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BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES TRENTON, NJ

March 9, 2020

# 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

GE 200 30 232

Re:

IN THE MATTER OF THE RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MARLBORO, MONMOUTH COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF THE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT WITH NEW JERSEY NATURAL GAS COMPANY: RESOLUTION NO. 2019-146

BPU DOCKET NO.

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.

Legal DAG DAG Cloterson

AKD:sf

cc: Service List

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

#### SERVICE LIST

## **TOWNSHIP OF MARLBORO**

Alida Manco Municipal Clerk Township of Marlboro 1979 Township Drive Marlboro, NJ 07746

#### **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

## 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

Sri Medicherla N.J. Board of Public Utilities 44 South Clinton Avenue, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor Post Office Box 350 Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350

Heather Weisband N.J. 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

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

# 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

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF	)	PETITION
NEW JERSEY NATURAL GAS COMPANY	)	
FOR APPROVAL OF A MUNICIPAL	)	BPU DOCKET NO.
FRANCHISE IN THE TOWNSHIP OF	)	
MARLBORO, MONMOUTH COUNTY	)	
	)	

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 Township of Marlboro, Monmouth County, New Jersey through Resolution No. 2019-146. 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

2. 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. 2019-146

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 Township of Marlboro in Monmouth County.

- 5. NJNG's current franchise with the Township of Marlboro expired on April 8, 2019. On April 11, 2019, the Township of Marlboro, 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 Township of Marlboro, dated May 31, 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 Alida Manco, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Marlboro.
- 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 Township of Marlboro through Resolution No. 2019-146; and
- (2) Provide any other relief deemed just and equitable.

Respectfully submitted,

NEW JERSEY NATURAL GAS COMPANY

By:

Andrew K. Dembia, Esq.

Dated: March 9, 2020

#### **VERIFICATION**

STATE OF NEW JERSEY )
COUNTY OF MONMOUTH)

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

- 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 March, 2020

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME ON THIS DAY

Notary Public

MAR 0 9 2020

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



# **RESOLUTION # 2019-146**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF THE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT WITH NEW JERSEY NATURAL GAS COMPANY

WHEREAS, New Jersey Natural Gas Company has heretofore been granted a franchise and consent to lay, maintain and operate gas facilities in the Township of Marlboro; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey Natural Gas Company is desirous of obtaining a franchise and consent of the municipality to continue serving the municipality.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that New Jersey Natural Gas Company be and it is hereby authorized to lay, maintain and operate its conductors, mains, and pipes, together with the appurtenances thereto, in all the public streets, alleys, squares and public places in this municipality which are under the control and jurisdiction of the Township of Marlboro for the purpose of conducting gas, including natural gas, or any mixture of gases of various types and for the purpose of transmitting and distributing such gas in this municipality for a period of fifty (50) years from the date hereof, upon the following terms and conditions:

- 1. That New Jersey Natural Gas Company shall agree that, in all cases in which street openings or excavations are made for the purposes aforesaid that a permit will be obtained consistent with Chapter 326 of the Municipal Code of the Township of Marlboro entitled Streets and Sidewalks. Further, the pavement and surface of the streets, alleys, squares or roadways shall be restored pursuant to the Township requirements; and
- 2. That New Jersey Natural Gas Company shall conduct the work or the laying or maintaining of gas pipes therein in a careful and prudent manner; and
- 3. That New Jersey Natural Gas Company shall safeguard the public interest in continuous and uninterrupted service at and after the expiration of the term of the grant; and
- 4. That New Jersey Natural Gas Company shall maintain its property in good order throughout the full term of the grant; and
- 5. That New Jersey Natural Gas Company shall continuously afford safe, adequate and proper service at just and reasonable rates.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this franchise consent, upon approval of the Board of Public Utilities of the State of New Jersey, shall supersede the Resolution granted by the Township of Marlboro on April 8, 1969; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that New Jersey Natural Gas Company shall file with the clerk of this municipality within sixty (60) days from the date hereof, its acceptance of the terms and provisions of the franchise consent herein granted and its agreement to be bound by the terms and provisions thereof; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall not become effective unless and until it is approved by the Board of Public Utilities of the State of New Jersey.

OFFERED BY:

MAZZOLA

AYES:

4

SECONDED BY:

METZGER

NAYS:

0

ABSENT:

SCALEA

ALIDA MANCO, MUNICIPAL CLERK

4/11/2019

COTT METZGER

COUNCIL PRESIDENT

#### CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify the above to be a true and exact copy of a Resolution adopted by the Township Council of the Township of Mariboro at a meeting held on 4-11-2019

Township Clerk



May 31, 2019

### VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Ms. Alida Manco Municipal Clerk Township of Marlboro 1979 Township Drive Marlboro, NJ 07746

Re: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MARLBORO, MONMOUTH COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF THE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT WITH NEW JERSEY NATURAL GAS COMPANY RESOLUTION NO. 2019-146

Dear Ms. Manco:

New Jersey Natural Gas Company ("NJNG") hereby accepts the terms and provisions of the franchise consent granted by the Township of Marlboro on April 11, 2019, and hereby agrees to be bound by the terms and provisions thereof. See Resolution No. 2019-146 (the "Resolution") herein enclosed.

NJNG will submit the Resolution to the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (the "BPU") for approval and provide you with advance notice of the BPU hearing on this matter.

Respectfully submitted

Alex Gonzalez, Esq. Assistant General Counsel

AG:jg Enclosure



March , 2020

#### BY CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Alida Manco Municipal Clerk Township of Marlboro 1979 Township Drive Marlboro, NJ 07746

Marion Masnick, Clerk of the Board Monmouth County Board of Freeholders Monmouth County Hall of Records One East Main Street P.O. Box 1255 Freehold, New Jersey 07728

Christine Giordano Hanlon, County Clerk Monmouth County Market Yard 33 Mechanic Street Freehold, New Jersey 07728

RE:

In the Matter of the Petition of New Jersey Natural Gas Company for the Approval of a Municipal Franchise in the Township of Marlboro, Monmouth County BPU Docket No.

Dear the Parties Addressed:

Pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 48:2-14, New Jersey Natural Gas Company ("NJNG") has applied to the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities ("Board") for approval of the Township of Marlboro ("Township") Resolution No. 2019-146, which granted NJNG permission to continue to provide natural gas service in the Township as provided in said Resolution. Please be advised that the Board has set [DATE & TIME TBD], at the Board's offices located at 44 South Clinton Avenue, Trenton, New Jersey 08625 in Conference Room [# TBD] as the time and place for the hearing on this matter. You are welcome to attend to put your views on the record if you desire.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew K. Dembia, Esq. Regulatory Affairs Counsel

AKD:sf

C: Service List