

For Immediate Release: 09/20/17

John B. Rhodes, Chair

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17072/17-G-0455

Public Hearing Scheduled for Reserve Gas Company — Comments Sought on Petition for Gas Franchise in Wyoming County —

ALBANY — The New York State Public Service Commission (Commission) today announced it was seeking public comment on a petition filed on July 26, 2017, by Reserve Gas Company, Inc. (Reserve), for authorization to exercise a gas franchise in the Town of Bennington, Wyoming County, New York.

On July 12, 2017, the Town of Bennington granted Reserve a non-exclusive franchise to install facilities within the town for the purpose of providing gas service. Reserve anticipates providing service to two customers within the town, as a result of the abandonment of pipelines and wells by New York Gas & Oil, Inc., Northern Gas Well Operators, Inc. and First Medina Gas Properties, LLC.

Public Statement Hearing and Procedural Conference

At the public statement hearing, interested members of the public may provide their views before an Administrative Law Judge assigned by the Commission to preside over this case. The public statement hearing will be held as follows:

Wednesday, September 27, 2017

Bennington Town Hall 905 Old Alleghany Road Attica, NY 14011

Public Statement Hearing: 7:00pm

Immediately following the public statement hearing, a procedural conference will be held to discuss the next steps in this proceeding, including whether there is a need to hold an evidentiary hearing in order to present recommendations for Commission action.

It is not necessary to make an appointment in advance in order to speak. Persons interested in speaking will be asked to complete a card requesting an opportunity to speak when they arrive at the hearing. Speakers will be called in the order in which the cards are received. Speakers need not provide written copies of their comments. The public statement hearing will be kept open for at least one hour and will continue until everyone wishing to speak has been heard, or other reasonable arrangements have been made to include their comments in the record. A verbatim transcript of the hearing will be made for inclusion in the record of the proceeding.

Disabled persons requiring special accommodations should contact the Department of Public Service's Human Resource Management Office at (518) 474-2520 as soon as possible. TDD users may request a sign language interpreter by placing a call through the New York Relay Service at 711 to reach the Department of Public Service's Human Resource Office at the (518) 474-2520 number. Individuals with difficulty understanding or reading English are encouraged to call the Commission at 1-800-342-3377 for free language assistance services regarding this press release.

Other Ways to Comment

For those who cannot attend or prefer not to speak at the public statement hearing, there are several other ways to provide your comments to the Commission. Comments should refer to "Case 17-G-0455, Reserve Gas Company."

Via the Internet or Mail: Comments may be entered directly into the case file by locating the case via the homepage of the Commission's website, www.dps.ny.gov, by clicking on "Search" and entering 17-G-0455 in the "Search by Case Number" field. A commenter should click on the "Post Comments" button located at the top of the page and leave the comment by completing the form to which he or she is then directed.

Comments may be sent electronically to Hon. Kathleen H. Burgess, Secretary, at secretary@dps.ny.gov, or by mail or delivery to Secretary Burgess at the New York State Public Service Commission, Three Empire State Plaza, Albany NY 12223-1350. Comments should refer to "Case 17-G-0455 – Reserve Gas Company."

Toll-Free Opinion Line: Individuals may choose to submit comments by calling the Commission's Opinion Line at 1-800-335-2120. This line is set up to receive in-state calls 24 hours a day. Press "2" to leave comments, mentioning "Case 17-G-0455, Reserve Gas Company." These comments are not transcribed verbatim, but a summary is provided to the Commission.

Comments provided through these alternative methods are requested by <u>October 2, 2017</u>. All written comments will become part of the record and will be reported to the Commission for its consideration.

The petition and all submitted comments may be accessed on the Commission's website at www.dps.ny.gov. From the homepage, click on "Search," and enter the case number (17-G-0455) in the "Search by Case Number" field.