|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| PUC logo | COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  P.O. BOX 3265, HARRISBURG, PA 17105-3265 | **IN REPLY PLEASE REFER TO OUR FILE**  M-2015-2468991 |

**March 15, 2016**

To: Parties of Record

Docket No. M-2015-2468991

Re: Natural Gas Distribution Company Customer Account Number Access Mechanism for Natural Gas Suppliers

The purpose of this Secretarial Letter is to solicit reply comments from interested stakeholders regarding the natural gas distribution companies’ (NGDCs) compliance plans outlining the development of account number access mechanisms consistent with the terms and directives of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission’s (Commission) Final Order entered July 8, 2015, at Docket No. M-2015-2468991.

At its Public Meeting held July 8, 2015, the Commission adopted a Final Order directing those NGDCs with obligations as outlined at 66 Pa. C.S. § 1307(f)(1) to submit, within six months of the entry date of the Final Order, compliance plans regarding the development of account number access mechanisms.[[1]](#footnote-1) Interested parties were provided with 30 days from the date an NGDC’s compliance plan was filed to submit written comments. The Commission’s Final Order did not provide the opportunity for reply comments.

Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc.; National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation; PECO Energy Company; Peoples Natural Gas Company LLC, Peoples Natural Gas Company LLC – Equitable Division and Peoples TWP LLC (collectively, Peoples); Philadelphia Gas Works; and UGI Utilities, Inc. – Gas Division, UGI Penn Natural Gas, Inc. and UGI Central Penn Gas, Inc. (collectively, UGI) submitted their compliance plans to the Commission on January 8, 2016. The Retail Energy Supply Association (RESA), on February 8, 2016, submitted to the Commission its comments regarding the NGDCs’ compliance plans.

Some NGDCs have proposed including features intended to make the mechanisms more effective and easier to use, but these features vary significantly across the NGDC plans. These features include things like providing for optional fields (telephone, city, last four digits of the social security number, etc.), drop-down boxes, providing error codes and/or identifying the field(s) that does not produce a match, and the ability to resubmit requests. We are interested in any feature that would increase the usefulness of these mechanisms without endangering the security of customer information. Accordingly, we are particularly interested in receiving reply comments about these features and their possible use in the mechanisms for *all* NGDCs.

After reviewing the NGDCs’ compliance plans, as well as the comments provided by RESA, the Commission believes an opportunity should be afforded to stakeholders to provide reply comments. Therefore, interested parties shall have 30 days from the date of this Secretarial Letter to file written reply comments with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, Attention: Secretary, P.O. Box 3265, Harrisburg, PA, 17105-3265. Reply comments may also be filed electronically through the Commission’s e-File System. Reply comments must reference Docket No. M-2015-2468991.

Any questions about this Secretarial Letter should be directed to Dan Mumford at 717-783-1957 or [dmumford@pa.gov](mailto:dmumford@pa.gov) or Megan Good at 717-425-7583 or [megagood@pa.gov](mailto:megagood@pa.gov).

Sincerely,

Rosemary Chiavetta

Secretary

cc: Gladys M. Brown, Chairman

Andrew G. Place, Vice Chairman

Pamela A. Witmer, Commissioner

John F. Coleman, Jr., Commissioner

Robert F. Powelson, Commissioner

Jan H. Freeman, Executive Director

H. Kirk House, Director, OCMO

Daniel Mumford, Deputy Director, OCMO

Megan Good, Analyst, OCMO

1. Section 1307(f)(1) provides NGDCs with gross intrastate annual operating revenues in excess of $40,000,000 the ability to file tariffs reflecting actual and projected increases or decreases in their natural gas costs. 66 Pa. C.S. § 1307 (f)(1). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)