

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION
AT RICHMOND, AUGUST 22, 2019

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APPLICATION OF

NORDIC ENERGY SERVICES, LLC

CASE NO. PUR-2019-00135

For license to conduct business as a competitive
service provider of natural gas pursuant to
§ 56-587 of the Code of Virginia

ORDER FOR NOTICE AND COMMENT

On August 16, 2019, Nordic Energy Services, LLC ("Nordic" or "Company"), filed an application ("Application") with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") for a license to conduct business as a competitive service provider of natural gas supply in the Commonwealth of Virginia pursuant to § 56-235.8 of the Code of Virginia ("Code"). Nordic seeks authority to serve eligible customers in the service territories of Washington Gas Light Company ("WGL") and Columbia Gas of Virginia, Inc. ("CVA").¹ Nordic attested that it would abide by all applicable regulations of the Commission as required by 20 VAC 5-312-40B of the Commission's Rules Governing Retail Access to Competitive Energy Services.²

NOW THE COMMISSION, upon consideration of the Application, is of the opinion and finds that the Application should be docketed; Nordic should serve this Order upon appropriate persons, the Staff of the Commission ("Staff") should conduct an investigation of the Application and present its findings in a report ("Staff Report"); and interested persons should have an

¹ The Application also seeks authority to serve eligible natural gas customer classes in the Shenandoah Gas service territory; however, Shenandoah Gas is a division of WGL and does not have a separate tariff. Pursuant to the plans required by § 56-235.8 A of the Code, retail choice for natural gas service exists only in the service territories of WGL and CVA. Access to large commercial and industrial gas customers in all gas distribution service territories has existed under Federal Energy Regulatory Commission authority since the mid-1980s.

² 5 VAC 5-20-10 *et seq.*

opportunity to comment on the Application. We further find that a Hearing Examiner should be appointed to rule on all discovery matters that arise during the course of this proceeding.

Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED THAT:

(1) This matter is docketed and assigned Case No. PUR-2019-00135.

(2) As provided by Code § 12.1-31 and 5 VAC 5-20-120, *Procedure before hearing examiners*, of the Commissioner's Rules of Practice and Procedure ("Rules of Practice"), a Hearing Examiner is appointed to rule on any discovery issues that may arise during the course of this proceeding.

(3) A copy of the Application and supporting documents shall be made available for public inspection in the Commission's Document Control Center, located on the first floor of the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, between the hours of 8:15 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. A copy of the Application also may be downloaded from the Commission's website: <http://www.scc.virginia.gov/case>.

(4) On or before August 30, 2019, Nordic shall serve a copy of this Order upon WGL and CVA as listed on Attachment A to this Order.

(5) On or before September 6, 2019, the Company shall file proof of service as ordered herein with Joel H. Peck, Clerk, State Corporation Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218-2118.

(6) Any interested person may request a public copy of the Application, accompanying materials, and this Order by directing a request in writing to: Kelli Singer, Chief Operating Officer, One Tower Lane, Suite 300, Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois 60181. The Company shall, within three (3) days of receipt of such request, serve the requested documents upon the person making such request.

(7) Written comments on the Application may be filed on or before September 12, 2019, by either of the following methods. An original and fifteen (15) copies of any comments may be filed with the Clerk of the Commission at the address set forth in Ordering Paragraph (5). In the alternative, comments may be submitted electronically by following the instructions available at the Commission's website: <http://www.scc.virginia.gov/case>. A hard copy of such comments, whether submitted in writing or electronically, shall be served upon the Company at the address set forth in Ordering Paragraph (6). All comments shall refer to Case No. PUR-2019-00135.

(8) The Staff shall analyze Nordic's Application and shall present its findings in a Staff Report to be filed on or before September 16, 2019.

(9) On or before September 23, 2019, the Company and any party who filed comments on the Application may file with the Clerk of the Commission an original and fifteen (15) copies of any response to the Staff Report.

(10) All documents filed with the Office of the Clerk of the Commission in this docket may use both sides of the paper. In all other respects, all filings shall comply fully with the requirements of 5 VAC 5-20-150, *Copies and format*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice.

(11) The Commission's Rule of Practice 5 VAC 5-20-260, *Interrogatories or requests for production of documents and things*, shall be modified for this proceeding as follows: responses and objections to written interrogatories and requests for production of documents shall be served within five (5) calendar days after receipt of the same. Interrogatories or requests for production, as well as the responses thereto, shall be transmitted electronically, or by facsimile, as well as by first class mail. Except as modified above, discovery shall be in accordance with Part IV of the Commission's Rules of Practice, 5 VAC 5-20-240 *et seq.*

(12) This matter is continued.

AN ATTESTED COPY hereof shall be sent by the Clerk of the Commission to: Kelli Singer, Chief Operating Officer, One Tower Lane, Suite 300, Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois 60181; C. Meade Browder, Jr., Senior Assistant Attorney General, Division of Consumer Counsel, Office of the Attorney General, 202 N. 9th Street, 8th Floor, Richmond, Virginia 23219-3424; Craig G. Goodman, President, National Energy Marketers Association, 895 Roberta Lane, Suite 103, Sparks, Nevada 89431; and Irene Leech, Virginia Citizens Consumer Council, 4220 North Fork Road, Elliston, Virginia 24087. A copy also shall be delivered to the Commission's Office of General Counsel and Divisions of Utility Accounting and Finance and Public Utility Regulation.

Columbia Gas of Virginia, Inc.
T. Borden Ellis, Esquire
1809 Coyote Drive
Chester, Virginia 23836

Washington Gas Light Company
Mr. Adrian Chapman, President and COO
1000 Maine Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20024