

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Inter-Department Communication

DATE: December 21, 2015

AT (OFFICE): NHPUC

FROM: Al-Azad Iqbal, Utility Analyst 

NHPUC 21DEC'15PM2:24

SUBJECT: DM 15-421, Shell Energy North America (US), L.P.
Competitive Natural Gas Supplier Renewal Application
Staff Recommendation for Registration Renewal

TO: Commission
Debra Howland, Executive Director
Steve Frink, Asst. Director Gas & Water Division
David K. Wiesner, Staff Attorney

Shell Energy North America (US), L.P. (Shell) is a competitive natural gas supplier (CNGS) registered with the Commission. On September 29, 2015, Shell submitted an application to renew its CNGS registration. Commission Staff (Staff) reviewed Shell's renewal application and determined it was incomplete because the amount of the financial security provided did not meet the applicable requirements of N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 3003.03(a)(2). On November 20, 2015, Shell sent a Request for Waiver of Rules to the Staff Attorney regarding the financial surety requirement. By letter dated November 25, 2015, Staff requested that Shell resolve the deficiency in its renewal application within 60 days, on or before January 25, 2016. On December 16, 2015, Shell submitted a new surety bond that is compliant with the requirements of Puc 3003.03(a)(2), and also filed a Notice of Withdrawal of Motion to Waive Regulations.

Staff has reviewed the information in Shell's CNGS registration renewal application. Staff believes the application meets the requirements of Puc 3003 and 3006.01. Pursuant to the secretarial letter issued to Shell on November 30, 2010 in Docket No. DM 10-255, Shell's current registration term would expire "at the end of business on November 30, 2015 or on the earlier termination or expiration of the Surety Bond." In order to avoid any gap in its effective CNGS registration while the issues with its renewal application were being resolved, Staff recommends that the Commission approve the renewal of Shell's CNGS registration effective as of December 1, 2015 for a period of five years. This registration will expire at the end of business on November 30, 2020.

The Request for Waiver of Rules sent on behalf of Shell, which was filed in the docket under cover of a memorandum from Staff Attorney David K. Wiesner on December 16, 2015, included a request that the unredacted version of the Request be afforded confidential treatment and only the redacted version be publicly disclosed. Because this Request has now been withdrawn by Shell and therefore will never be considered or acted upon by the Commission, Staff recommends that confidential treatment be granted because the privacy interest of Shell in certain information contained therein outweighs the public interest in disclosure of such information.

SERVICE LIST - EMAIL ADDRESSES - DOCKET RELATED

Pursuant to N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.11 (a) (1): Serve an electronic copy on each person identified on the service list.

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FILING INSTRUCTIONS:

- a) Pursuant to N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.02 (a), with the exception of Discovery, file 7 copies, as well as an electronic copy, of all documents including cover letter with:**

DEBRA A HOWLAND
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NHPUC
21 S. FRUIT ST, SUITE 10
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- b) Serve an electronic copy with each person identified on the Commission's service list and with the Office of Consumer Advocate.**
- c) Serve a written copy on each person on the service list not able to receive electronic mail.**