COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

December 12, 2025

E-FILED

Matthew L. Homsher, Secretary
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
Commonwealth Keystone Building
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Re: Joint Application of National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation and North East Heat & Light Company, under Sections 1102(a)(1)-(3) of the Public Utility Code, for approval: (1) of the right for North East Heat & Light Company to transfer certain natural National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation; (2) for North East Heat & Light Company to abandon the provision of natural gas service to the public in its service territory in the Borough of North East, Erie County, Pennsylvania and North East Township, Erie County, Pennsylvania; and (3) for National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation to expand its service territory to begin to offer, render, furnish or supply natural gas service to the public in the Borough of North East, Erie County, Pennsylvania / Docket Nos. A-2025-3057864 & A-2025-3057865

Dear Secretary Homsher:

Enclosed please find the Notice of Withdrawal of Protest and Notice of Intervention, on behalf of the Office of Small Business Advocate ("OSBA"), in the above-referenced proceedings.

Copies will be served on all known parties in these proceedings, as indicated on the attached Certificate of Service.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me..

Sincerely,

/s/ Rebecca Lyttle

Rebecca Lyttle
Assistant Small Business Advocate
Attorney ID No. 201399

Enclosures
cc: Jason Hails
Roger Cathcart
Parties of Record

BEFORE THE
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Joint Application of National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation and North East Heat & Light Company, under Sections 1102(a)(1)-(3) of the Public Utility Code, for approval: (1) of the right for North East Heat & Light Company to transfer certain natural National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation; (2) for North East Heat & Light Company to, abandon the provision of natural gas service to the public in its service territory in the Borough of North East, Erie County, Pennsylvania and North East Township, Erie County, Pennsylvania; and (3) for National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation to expand its service territory to begin to offer, render, furnish or supply natural gas service to the public in the Borough of North East, Erie County, Pennsylvania	:	**Docket Nos. A-2025-3057864** **A-2025-3057865**

NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL OF
PROTEST OF THE
OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS ADVOCATE

I. INTRODUCTION

On October 7, 2025, an Application was filed pursuant to Sections 1102(a)(1)-(3) of the Public Utility Code, 66 Pa. C.S. §§ 1102(a)(1)-(3) by National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation ("National Fuel" or "Company") and North East Heat & Light Company ("NEHL") (collectively, the "Joint Applicants") requesting that the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission ("Commission") issue certificates of public convenience evidencing the Commission's approval for: (1) National Fuel to acquire certain natural gas distribution facilities and rights from NEHL;

(2) NEHL to abandon natural gas service to the public in its service territory in the Borough of North East, Erie County, Pennsylvania and North East Township, Erie County, Pennsylvania; and (3) National Fuel to expand its service territory to begin to offer, render, furnish or supply natural gas service to the public in the Borough of North East, Erie County, Pennsylvania and to serve the customers formerly served by NEHL.

On November 7, 2025, pursuant to 52 Pa. Code § 5.51(a), the Office of the Small Business Advocate ("OSBA") filed a Protest and Notice of Intervention in response to said Application. The OSBA is the only other party to this case.

Withdrawal of Pleadings in a Contested Proceeding

52 Pa. Code § 5.94(b) states, as follows:

> A protest to an application may be withdrawn by filing a notice of withdrawal directed to the Commission or the presiding officer. The notice must state that the protest is withdrawn and provide the reasons for the withdrawal.

Pursuant to Section 5.94(b), the OSBA respectfully submits this Notice of Withdrawal of its November 7, 2025, Protest and Intervention to Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ") Dunderdale.

II. REASONS FOR THE WITHDRAWAL

The OSBA has conducted informal discovery in this matter and has engaged in discussions with the Joint Applicants. As a result of the information obtained, and in accordance with 52 Pa. Code § 5.94(b), the OSBA states the following reasons as the basis for this withdrawal:

a. The company has agreed to that it is not their intent to increase NEHL small business customers rates to full parity with National Fuel's small business customer rates

in one base rate case but to raise NEHL small business customer rates in subsequent base rate proceedings over an extended period of time.

b. In addition, the Company has set up a NEHL Transition website at the following link: https://www.nationalfuel.com/north-east-heat-light-transition-to-national-fuel/. Nation Fuel is amendable to referencing OSBA on this transition website.

c. The Company is also amenable to referencing OSBA in its "welcome letter" to NEHL customers which will be sent approximately one month prior to the official transition to National Fuel.

WHEREFORE, based upon the clarifications received by National Fuel, the Office of Small Business Advocate no longer wishes to participate in this proceeding and respectfully requests that ALJ Dunderdale permit the withdrawal of the OSBA's November 7, 2025, Protest and Intervention.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Rebecca Lyttle
Rebecca Lyttle
Assistant Small Business Advocate
Attorney ID No. 201399

For:
NazAarah Sabree
Small Business Advocate

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

Date: December 12, 2025

BEFORE THE
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Joint Application of National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation and North East Heat & Light Company, under Sections 1102(a)(1)-(3) of the Public Utility Code, for approval: (1) of the right for North East Heat & Light Company to transfer certain natural National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation; (2) for North East Heat & Light Company to, abandon the provision of natural gas service to the public in its service territory in the Borough of North East, Erie County, Pennsylvania and North East Township, Erie County, Pennsylvania; and (3) for National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation to expand its service territory to begin to offer, render, furnish or supply natural gas service to the public in the Borough of North East, Erie County, Pennsylvania	:	**Docket Nos. A-2025-3057864** **A-2025-3057865**

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that true and correct copies of the foregoing have been served via email (*unless otherwise noted below*) upon the following persons, in accordance with the requirements of 52 Pa. Code § 1.54 (relating to service by a participant).

The Honorable Katrina L. Dunderdale
Administrative Law Judge
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Date: December 12, 2025

/s/ Rebecca Lyttle
Rebecca Lyttle
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