

**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 gas distribution facilities and rights to National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation;	:	A-2025-3057864
(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	:	A-2025-3057865

ORDER

Transferring Application
for Technical Review

On October 7, 2025, National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation (NFGDC or National Fuel) and North East Heat & Light Company (NEHL or North East) (collectively, the Joint Applicants) filed a Joint Application with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (Commission), pursuant to Sections 1102(a)(1) – (3) of the Public Utility Code seeking appropriate Certificates of Public Convenience.

Specifically, the Joint Applicants request the Commission permit: (1) North East to transfer certain natural gas distribution facilities and rights to National Fuel in the Borough of North East and the Township of North East, in Erie County, Pennsylvania; (2) for North East to abandon the provision of natural gas service in the Borough of North East and the Township of North East, in Erie County, Pennsylvania; and (3) for 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.

On October 25, 2025, Notice of the Joint Application was published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin, which states that Protests and Petitions to Intervene must be filed on or before November 10, 2025. National Fuel also published notice of the Joint Application in two newspapers with general circulations in North East and Erie, Pennsylvania, on October 24, 2025, and October 27, 2025, respectively. These notices stated that Protests and Petitions to Intervene must be filed on or before November 10, 2025.

On October 28, 2025, the Office of Small Business Advocate (OSBA) entered its appearance in the above-captioned proceeding. On November 7, 2025, OSBA filed its Notice of Intervention, Protest, Public Statement and Verification.

On December 8, 2025, the Commission's Office of Administrative Law Judge (OALJ) issued a Call-in Telephonic Prehearing Conference Notice scheduling a prehearing conference for February 5, 2026, before Administrative Law Judge Katrina L. Dunderdale (ALJ Dunderdale). Also, on December 8, 2025, ALJ Dunderdale issued a Prehearing Conference Order requiring the parties to submit prehearing conference memoranda by January 30, 2026.

On December 9, 2025, counsel for NFGDC notified ALJ Dunderdale by email that OSBA intended to withdraw its Protest.

On December 12, 2025, OSBA filed its Notice of Withdrawal of Protest and Notice of Intervention, pursuant to 52 Pa.Code § 5.94(b), indicating OSBA wished to withdraw its protest to the Application.

On December 15, 2025, the Joint Applicants filed a Joint Motion to Transfer the Joint Application to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission's Bureau of Technical Utility Services (Motion to Transfer). The Joint Applicants requested transfer of the Joint Application

to the Bureau of Technical Utility Services (TUS) for the purpose of reviewing its Joint Application and final disposition because the only protest was withdrawn.

However, on December 22, 2025, the presiding officer requested specific clarification from the Joint Applicants concerning the location of services and facilities to be transferred and the nature of the rights to be transferred in the Borough of North East and/or the Township of North East, in Erie County.

Accordingly, on December 30, 2025, the presiding officer conducted a telephonic conference with the Joint Applicants and OSBA. The Joint Applicants explained the rights and facilities to be transferred, including the location of facilities to be transferred and abandoned. In addition, the Joint Applicants noted both utility companies - National Fuel and North East Heat & Light Company – had operated in the Township of North East with overlapping authority for many years. National Fuel noted it previously had received a Certificate of Public Convenience from the Commission to provide service within the Township of North East, and only sought to obtain a Certificate of Public Convenience for the Borough of North East, in this proceeding.

AND NOW, upon consideration of the Notice of Withdrawal of Protest filed by Protestant, the Office of Small Business Advocate, on December 12, 2025, and in which the Office of Small Business Advocate withdrew its protest; and upon consideration of the Joint Motion of National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation and North East Heat & Light Company to Transfer the Joint Application to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission’s Bureau of Technical Utility Services;

THEREFORE,

IT IS ORDERED:

1. That the caption herein is amended, by agreement of the parties, to specify that the location of the rights and facilities, to be transferred from North East Heat & Light Company to National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation, are located in the Borough of North East and the Township of North East, in Erie County, Pennsylvania.

2. That the Application of National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation and North East Heat & Light Company, filed on October 7, 2025, at Docket Nos. A-2025-3057864 and A-2025-3057865, seeking appropriate Certificates of Public Convenience to provide for: (1) North East Heat & Light Company to transfer certain natural gas distribution facilities and rights in the Borough of North East and the Township of North East, in Erie County, Pennsylvania, to National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation; (2) for North East Heat & Light Company to abandon the provision of natural gas service in the Borough of North East and the Township of North East, in 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, is reassigned from the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission's Office of Administrative Law Judge to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission's Bureau of Technical Utility Services for further action.

Date: January 12, 2026

Katrina L. Dunderdale
Administrative Law Judge

A-2025-3057864 & A-2025-3057865 - JOINT APPLICATION OF NATIONAL FUEL AND NORTH EAST HEAT & LIGHT COMPANY

ANTHONY D. KANAGY ESQUIRE
MEGAN E. RULLI ESQUIRE
POST AND SCHELL PC
17 NORTH 2ND STREET, 12TH FLOOR
HARRISBURG PA 17101-1601
717.612.6034
717.612.6012
717.731.1985

akanagy@postschell.com
mrulli@postschell.com

Served via eService on January 12, 2026

(Counsel for National Fuel)

KEVIN J. MCKEON ESQUIRE
MELISSA CHAPASKA ESQUIRE
HMS LEGAL LLP
501 CORPORATE CIRCLE, SUITE 302
HARRISBURG PA 17110
717.236.1300

kjmckeon@hmslegal.com
machapaska@hmslegal.com

Served via eService January 12, 2026

(Counsel for North East Heat & Light Company)

DOMINICK A. SISINNI ESQUIRE
NATIONAL FUEL GAS DISTRIBUTION
CORPORATION

PO BOX 2081
1100 STATE STREET
ERIE PA 16512

814.871.8177

pa_formal_complaints@natfuel.com

Served via eService January 12, 2026

REBECCA LYTTLE ESQUIRE
OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS
ADVOCATE
555 WALNUT STREET, 1ST FLOOR
HARRISBURG PA 17101
717.783.2525

relyttle@pa.gov

Served via Email January 12, 2026

ALLISON C. KASTER RATE COUNSEL
PA PUC BIE LEGAL TECHNICAL
400 NORTH STREET, 2ND FLOOR
WEST
HARRISBURG PA 17120

717.783.7998

717.787.4887

akaster@pa.gov

Served via eService January 12, 2026

DARRYL A. LAWRENCE ESQUIRE
OFFICE OF CONSUMER ADVOCATE
5TH FLOOR FORUM PLACE
555 WALNUT STREET
HARRISBURG PA 17101-1923

717.783.5048

dlawrence@paoca.org

Served via eService January 12, 2026

PATRICK GERLEIN BUREAU
MANAGER

BUREAU OF NORTH EAST

31 WEST MAIN STREET

NORTH EAST PA 16428

Served via USPS First Class Mail

January 12, 2026

RUSSELL LAFURIA SUPERVISOR
NORTH EAST TOWNSHIP
10300 WEST MAIN ROAD
NORTH EAST PA 16428

Served via USPS First Class Mail

January 12, 2026