# Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC

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March 11, 2019

#### **VIA E-FILING**

Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission Commonwealth Keystone Building 400 North Street, 2nd Floor Harrisburg, PA 17120

Re: Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission v. Peoples Natural Gas Company LLC

Docket No. R-2018-3006818

Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

Enclosed for electronic filing please find the Prehearing Conference Memorandum of Equitrans, L.P., in the above-captioned proceeding.

Copies have been served on all parties as indicated in the attached Certificate of Service.

Very truly yours,

Tanya/C. Leshko

TCL/tlg Enclosure

cc: Administrative Law Judge Joel H. Cheskis (Via E-mail and First-Class Mail)

Certificate of Service

# BEFORE THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission

v.

Docket No. R-2018-3006818

Peoples Natural Gas Company LLC

# PREHEARING CONFERENCE MEMORANDUM OF EQUITRANS, L.P.

## TO THE HONORABLE ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE JOEL H. CHESKIS:

Equitrans, L.P. ("Equitrans") hereby submits this Prehearing Conference Memorandum in accordance with 52 Pa. Code § 5.222 of the regulations of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission ("Commission") and the Prehearing Conference Order of the Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ") dated March 4, 2019.

#### I. Procedural History

On January 28, 2019, Peoples Natural Gas Company LLC (Peoples), Utility Code 122250, filed Retail Tariff Gas – Pa. P.U.C. No. 47 and Supplier Tariff gas – Pa. P.U.C. No. S-3 (rate filing) to become effective March 29, 2019, containing proposed changes in rates, rules, and regulations calculated to produce \$94.9 million (14.2%) in additional fully-projected future test year annual revenues.

On February 7, 2019, the Office of Consumer Advocate and the Office of Small Business Advocate filed Formal Complaints.

On February 28, 2019, the Commission entered an Order suspending People's rate filing by operation of law pursuant to 66 Pa.C.S. §1308(d), until October 29, 2019, unless permitted by Commission Order to become effective at an earlier date. An investigation was instituted to determine the lawfulness, justness, and reasonableness of the rates, rules and regulations

contained in the Peoples rate filing, to "include consideration of the lawfulness, justness, and

reasonableness of the Peoples Natural Gas Company LLC's existing rates, rules and

regulations." (Order, at 3).

On March 4, 2019, a Prehearing Conference Order was issued by the Administrative Law

Judge scheduling an Initial Prehearing Conference on March 14, 2019 at 10:00 a.m and

requesting a Prehearing Conference Memorandum by March 11, 2019.

On March 7, 2019, Equitrans filed a Petition to Intervene that has not yet been ruled

upon.

II. **Service List** 

Equitrans requests that all documents be served on:

Tanya C. Leshko

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Pursuant to 52 Pa. Code §1.54(b)(3), Equitrans consents to the electronic service of all

documents at the e-mail address shown above.

III. Settlement

Equitrans is willing to engage in settlement discussions with the parties, with the

objective of achieving a mutually acceptable resolution of this matter, subject to the

Commission's approval.

IV. **Discovery** 

At this time, Equitrans proposes no modifications to the discovery rules that are set forth

in the Commission's regulations at 52 Pa. Code §§ 5.321-5.372.

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#### V. Schedule

To facilitate the timely conduct and conclusion of this proceeding, Equitrans anticipates that it will have no objection to the schedule that will be proposed by Peoples and the public advocates.

#### VI. Witnesses

At this time, Equitrans has not identified the need for, or identity of, witnesses. However, Equitrans reserves the right to do so and to file testimony in the event issues or matters are raised that further implicate the interests Equitrans seeks to protect. Equitrans will notify the ALJ and the parties immediately if the determination is made that one or more witnesses are necessary.

# VII. <u>Issues</u>

Equitrans has been reviewing the exhibits and testimony filed by Peoples. Equitrans seeks to ascertain whether and how the proposed rate increase will impact its ability to continue to receive safe, adequate and reasonable service from Peoples at reasonable rates in accordance with applicable Pennsylvania law. In addition, Equitrans seeks to assess whether and how the relief sought in the Filing will impact pipeline facilities between Equitrans and Peoples, and related issues. It is anticipated that other issues may arise and may be pursued in the course of the proceeding.

# Respectfully submitted,

Dated: March 11, 2019

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## **BEFORE THE** PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission

Docket No. R-2018-3006818

Peoples Natural Gas Company LLC

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that this day I served a copy of the foregoing document upon the persons listed below in the manner indicated in accordance with the requirements of 52 Pa. Code § 1.54.

#### **Via Email and First Class Mail:**

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Date: March 11, 2019

Tanya C. Leshko