

John F. Povilaitis 717 237 4825 john.povilaitis@bipc.com 409 North Second Street Suite 500 Harrisburg, PA 17101-1357 T 717 237 4800 F 717 233 0852

September 20, 2021

VIA E-FILING (PUBLIC VERSION) AND OVERNIGHT DELIVERY (CONFIDENTIAL VERSION)

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

> Re: Hudson Energy Services, LLC. Request for Renewal of a Reduction in Level of Security, Docket No. A-2010-2192137 Utility Code: 1112538

Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

Enclosed is the Compliance Filing of Hudson Energy Services, LLC. ("Hudson"), a licensed energy generation supplier ("EGS"), to obtain renewal of its reduced 5% security requirement. This is a renewal of Hudson's previously granted security reduction, therefore no filing fee is enclosed.

The Compliance Filing includes commercially valuable and sensitive information for which Hudson requests confidential treatment. Accordingly, enclosed is a version of the Compliance Filing marked "Public Version" for inclusion in the public record, and a version of the Compliance Filing marked "Confidential Version". Hudson respectfully requests that the Confidential Version of its Compliance Filing be maintained by the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission under seal.

Please note that we are filing the public version electronically on the Commission's website and the confidential version is being filed by overnight delivery.

Copies of the Public Version of Hudson's Compliance Filing have been served on each of the statutory parties, the Commission's Bureau of Technical Utility Services, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Department of Revenue, the Office of Attorney General's Bureau of Consumer

BIPC.com

September 20, 2021 Page - 2 -

Protection and all affected Pennsylvania electric distribution companies, as indicated in the attached Certificate of Service.

Please contact the undersigned if you have any questions regarding this filing. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

John F. Povilaitis

JFP/tlg Enclosures Certificate of Service cc:

BEFORE THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

:

:

Hudson Energy Services, LLC. Request For Renewal of a Reduction in Level of Security Docket No. A-2010-2192137 Utility Code: 1112538

HUDSON ENERGY SERVICES, LLC. COMPLIANCE FILING

I. <u>Introduction</u>

1. Hudson Energy Services, LLC. ("Hudson" or "Company") is an electric generation supplier ("EGS") authorized by the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission ("PaPUC" or "Commission") to provide electric generation supplier services to residential, small commercial, large commercial, industrial and governmental customers in the electric distribution company service territories within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Hudson received its license to operate as an EGS by Order of February 11, 2011 at Docket No. A-2010-2192137. As a licensed EGS, Hudson is subject to the Commission's authority to require it to furnish a bond or other security in order to operate in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, pursuant to Section 2809(c) of the Public Utility Code ("Code") and Section 54.40 of the Commission's regulations. 66 Pa.C. S. §2809(c); 52 Pa.Code §54.40.

2. Section 54.40(d) of the Commission's regulations requires EGSs to provide a security level of 10% of the licensee's reported gross receipts. However, a licensee may seek approval from the Commission of an alternative level of bonding, commensurate with the nature and scope of its operations. 52 Pa.Code §54.40(d). According to the Commission's regulations, the purpose of the bond is to ensure payment of the Pennsylvania Gross Receipts Tax ("GRT") and to ensure the supply of electricity at the retail level in accordance with contracts, agreements or arrangements. 52 Pa.Code §54.40(f)(2). On July 24, 2014, after consideration of formal

comments submitted to a December 5, 2013 Tentative Order, the Commission found that requiring an EGS to post a bond or security in the amount of 10% of gross receipts after the first year of operation "may be excessive in relation to the risk intended to be secured, unnecessarily burdening EGSs, and presenting a potential barrier to entry into Pennsylvania's retail electric market."¹ Therefore the Commission announced in the July 24, 2014 Order that it was adopting the policy of accepting applications by EGSs to reduce their level of bonding/security after the first year of operation to 5% of the EGS's most recent 12 months of gross revenue or \$250,000, whichever is higher. In addition, the July 24, 2014 Order delegated authority to review uncontested requests for a reduction in the level of bonding to the Bureau of Technical Utility Services.² In an Order entered September 20, 2018, the Commission streamlined the process for EGSs to obtain reductions in their annual security obligations and permitted, *inter alia*, the filing of a Compliance Filing for renewal of security rather than a formal Petition.³

3. Based on the July 24, 2014 Order, the September 20, 2018 Order, the Code, the Commission's regulation at Section 54.40(d) and the following supporting material, Hudson respectfully requests that the Commission accept a reduced security requirement of 5% of its most recent 12 months of gross revenue.

4. By Secretarial Letter Dated October 12, 2017 at Docket No. A-2010-2192137, Utility Code: 1112538, the Commission approved Hudson's September 6, 2017 Petition for a security reduction, effective to December 9, 2018. This approval synchronized the Company's twelve (2) month security reduction period with its annual security renewal period. Hudson

¹ Public Utility Commission Bonding/Security Requirements for Electric Generation Suppliers; Acceptable Security Instruments, Docket No. M-2013-2393141 (July 24, 2014) ("July 24, 2014 Order") at 10. ² July 24, 2014 Order at 12-13.

³ Petition of the Retail Energy Supply Association to Simplify the Financial Security 5% Renewal Process, Docket No. P-2017-2608078 (Oder Entered September 20, 2018) at 17-20.

respectfully requests that the Commission set its new bond reduction renewal date as December 9, 2022 for it and its two other affiliates - Just Energy Solutions Inc. ("JES"), Docket No. A-110117, and Just Energy Pennsylvania Corp. ("JEPC"), Docket No. A-2009-2097544 (collectively, the "Companies"). Security reduction renewal requests are being separately filed for JES and JEPC requesting the same security reduction periods and annual security renewal dates in order to streamline the entire process for the Commission and the Companies.

II. Information Provided in Support of Security Compliance Filing

5. This Compliance Filing includes Confidential Attachments 1 through 4. Confidential Attachment 1 provides Hudson's gross revenues for the sale of electricity to retail customers in Pennsylvania for the most recent twelve (12) months.

6. Confidential Attachment 2 is a Tax Status Letter of Good Standing obtained by Hudson from the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue ("DOR").

7. Confidential Attachment 3 documents Hudson's full compliance with the requirements of the Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards ("AEPS") Act.

8. Confidential Attachment 4 is a Department of Revenue RCT-SPEC Specialty Tax Payment Form for Hudson.

9. Confidential Attachment 5 is proof that Hudson has paid its current Annual Assessment fee to the PaPUC for regulatory costs. Proof of payment of the Supplemental Assessment fee due October 10, 2021 will be submitted when available.

10. Based on the foregoing information, Hudson requests that its bonding requirement be maintained at 5% of its most recent twelve (12) months of gross revenue. This amount is reasonable and satisfies the requirements of Section 2809(c) of the Public Utility Code ("Code") and Section 54.40 of the Commission's regulations. 66 Pa.C. S. §2809(c); 52 Pa. Code §54.40.

3

An original security document will be submitted to the Commission when the final quarter of gross revenues is available.

III. Relief Requested and Conclusion

11. Based on its standing as an EGS licensed to do business in Pennsylvania, the Commission's regulations the July 24, 2014 Order and the September 18, 2020 Order, Hudson respectfully requests that it be authorized to renew its security on file with the Commission to 5% of its most recent twelve (12) months of revenue, effective for the twelve (12) month period to December 9, 2021. Hudson will submit a new bond in this amount that also complies with the Commission's bond requirements for EGSs listed in Section 55.40(f) of the Commission's regulations. 52 Pa.Code §54.40(f).

Respectfully submitted,

martin

Dated: September 20, 2021

John F. Povilaitis Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC 409 North Second Street Suite 500 Harrisburg, PA 17101 (717) 237-4825

Counsel for Hudson Energy Services, LLC.

Gross revenues for the sale of electricity to retail customers in Pennsylvania for the most recent nine (9) months

Letter of Good Standing

AEPS Compliance

RCT-SPEC Specialty Tax Payment Form

Proof of Payment - EGS Annual Fee

BEFORE THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

:

:

Hudson Energy Services, LLC. Request For Renewal of a Reduction in Level of Security Docket No. A-2010-2192137 Utility Code: 1112538

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day served a true copy of the **public version** 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

Office of Small Business Advocate Forum Place 555 Walnut Street, 1st Floor Harrisburg, PA 17101

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

Office of Attorney General Bureau of Consumer Protection 15th Floor, Strawberry Square Harrisburg, PA 17120

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

Office of Consumer Advocate 555 Walnut Street 5th Floor, Forum Place Harrisburg, PA 17101 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Revenue Bureau of Compliance PO Box 280947 Harrisburg, PA 17128

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

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

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

Office of General Counsel Attn: Kimberly Klock PPL Two North Ninth Street Allentown, PA 18108-1179

UGI Utilities, Inc. Attn: Rates Dept. – Choice Coordinator 2525 N. 12th Street, Suite 360 P.O. Box 12677 Reading, PA 19612-2677 Manager Energy Acquisition PECO Energy Company 2301 Market Street Philadelphia, PA 19101-8699

Vice President – Energy Supply Corning Natural Gas Holding Corporation 330 West William Street Corning, NY 14830

Dated this 20th day of September, 2021.

John F. Povilaitis