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BEFORE THE GEORGIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
STATE OF GEORGIA

In Re: Countywide Safety Plan for Monroe County	)	DOCKET NO. 43841
and	)	
In Re: Mid-State Energy Commission Petition for Pipeline Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for Monroe County, Georgia	)	DOCKET NO. 43840

ORDER AMENDING THE COUNTYWIDE SAFETY PLAN, CERTIFICATE AND WAIVER OF HEARING REQUIRMENTS

These matters come before the Georgia Public Service Commission ("Commission") as a result of the filings by Mid-State Energy Commission ("MSE")[1] f/k/a Jointly Owned Natural Gas filing a Petition to amend a Countywide Safety Plan, Petition to Amend the Certificate, and waiver to the associated hearing requirements.

[1] Jointly Owned Natural Gas ("Jointly Owned") was created by a Partnership Agreement between the cities of Cochran, Hawkinsville, Perry and Warner Robins on June 15, 1953, to which the City of Byron was added by an Agreement of Merger, dated October 29, 2008. The cities adopted a new Intergovernmental Operating Agreement in 2020 to create MSE. The Commission was notified of this change by letter from Mr. Wayne James, formerly General Manager of Jointly Owned and now Executive Director of MSE filed on March 5, 2021.

I. JURISDICTION

The Commission has general jurisdiction over natural gas utilities. O.C.G.A. § 46-2-20. Specifically, the Commission maintains safety jurisdiction over all natural gas transmission and distribution facilities within Georgia, including those natural gas facilities which are owned and operated by municipalities. O.C.G.A. § 46-2-20(i). The Commission further has jurisdiction over Georgia intrastate natural gas operators pursuant to *inter alia*: 49 U.S.C.S. §§ 60105 and 60122, 49 C.F.R. Part 191, 49 C.F.R. Part 192; O.C.G.A. §§ 46-2-21, 46-2-30, 46-2-53, 46-2-90, 46-2-91, 46-4-1, 46-4-31, 50-13-1 *et seq.*; and Commission Rules 515-7-1-.01 *et. seq.*, 515-9-1-.01*et.seq.*, 515-9-3-.01 *et. seq.*, 515-9-6-.01 and 515-9-7-.01 *et. seq.*

The Commission has further jurisdiction pursuant to Commission Rules 515-9-1-.01 and 515-9-3-.03; both adopting the Rules and Regulations prescribed by the United States Department of Transportation applicable to the "Transportation of Natural and Other Gas by Pipeline: Minimum Safety Standards" (49 C.F.R. Parts 40, 191, 192, 193 and 199) having been made the Rules and Regulations of the Commission for the safe installation and operation of all natural gas transmission and distribution facilities by companies subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission.

II. PROCEDURAL HISTORY

MSE holds a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for a pipeline in Monroe County, Georgia which was approved in 2021 (Docket 43840, Document 186793). Because the distribution line had to be relocated after its Monroe County Pipeline Certificate was approved, MSE filed an application to amend its pipeline certificate for Monroe County and the Monroe County CWSP on April 21, 2022. A companion application to amend MSE's Bibb County, Georgia Certificate (Docket 30333) was also required and approved in 2022. However, the Monroe County certificate petition remains pending. All work on the pipeline is complete. MSE requests that the Commission approve the 2022 Pipeline Certificate and Countywide Safety Plan Amended Applications.

MSE seeks authority to construct a new tap on the Kinder Morgan Southern Natural Pipeline on the southern edge of Monroe County and a new pipeline from that tap to MSE's existing facilities in Houston County. MSE proposes to construct and install approximately 9,600 linear feet of 12-inch steel pipe in Monroe County. A Petition to Amend the Monroe County Countywide Safety Plan ("Monroe County CWSP") so that the boundaries thereof are consistent with MSE's certificate amendment request is required by Commission Utility Rule 515-9-7-.01(3)(g)(vii) has also been filed in Docket 43840.

Atlanta Gas Light Company ("AGLC") is the only other natural gas Distribution Operator in Monroe County and has voiced no objection. On July 13, 2021, Atlanta Gas Light Company filed a letter stating that they have no objection to the requests in these dockets (Docket 43841, Document 186397) (Docket 43840, Document 186396).

There will be no end-use customers directly connected to this project. The new pipeline facilities are designed to increase capacity systemwide.

The Commission's Facility Protection Unit has reviewed the proposed requests and has no objection.

II. STAFF REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION

The Staff has reviewed and performed its due diligence of the Petition. The Facilities Protection Unit has inspected the proposed boundaries and waivers and has no objections to the requests.

Staff recommends that the Commission grant the requests and waivers of the hearing requirement.

IV. STATUTES AND COMMISSON RULES INVOLVED

The Commission has the power and authority to enforce the provisions of: Ga. Const. Art. 9, § 6, ¶ 2, O.C.G.A. §§ 46-2-20 *et. seq.*, 46-2-30, 46-2-50, 46-2-51, 46-2-52, 46-2-53, 46-2-71, 46-2-90, 46-2-91, 46-4-20 *et. seq.*, 46-4-30 *et. seq.* and 50-13-1 *et. seq.*, applicable to Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity and Safety of Natural Gas Pipelines/Distribution systems regulated by the Commission. The Commission has further power and authority to enforce the Commission's Natural Gas Certification and Safety Rules: 515-7-1 *et. seq.*, 515-9-1 *et. seq.*, 515-9-3 *et. seq.* and 515-9-7 *et. seq.* The Commission's specific Constitutional and statutory authorities can be found *inter alia*, at Ga. Const. Art. 9, § 6, ¶ 2, O.C.G.A. §§ 46-2-20, 46-2-21, 46-2-30, 46-2-51, 46-2-53, 46-2-54, 46-2-57, 46-2-58, 46-2-59, 46-2-71, 46-2-90, 46-2-91, 46-2-92, 46-2-93, 46-4-21, 46-4-22, 46-4-23, 46-4-24, 46-4-25, 46-4-26, 46-4-27, 46-4-28, 46-4-29, 46-4-30, and 46-4-31. The applicable Commission Rules involved are, *inter alia*, at 515-7-1-.01 *et. seq.*, 515-9-1-.01 *et. seq.*, 515-9-3.01 *et seq.*, and 515-9-7-.01.

V. FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. THE COMMISSION FINDS AND CONCLUDES that it has jurisdiction over natural gas utilities. (O.C.G.A. § 46-2-20). Specifically, the Commission maintains safety jurisdiction over all natural gas transmission and distribution facilities within Georgia, including those natural gas facilities which are owned and operated by municipalities. (O.C.G.A. § 46-2-20(i)). The Commission further has jurisdiction over Georgia intrastate natural gas operators pursuant to *inter alia*: 49 U.S.C.S. §§ 60105 and 60122, 49 C.F.R. Part 191, 49 C.F.R. Part 192; O.C.G.A. §§ 46-2-21, 46-2-30, 46-2-53, 46-2-90, 46-2-91, 46-4-1, 46-4-20 *et. seq.*, 50-13-1 *et seq.*; and Commission Rules 515-7-1-.01 *et. seq.*, 515-9-1-.01 *et. seq.*, 515-9-3-.01 *et. seq.*, 515-9-6-.01 and 515-9-7-.01 *et. seq.*

2. THE COMMISSION FURTHER FINDS AND CONCLUDES that the Mid-State Energy Commission and Atlanta Gas Light Company are each individually and collectively subject to the safety jurisdiction of the Commission.

3. THE COMMISSION FURTHER FINDS AND CONCLUDES that the Facilities Protection Unit Staff of the Commission has the authority to inspect the facilities of all Georgia natural gas providers pursuant to the legal citations contained supra.

4. THE COMMISSION FURTHER FINDS AND CONCLUDES that the Mid-State Energy Commission and Atlanta Gas Light Company hereby waive any hearings and/or further findings or conclusions of law with respect to the above-styled matters and agree that the Commission may enter an order based upon the agreement of Mid-State Energy and Atlanta Gas Light, to comport their respective certificated territories to the safety-based boundaries agreed to in the Joint Consent Agreement attached hereto and the Countywide Safety Plans agreed to by the Operators and Staff (attached as Exhibit "A" to the Consent Agreement and "C" (Maps) thereto). The Monroe Countywide Safety Plan Consent Agreement, Plan and Plan Map(s) are all incorporated into this order as if specifically written herein.

5. THE COMMISSION FURTHER FINDS AND CONCLUDES that the CWSP for Monroe County (see Exhibit "A" to the Consent Agreement (Attachment "One")) agreed to by the Operators and Staff, shall be the CWSP for Monroe County until otherwise ordered by the Commission.

6. THE COMMISSION FURTHER FINDS AND CONCLUDES that compliance with all parts of the CWSP for Monroe County (*id.*) shall begin immediately upon issuance of this Commission Order. All timelines and action items contained within the Consent Agreement and Monroe CWSP shall be incorporated by reference into the body of this Order Adopting Consent Agreement as if specifically written herein and the failure of the Operators to meet all such timelines and/ or act on all such action items shall be a violation of this Order.

7. THE COMMISSION FURTHER FINDS AND CONCLUDES that all changes to the CWSP for Monroe County shall be made in accordance with *inter alia*, Commission Rule 515-9-7-.01 *et. seq.*

8. THE COMMISSION FURTHER FINDS AND CONCLUDES that Mid-State Energy Commission's Pipeline Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity shall be granted to conform to the safety-based boundaries agreed to by Staff and the Monroe County Operators in accordance with the CWSP/Maps attached hereto. (Exhibit "A" to the Joint Consent Agreement and Attachments "A" and "C" thereto respectively (for the Plan and Plan Maps)).

9. THE COMMISSION FURTHER FINDS AND CONCLUDES that based on the Commission's review of the proposed CWSP/Maps and Certificate Application

submitted, that such agreements by the Operators are respectively, a reasonable and appropriate resolution of the CWSP and Certificate proceedings for Monroe County, Georgia.

10. THE COMMISSION FURTHER FINDS AND CONCLUDES that the executed Joint Consent Agreement and the Monroe CWSP/Maps attached hereto, are hereby adopted by the Commission, and shall constitute a final resolution of the Monroe CWSP and related Certificate docket.

II. ORDERING PARAGRAPHS

WHEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that all findings of fact and conclusions of law contained within the preceding sections of this Order are hereby adopted as the findings and conclusions of this Commission.

ORDERED FURTHER, that a motion for reconsideration, rehearing or oral argument or any other motion shall not stay the effective date of this Order unless otherwise ordered by the Commission.

ORDERED FURTHER, that jurisdiction over this matter is expressly retained for the purpose of entering such further Order or Orders as this Commission may deem just and proper.

The above by action of the Commission in Administrative Session on the 16th day of December 2025.

Sallie Tanner
Executive Secretary

Jason Shaw
Chairman

12-18-25
Date

12-18-25
Date