# Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC

ORIGINAL Pablic

F 717 233 0852

www.buchananingersoll.com

Karen O. Moury

717 237 4820 Karen.moury@bipc.com

August 3, 2016

### **VIA HAND DELIVERY**

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

Re:

Petition of MidAmerican Energy Services LLC for Reduction in Bonding

Requirement; Docket No. A-2015-2496354 (P-2016-\_\_\_\_)

Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

On behalf of MidAmerican Energy Services LLC, enclosed for filing is the original and one copy of a Petition for Reduction in Bonding Requirement (Public Version Excluding Confidential Appendix A, Exhibit 1) in the above-captioned matter. The \$350 filing fee is enclosed.

The Petition is a public document; however, we are also separately filing a confidential version which will include a Confidential Appendix A.

Copies have been served on all parties as indicated in the attached certificate of sérvice.

Very truly yours,

Karen O. Moury

KOM/bb Enclosure

cc: Certificate of Service

PA PUC PA PUC BUREAU RECEIVED

Malle SELVED BEFORE THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMM

**Petition of MidAmerican Energy** Services LLC For Reduction in

Docket No. A-2015-2496

**Bonding Requirement** 

(P-2016-

## PETITION OF MIDAMERICAN ENERGY SERVICES LLC FOR REDUCTION IN BONDING REQUIREMENT

#### TO THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION:

MidAmerican Energy Services LLC ("MES"), by and through its counsel, Karen O. Moury, and Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC, files this Petition for Reduction in Bonding Requirement pursuant to the Commission's Final Order ("Petition") in the matter of Bonding/Security Requirements for Electric Generation Suppliers, Docket No. M-2013-2393141 (Order adopted July 24, 2014) ("Bond Reduction Order") and in accordance with the Secretarial Letter issued on April 8, 2016 at the same docket number ("Bond Reduction Secretarial Letter"). Effective October 1, 2016, MES specifically requests approval to reduce its financial security requirement with the Commission to a level equal to 5 percent of its most recent 12 months of gross revenues for electricity sales in Pennsylvania. In support hereof, MES avers as follows:

- 1. On February 14, 2011, the Commission entered an Order approving the issuance of a license to MidAmerican Energy Company ("MEC") to operate as an electric generation supplier ("EGS"), serving small and large commercial, industrial and governmental customers throughout Pennsylvania. Application of MidAmerican Energy Company, Docket No. A-2010-2201370 (Order entered February 14, 2011) ("MEC Licensing Order I").
- 2. On June 21, 2012, the Commission entered an Order approving an amendment to MEC's EGS license, permitting it to also serve residential customers throughout Pennsylvania.

Application of MidAmerican Energy Company, Docket No. A-2010-2201370 (Order entered June 21, 2012) ("MEC Licensing Order II").

- 3. By the *Bond Reduction Order* issued on July 24, 2014, the Commission concluded that an EGS, following its first year of operation, may petition to have its bonding requirement reduced from 10% to 5% of the EGS's last 12 months of revenue, or \$250,000, whichever is greater.
- 4. Pursuant to the *Bond Reduction Order*, MEC filed a Petition for Bond Reduction on August 17, 2015 requesting a reduction in its bond from 10% to 5% of its most recent 12 months of revenue. MEC's Petition for Bond Reduction was approved by Secretarial Letter dated October 20, 2015 at Docket No. A-2010-2201370 ("MEC Secretarial Letter"). Per the terms of the MEC Secretarial Letter, the bond reduction is effective for one year and may be renewed annually by the Commission, provided that MEC provides annual documentation of eligibility as part of the annual bond review that occurs under 52 Pa. Code § 54.40(d).
- 5. On July 8, 2015, MES filed an EGS application, which was approved by the Commission on October 1, 2015 at Docket No. 2015-2496354 ("MES Licensing Order"). In that application, MES explained that MEC's unregulated retail services division initially entered competitive retail markets in 1999 and has been serving electric customers in Pennsylvania since 2011 under MEC Licensing Order I. MES further noted that due to the evolution of the unregulated retail services division's competitive market activities, corporate leadership determined that the division would be transferred to an affiliate within Berkshire Hathaway Energy. This new company is MES, which now holds an EGS license and is authorized by the MES Licensing Order to serve all customers classes in all electric distribution company ("EDC") service territories throughout Pennsylvania.

- 6. Although MEC still holds an EGS license pursuant to MEC Licensing Order I and MEC Licensing Order II, it is no longer serving any retail customers in Pennsylvania. MEC provided notice of abandonment to the Commission by letter dated July 20, 2016, which was docketed at Docket No. A-2016-2559005. By that letter, MEC informed the Commission that all customers formerly served by MEC have been transferred to MES for electric generation service and requested the release of its bond on file with the Commission.
- 7. Under the *Bond Reduction Secretarial Letter*, the Commission directed EGSs seeking renewal of security reductions to provide documentation at least 90 days prior to the current security's expiration date. This documentation must include a petition for renewal; a \$350 filing fee; proof of service of the petition on the public advocates and affected EDCs; a tax letter of good standing from the Department of Revenue ("DOR") relating to the payment of gross receipts taxes; and the company's gross receipts for the most recent four quarters.
- 8. Since MEC is no longer serving customers, it is not filing a renewal petition as contemplated by the *MEC Secretarial Letter* and the *Bond Reduction Secretarial Letter*. Rather, MES is filing this bond reduction petition due to the affiliate relationship between MEC and MES and the transfer of all of MEC's customers to MES. Through this Petition, MES is seeking to have its security obligation reduced from 10% to 5% of the most recent 12 months of gross receipts, effective October 1, 2016.
- 9. Currently, MES is still maintaining the initial bond of \$250,000, which will be increased as part of the Commission's annual bond review. Rather than being required to increase its bond to 10% of its most recent 12 months of gross receipts during the annual review, MES is seeking to increase the security to 5% of the most recent 12 months of gross receipts. Particularly given the bond reduction approved for MEC on October 20, 2015, the affiliate

relationship between MEC and MES and the transfer of all retail customers from MEC to MES, MES submits that this proposal is an effective and efficient way for the Commission to ensure that adequate security is maintained.

10. The information required by the *Bond Reduction Secretarial Letter* is set forth in **Confidential Appendix A** attached to this Petition and demonstrates that both MEC and MES is in good standing with DOR. With respect to the most recent 12 months of gross receipts, MES is submitting blended information from MES and MEC.

11. MES stands ready to supplement this information as may be required by the Commission to process this Petition.

WHEREFORE, MidAmerican Energy Services LLC respectfully requests the issuance of a Secretarial Letter approving a reduction in the level of MES' bond to equate to 5% of the MES and MEC gross revenues from retail electricity sales in Pennsylvania for the most recent 12 months, effective October 1, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: August 3, 2016

Karen O. Moury

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

409 North Second Street

Suite 500

Harrisburg, PA 17101

(717) 237-4820

Attorneys for MidAmerican Energy Services LLC

2016 AUG -3 PM 4: 13
PA PUC
PA PUC
SECRETARY'S BUREAU

# BEFORE THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Petition of MidAmerican Energy :
Services LLC For Reduction in : Docket No. A-2015-2496354
Bonding Requirement : (P-2016-\_\_\_\_\_)

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that I have this day served a true copy of the foregoing document upon the parties, listed below, in accordance with the requirements of § 1.54 (relating to service by a party).

#### Via First Class Mail

Small Business Advocate Commerce Building, Suite 1102 300 North Second Street Harrisburg, PA 17101

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission Bureau of Investigation & Enforcement PO Box 3265 Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265

Office of Consumer Advocate 555 Walnut Street 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Forum Place Harrisburg, PA 17101

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Revenue Bureau of Compliance Harrisburg, PA 17128-0946 Legal Department

Attn: Paul Russell PPL Two North Ninth Street Allentown, PA 18108-1179

Director of Customer Energy Services Orange and Rockland Company 390 West Route 59 Spring Valley, NY 10977-5300 Office of Competitive Market Oversight Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission Commonwealth Keystone Building 3rd Floor, Room N-309 Harrisburg, PA 17105

Bureau of Technical Utility Services Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission Commonwealth Keystone Building 3rd Floor Harrisburg, PA 17105

Legal Department West Penn Power d/b/a Allegheny Power 800 Cabin Hill Drive Greensburg, PA 15601-1689

Citizens' Electric Company Attn: EGS Coordination 1775 Industrial Boulevard Lewisburg, PA 17837

Regulatory Affairs Duquesne Light Company 411 Seventh Street, MD 16-4 Pittsburgh, PA 5219



UGI Utilities, Inc. Attn: Rates Dept. – Choice Coordinator 2525 N. 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 360 P.O. Box 12677 Reading, PA 19612-2677

Manager Energy Acquisition PECO Energy Company 2301 Market Street Philadelphia, PA 19101-8699 Legal Department First Energy 2800 Pottsville Pike Reading, PA 19612

Wellsboro Electric Company Attn: EGS Coordination 33 Austin Street P.O. Box 138 Wellsboro, PA 16901

Dated this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of August, 2016.

Karen O. Moury, Esq.

RECEIVEL