

## NOTICE OF COMMENT PERIOD

Issued: July 5, 2019

**In the Matter of Community Coops of Lake Park's Petition for an Exemption for a Small Gas Utility Franchise**

**In the Matter of a Petition by United Natural Gas, LLC for Approval of its Request for a Small Gas Utility Franchise Exemption**

**In the Matter of a Petition by Lake Region Energy Services, Inc., for a Small Gas Utility Franchise Exemption**

**In the Matter of the Petition of Dooley's Natural Gas LLC for Exemption for a Small Gas Utility**

**In the Matter of a Petition by Dooley's Natural Gas II, LLC for a Small Gas Utility Franchise Exemption**

**PUC Docket Number(s):**      **G-6956/M-15-856**  
   **G-6960/M-16-214**  
   **G-6977/M-17-186**  
   **G-6915/M-13-672**  
   **G-6915/M-16-756**

**Comment Period:**      Comments are requested by August 9, 2019 at 4:30pm  
   Reply comments may be provided by August 19, 2019 at 4:30pm

*Comments received after the close of the comment period may or may not be considered by the Commission.*

**Issue:** Should the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) accept the compliance filings submitted by Community Co-Ops of Lake Park, United Natural Gas, LLC, Lake Region Energy Services, Inc., Dooley's Natural Gas, LLC, and Dooley's Natural Gas II, LCC?

**Topic(s) Open for Comment:**

- Have the small gas utilities complied with the Commission’s November 9, 2018 Order?
- Are there other issues or concerns related to this matter?

**Background**

On November 9, 2018, the Commission issued its ORDER DETERMINING COMPLIANCE WITH COMMISSION ORDERS AND ESTABLISHING FILING REQUIREMENTS (November 9, 2018 Order), in these dockets, detailing the annual filing requirements for exempt small gas utility companies. Specifically, the order required small gas utilities to provide the following information:

- A. Updated customer counts, plus a statement that the utility does not discriminate between in-muni/out-muni customers, and if it does, why;
- B. Any municipality-approved rate changes that occurred in the prior year and when these changes went into effect. All small gas utilities must comply with Minn. Stat. § 216B.16, subp. 12 (b), which states “The public utility shall file with the commission 5 and the department all initial and subsequent changes in rates, tariffs, and contracts for service outside the municipality at least 30 days in advance of implementation;”
- C. All changes to its tariff book in redlined and final revised tariff form;
- D. A copy of its cold weather disconnection notice sent to the customers, including how the notice was communicated and date communicated (Minn. Stat. § 216B.096, Minnesota’s Cold Weather Rule);
- E. A copy of any utility disconnection reports served to any of the municipalities as required by Minn. Stat. § 216B.0976 – Minnesota’s Notice to Cities of Utility Disconnection;
- F. A copy of its notice form sent to customers who are in arrears pursuant to the utility’s obligation under Minn. Stat. § 216B.098 – Minnesota’s Residential Customer Protections, along with any policy not clearly identified in the tariffs regarding budget billing plans, payment arrangements, and under-charge repayment.

On April 30, 2019, Community Co-ops of Lake Park submitted its compliance filing, in Docket No. G-6956/M-15-856.

On April 26, 2019, United Natural Gas, LLC submitted its compliance filing, in Docket No. G-6960/M-16-214.

On May 6, 2019, Lake Region Energy Services, Inc. submitted its compliance filing, in Docket No. G-6977/M-17-186.

On February 26 and 28, and June 4, 2019, Dooley’s Natural Gas, LLC and Dooley’s Natural Gas II, LLC, submitted compliance filings, in Docket Nos. G-6915/M-13-672 and G-6915/M-16-756, respectively.

**Filing Requirements:** Utilities, telecommunications carriers, official parties, and state agencies are **required** to file documents using the Commission’s electronic filing system (eFiling). All parties,

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participants and interested persons are encouraged to use eFiling: [mn.gov/puc](http://mn.gov/puc), select *eFiling*, and follow the prompts.

**Submit Public Comments:** Visit [mn.gov/puc](http://mn.gov/puc), select *Speak Up!* to find these dockets, and add your comments to the discussion or email your comments to [consumer.puc@state.mn.us](mailto:consumer.puc@state.mn.us).

**Full Case Record:** See all documents filed in these dockets via the Commission's website at [mn.gov/puc](http://mn.gov/puc). For example, select *Search eDockets*, enter the year (15) and the docket number (856), select *Search*.

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**Questions about this docket or Commission process and procedure?** Contact Commission staff, Eric Bartusch, at [eric.bartusch@state.mn.us](mailto:eric.bartusch@state.mn.us) or 651-201-2259.

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