

CASE MANAGEMENT

OCT 3 0 2018

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES TRENTON, NJ

October 29, 2018

MAIL ROOM 00T 30 2018

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES TRENTON, NJ

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Honorable Aida Camacho-Welch, Secretary New Jersey Board of Public Utilities 44 South Clinton Ave, 3rd Floor, Suite 314 P.O. Box 350 Trenton, NJ 08625-0350

Re:

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF NEW JERSEY NATURAL GAS FOR APPROVAL OF A MUNICIPAL FRANCHISE IN THE TOWNSHIP OF ROXBURY, MORRIS COUNTY

BPU DOCKET NO. GE 18101217

Dear Secretary Camacho-Welch:

Enclosed for filing please find an original and ten (10) copies of a petition being filed on behalf of New Jersey Natural Gas Company ("NJNG") for the approval of a municipal franchise for the Township of Roxbury. Included with the petition are copies of the following Exhibits: Exhibit A - municipal resolution; Exhibit B - letter to the municipality accepting the terms and conditions of the franchise and Exhibit C - a proposed Notice of Municipal Consent hearing.

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.

LegaL/M. Lupo DAG

RPA

5. Peterson B. Romaine

ENERGY(4)
AKD:fk

Respectfully submitted

Andrew K. Dembia

Regulatory Affairs Counsel

C: Service List Enclosures

NEW JERSEYNATURAL GAS COMPANY PETITION FOR AUTHORIZATION AND APPROVAL OF A MUNICIPAL FRANCHISE IN THE TOWNSHIP OF ROXBURY, MORRIS COUNTY DOCKET NO.

SERVICE LIST

TOWNSHIP OF ROXBURY

Honorable Amy Rhead Municipal Clerk Roxbury Township 1715 Route 46 Ledgewood, New Jersey 07852

Anthony M. Bucco Township Attorney Roxbury Township 1715 Route 46 Ledgewood, New Jersey 07852

NJNG

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, 3rd Floor, Suite 314
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Megan Lupo
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DIVISION OF RATE COUNSEL

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NEW JERSEYNATURAL GAS COMPANY PETITION FOR AUTHORIZATION AND APPROVAL OF A MUNICIPAL FRANCHISE IN THE TOWNSHIP OF ROXBURY, MORRIS COUNTY DOCKET NO. ______

SERVICE LIST

Shelly Massey Division of Rate Counsel 140 East Front Street – 4th Floor P.O. Box 003 Trenton, NJ 08625

<u>DEPT. OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY – DIVISON OF LAW</u>

Caroline Vachier, Section Chief Dept. of Law and Public Safety Division of Law 124 Halsey Street, 5th Floor P.O. Box 45029 Newark, NJ 07101-5029

Renee Greenberg Dept. of Law & Public Safety Division of Law 124 Halsey Street, 5th Floor P.O. Box 45029 Newark, NJ 07102

RECEIVED CASE MANAGEMENT

OCT 3 0 2018

STATE OF NEW JERSEY BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES RECEIVED MAIL ROOM 0CT 3 n 2018

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES TRENTON, NJ

PETITION BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES TRENTON, NJ

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF NEW JERSEY NATURAL GAS FOR APPROVAL OF A MUNICIPAL FRANCHISE IN THE TOWNSHIP OF ROXBURY, MORRIS COUNTY

BPU DOCKET NO. _____

TO:

THE HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

New Jersey Natural Gas ("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 Roxbury, Morris County, New Jersey through Resolution 2018-282. In support of its petition, NJNG states the following:

1. All communications with respect to this pleading and in this proceeding should be served on the following person:

Andrew K. Dembia, Esq. Regulatory Affairs Counsel New Jersey Natural Gas 1415 Wyckoff Road Post Office Box 1464 Wall, New Jersey 07719 (732) 938-1073 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. NJNG distributes natural gas and provides transportation service at retail to over 530,000 residential, commercial and industrial customers in Monmouth and Ocean counties and parts of Middlesex, Burlington and Morris 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 2018-282

Exhibit B: Letter Accepting Terms and Conditions of the Ordinance

Exhibit C: Proposed Notice of Municipal Consent Hearing

 NJNG is currently providing natural gas service within the Township of Roxbury in Morris County.

- 5. NJNG's current franchise with the Township of Roxbury will expire on November 10, 2018. On October 23, 2018, the Township of Roxbury, by Resolution, renewed NJNG's franchise for a period of fifteen (15) 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 Roxbury, dated October XX, 2018, 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 the Clerk of the Township of Roxbury.
- 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 respectfully requests that the Board grant the following:

- (1) Approve the franchise granted to New Jersey Natural Gas by the Township of Roxbury through Resolution 2018-282; and
- (2) Provide any other relief deemed just and equitable.

Respectfully submitted,

NEW JERSEY NATURAL GAS

By:

Andrew K. Dembia, Esq. Regulatory Affairs Counsel

Dated: October 29, 2018

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 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 24 May of October , 2018

Notary Public

LISA HAMILTON
Commission # 2171894
Notary Public - State of New Jersey
My Commission Expires
January 04, 2020

