

**WHEREFORE**, New Jersey Natural Gas Company respectfully requests that the Board grant the following:

- (1) Approve the franchise granted to New Jersey Natural Gas Company by the Borough of Fair Haven through Resolution No. 2019-60; and
- (2) Provide any other relief deemed just and equitable.

Respectfully submitted,

NEW JERSEY NATURAL GAS COMPANY

By:

Andrew K. Dembia, Esq.

Dated: 2/24/20

#### **VERIFICATION**

STATE OF NEW JERSEY )
COUNTY OF MONMOUTH)

MARK G. KAHRER, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

- 1. I am Vice President, Regulatory Affairs for New Jersey Natural Gas Company located at 1415 Wyckoff Road, Wall, New Jersey 07719.
- 2. I have read the foregoing Petition, know the contents thereof, and the same is true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

Mark G. Kahrer

Vice President, Regulatory Affairs

Sworn to before me this day of February, 2020

Notary Public SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME ON THIS DAY

FEB 2 4 2020

KATHLEEN KLEINERTZ NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE OF NEW JERSEY MY COMMISSION EXPIRES 08/30/2021

