

## NOTICE OF COMMENT PERIOD

Issued: May 20, 2021

**In the Matter of a Petition of Community Co-ops of Lake Park for an Exemption for a Small Gas Utility Franchise**

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

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

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

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

**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:**      Initial comment period closes July 16, 2021 at 4:30pm  
   Reply comment period closes July 26, 2021 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, LLC?

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

- Have the exempt 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 in these dockets, detailing the annual filing requirements for exempt small gas utility companies. The November 9, 2018 Order required exempt small gas utilities to provide the following information annually:

- A. Updated customer counts, plus a statement that the utility does not discriminate between in-municipality and out-municipality 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 and the department all initial and subsequent changes in rates, tariffs, and contracts for service outside the municipality at least 30 day 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; and
- 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 26, 2021, Community Co-ops of Lake Park submitted its compliance filing in Docket No. G-6956/M-15-856.

On April 21, 2021, United Natural Gas, LLC submitted its compliance filing in Docket No. G-6960/M-16-214.

On May 1, 2020, Lake Region Energy Services, Inc. submitted its compliance filing in Docket No. G-6977/M-17-186.

On February 26, 2021, Dooley’s Natural Gas, LLC and Dooley’s Natural Gas II, LLC submitted their 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, participants and interested persons are encouraged to use eFiling: [mn.gov/puc](https://mn.gov/puc), select *eFiling*, and follow the prompts.

PUC Docket Numbers G-6956/M-15-856, G-6960/M-16-214, G-6977/M-17-186, G-6915/M-13-672 and G-6915/M-16-756

**Submit Public Comments:**

**Online:** Visit [mn.gov/puc](http://mn.gov/puc), select Comment and follow the prompts.

**Email:** [consumer.puc@state.mn.us](mailto:consumer.puc@state.mn.us)

**U.S. Mail:** Consumer Affairs Office  
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission  
121 7th Place East, Suite 350  
St. Paul MN 55101

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

**Subscribe** to receive email notification when new documents are filed in this docket at [mn.gov/puc](http://mn.gov/puc), select *Subscribe*, or click [HERE](#) and follow the prompts.

**Questions about this docket or Commission process and procedure?** Contact Commission staff, Sally Anne McShane, at [sally.anne.mcshane@state.mn.us](mailto:sally.anne.mcshane@state.mn.us) or 651-201-2224.

**Change your mailing preferences:** Email [docketing.puc@state.mn.us](mailto:docketing.puc@state.mn.us) or call Leesa Norton at 651-201-2246.

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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, Chrishna Beard, hereby certify that I have this day, served a true and correct copy of the following document to all persons at the addresses indicated below or on the attached list by electronic filing, electronic mail, courier, interoffice mail or by depositing the same enveloped with postage paid in the United States mail at St. Paul, Minnesota.

**Minnesota Public Utilities Commission  
NOTICE OF COMMENT PERIOD**

Docket Number **G-6956/M-15-856, G6960/M-16-214, G6977/M-17-186, G6915/M-13-672, G6915/M-16-756**

Dated this 20th day of May, 2021

/s/ Chrishna Beard

First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
Generic Notice	Commerce Attorneys	commerce.attorneys@ag.state.mn.us	Office of the Attorney General-DOC	445 Minnesota Street Suite 1400  St. Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_13-672_M-13-672
Randy	Dooley	rdooley@dooleypetro.com	Dooley's Natural Gas LLC	3101 3rd Ave SW  Willmar, MN 56201	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_13-672_M-13-672
Sharon	Ferguson	sharon.ferguson@state.mn.us	Department of Commerce	85 7th Place E Ste 280  Saint Paul, MN 551012198	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_13-672_M-13-672
Brian	Meloy	brian.meloy@stinson.com	STINSON LLP	50 S 6th St Ste 2600  Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_13-672_M-13-672
Generic Notice	Residential Utilities Division	residential.utilities@ag.state.mn.us	Office of the Attorney General-RUD	1400 BRM Tower 445 Minnesota St St. Paul, MN 551012131	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_13-672_M-13-672
Steve	Sarvi	rushford@acegroup.cc	Rushford Electric Dept.	PO Box 430  Rushford, MN 55971	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_13-672_M-13-672
Will	Seuffert	Will.Seuffert@state.mn.us	Public Utilities Commission	121 7th PI E Ste 350  Saint Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_13-672_M-13-672
James M	Strommen	jstrommen@kennedy-graven.com	Kennedy & Graven, Chartered	150 S 5th St Ste 700  Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_13-672_M-13-672

First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
David	Blomseth	davidb@communitycoops.com	Community Co-ops of Lake Park	PO Box 329 14583 Hwy 10 W Lake Park, MN 56554	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_15-856_M-15-856
Generic Notice	Commerce Attorneys	commerce.attorneys@ag.state.mn.us	Office of the Attorney General-DOC	445 Minnesota Street Suite 1400  St. Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_15-856_M-15-856
Sharon	Ferguson	sharon.ferguson@state.mn.us	Department of Commerce	85 7th Place E Ste 280  Saint Paul, MN 551012198	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_15-856_M-15-856
Jessica	Halvorson	jhalvor@arvig.net	Wambach & Hanson Law Office, P.C.	PO Box 340  Mahnomen, MN 56557	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_15-856_M-15-856
Elroy E.	Hanson	ehanson@arvig.net	Wambach & Hanson Law Office PC	304 N Main St PO Box 340 Mahnomen, MN 56557	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_15-856_M-15-856
Bruce	Nelson	tbnelson@loretel.net	Community Co-ops of Lake Park	PO Box 329 14583 Hwy 10 W Lake Park, MN 56554	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_15-856_M-15-856
Generic Notice	Residential Utilities Division	residential.utilities@ag.state.mn.us	Office of the Attorney General-RUD	1400 BRM Tower 445 Minnesota St St. Paul, MN 551012131	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_15-856_M-15-856
Will	Seuffert	Will.Seuffert@state.mn.us	Public Utilities Commission	121 7th PI E Ste 350  Saint Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_15-856_M-15-856

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Generic Notice	Commerce Attorneys	commerce.attorneys@ag.state.mn.us	Office of the Attorney General-DOC	445 Minnesota Street Suite 1400  St. Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_16-214_Official
Sharon	Ferguson	sharon.ferguson@state.mn.us	Department of Commerce	85 7th Place E Ste 280  Saint Paul, MN 551012198	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_16-214_Official
Gregory	Hauptert	ghauptert@parthenonagency.com	Sobalvarro & Hauptert	11 7th Ave. N., Suite 100  St. Cloud, Minnesota 56303	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_16-214_Official
Tony	Kammerlander	tony.kammerlander@ufcmn.com	United Natural Gas	PO Box 461  Winthrop, MN 55396	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_16-214_Official
Robert	Larsen	robert.larsen@lowersioux.com	Lower Sioux Indian Community	PO Box 308 39527 Reservation Highway 1 Morton, MN 56270	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_16-214_Official
Brian	Pendleton	N/A		PO Box 308 39527 Reservatio Hwy 1 Morton, MN 56270	Paper Service	No	OFF_SL_16-214_Official
Al	Poehler	ctclerk@comcast.net	City of Courtland	300 Railroad St  Courtland, MN 56021	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_16-214_Official
Generic Notice	Residential Utilities Division	residential.utilities@ag.state.mn.us	Office of the Attorney General-RUD	1400 BRM Tower 445 Minnesota St St. Paul, MN 551012131	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_16-214_Official
Darren	Saffert	lafcityclerk@gmail.com	City of Lafayette	700 Ninth St PO BOX 375 Lafayette, MN 56054	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_16-214_Official
Will	Seuffert	Will.Seuffert@state.mn.us	Public Utilities Commission	121 7th Pl E Ste 350  Saint Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_16-214_Official

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Nizhoni	Smith	nizhoni.smith@lowersioux.com	Lower Sioux Indian Community	PO Box 308 39527 Reservation Highway 1 Morton, MN 56270	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_16-214_Official
James	Stenson		Nicollet County	501 South Minnesota Avenue  St. Peter, MN 56082	Paper Service	No	OFF_SL_16-214_Official
Teresa	Wenninger	teresa.wenninger@ufcmn.com	United Farmers Cooperative	PO Box 461  Winthrop, MN 55396	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_16-214_Official



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Generic Notice	Commerce Attorneys	commerce.attorneys@ag.state.mn.us	Office of the Attorney General-DOC	445 Minnesota Street Suite 1400  St. Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_16-756_M-16-756
Randy	Dooley	rdooley@dooleypetro.com	Dooley's Natural Gas LLC	3101 3rd Ave SW  Willmar, MN 56201	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_16-756_M-16-756
Sharon	Ferguson	sharon.ferguson@state.mn.us	Department of Commerce	85 7th Place E Ste 280  Saint Paul, MN 551012198	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_16-756_M-16-756
Brian	Meloy	brian.meloy@stinson.com	STINSON LLP	50 S 6th St Ste 2600  Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_16-756_M-16-756
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Will	Seuffert	Will.Seuffert@state.mn.us	Public Utilities Commission	121 7th Pl E Ste 350  Saint Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_16-756_M-16-756

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Generic Notice	Commerce Attorneys	commerce.attorneys@ag.state.mn.us	Office of the Attorney General-DOC	445 Minnesota Street Suite 1400  St. Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_17-186_M-17-186
Sharon	Ferguson	sharon.ferguson@state.mn.us	Department of Commerce	85 7th Place E Ste 280  Saint Paul, MN 551012198	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_17-186_M-17-186
Ryan D	Fullerton	r.fullerton@pemlaw.com	Pemberton, Sorlie, Rufer & Kershner	110 North Mill St  Fergus Falls, MN 56537	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_17-186_M-17-186
Generic Notice	Residential Utilities Division	residential.utilities@ag.state.mn.us	Office of the Attorney General-RUD	1400 BRM Tower 445 Minnesota St St. Paul, MN 551012131	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_17-186_M-17-186
Will	Seuffert	Will.Seuffert@state.mn.us	Public Utilities Commission	121 7th PI E Ste 350  Saint Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_17-186_M-17-186
Tim	Thompson	tthompson@lrec.coop	Lake Region Electric Cooperative	PO Box 643 1401 South Broadway Pelican Rapids, MN 56572	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_17-186_M-17-186