# **COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA**



## OFFICE OF CONSUMER ADVOCATE

555 Walnut Street, 5th Floor, Forum Place Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17101-1923 (717) 783-5048 800-684-6560 (in PA only)

FAX (717) 783-7152 consumer@paoca.org

IRWIN A. POPOWSKY Consumer Advocate

February 10, 2012

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

Re:

Application Of Leatherstocking Gas Company, LLC to Supply Natural Gas Service to the Public in Certain Townships and Boroughs in Northern Susquehanna

County, Pennsylvania

Docket No. A-2011-2275595

Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

Enclosed please find the Office of Consumer Advocate's Prehearing Memorandum, in the above-captioned proceeding.

Copies have been served upon all parties of record as shown on the enclosed Certificate of Service.

Sincerely,

James A. Mullins

Assistant Consumer Advocate PA Attorney I.D. # 77066

E-Mail: JMullins@paoca.org

Enclosures

cc:

Honorable David A. Salapa

Certificate of Service

151536

# BEFORE THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Application Of Leatherstocking Gas

Company, LLC to Supply Natural Gas

Service to the Public in Certain Townships:

and Boroughs in Northern Susquehanna

County, Pennsylvania

Docket No. A-2011-2275595

# PREHEARING MEMORANDUM OF THE OFFICE OF CONSUMER ADVOCATE

Pursuant to Section 333 of the Public Utility Code, 66 Pa.C.S. § 333, and in response to the Prehearing Conference Order issued in the above-captioned matter, the Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA) provides the following information:

#### I. INTRODUCTION

On November 23, 2011, Leatherstocking Gas Company, LLC (Leatherstocking or Company) filed an Application with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC or Commission) requesting approval to begin to offer, render, furnish, or supply natural gas service to customers in northern Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania, in the Townships of Bridgewater, Forest Lake, Great Bend, Harmony, New Milford and Oakland, and in the Boroughs of Great Bend, Hallstead, Lanesboro, Montrose, New Milford, Oakland and Susquehanna. The Company's Application was filed pursuant to Sections 1102 and 1103 of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Code and the stated purpose is to provide local or Marcellus Shale gas to Pennsylvania customers.

On December 27, 2011, the Office of Consumer Advocate filed its Notice of Intervention and Public Statement in this matter. The Company's filing was assigned to the Office of Administrative Law Judge and further assigned to Administrative Law Judge David A. Salapa. On January 13, 2012, a Notice of Prehearing Conference was issued, which set the prehearing conference for February 14, 2012. The OCA files this Prehearing Memorandum in accordance with the Notice of Prehearing Conference.

#### II. ISSUES AND SUB-ISSUES

At present, the OCA anticipates that the main issue to be examined is whether the Application of Leatherstocking should be granted. Additionally, the OCA anticipates that if the Application is granted, issues as to any associated conditions may also be raised. The OCA expects that these issues and any other issues that may affect the public interest will be examined in this proceeding.

# III. WITNESSES

The OCA has not yet determined whether the testimony of an expert witness is necessary. The OCA specifically reserves the right to call a witness (or witnesses), as necessary. As soon as the OCA has determined whether a witness or witnesses will be necessary for any portion of its case, Your Honor and all parties of record will be notified.

# IV. SERVICE ON OCA

The OCA will be represented in this case by Assistant Consumer Advocate, James A. Mullins and Senior Assistant Consumer Advocate, Tanya J. McCloskey. Two copies of all documents should be served on the OCA as follows: James A. Mullins
Assistant Consumer Advocate
PA Attorney I.D. # 77066
E-Mail: jmullins@paoca.org
Office of Consumer Advocate
555 Walnut Street
5th Floor, Forum Place
Harrisburg, PA 17101-1923

Phone: (717) 783-5048 Fax: (717) 783-7152

As a courtesy, the OCA requests that all electronic correspondence be copied to Cammie

A. Shoen (CShoen@paoca.org).

## VI. SCHEDULE

The OCA will work with the other parties to address any scheduling issues.

Respectfully Submitted,

James A. Mullins

PA Attorney I.D. # 77066 E-Mail: JMullins@paoca.org Assistant Consumer Advocate

Tanya J. McCloskey

Senior Assistant Consumer Advocate

PA Attorney I.D. # 50044

E-Mail: TMcCloskey@paoca.org

Counsel for:

Irwin A. Popowsky Consumer Advocate

Office of Consumer Advocate 555 Walnut Street 5th Floor, Forum Place Harrisburg, PA 17101-1923

Phone: (717) 783-5048 Fax: (717) 783-7152

Dated:

February 10, 2012

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## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Application of Leatherstocking Gas Company, :

LLC to Supply Natural Gas Service to the

Docket No. A-2011-2275595

Public in Certain Townships and Boroughs in

Northern Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania

I hereby certify that I have this day served a true copy of the foregoing document, the Office of Consumer Advocate's Prehearing Memorandum, upon parties of record in this proceeding in accordance with the requirements of 52 Pa. Code § 1.54 (relating to service by a participant), in the manner and upon the persons listed below:

Dated this 10th day of February 2012.

## SERVICE BY E-MAIL & INTER-OFFICE MAIL

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Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
Commonwealth Keystone Building
400 North Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor
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Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265

# SERVICE BY E-MAIL & FIRST CLASS MAIL, POSTAGE PREPAID

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