

**STATE OF VERMONT  
PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD**

Petition of Vermont Gas Systems, Inc., )  
requesting a Certificate of Public Good pursuant )  
to 30 V.S.A. § 248, authorizing the construction )  
of the **“Addison Natural Gas Project”** )  
consisting of approximately 43 miles of new )  
natural gas transmission pipeline in Chittenden )  
and Addison Counties, approximately 5 miles of )  
new distribution mainlines in Addison County, )  
together with three new gate stations in )  
Williston, New Haven and Middlebury, )  
Vermont )

Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_

**PETITION FOR CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC GOOD**

NOW COMES Vermont Gas Systems, Inc. (“Vermont Gas,” “VGS,” or the “Company”), and hereby files this Petition, pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 248 and Public Service Board (“Board”) Rule 5.400, requesting the Board to issue a Certificate of Public Good (“CPG”) authorizing Vermont Gas to construct the Addison Natural Gas Project (the “Project”).

By this Petition, Vermont Gas represents as follows:

1. Vermont Gas is a “company” as defined by Section 201 of Title 30, Vermont Statutes Annotated, and as such is subject to the Board’s jurisdiction pursuant to Section 203 of Title 30.
2. Vermont Gas is engaged in the business of transporting, distributing and selling natural gas to Vermont residents and businesses pursuant to a CPG from the Board.

**Project Description**

3. The Project includes the following principal components:
  - (a) Approximately 43 miles of new 12-inch transmission pipeline, extending from a new tie-in to be located at Vermont Gas’s existing 10-inch mainline north of Severance Road in Colchester (the “Colchester Tie-In”), Vermont, to the intersection of U.S. Route 7 and Exchange Street in Middlebury, Vermont (the “Transmission Mainline”);

(b) Approximately 5 miles of new six-inch distribution mainlines (“Distribution Mainlines”) that will extend distribution service to Vergennes (4 miles) and Middlebury (1 mile); and

(3) Three new pressure regulation stations (“Stations” or “Gate Stations”), one located near Route 2 in Williston to reinforce the existing distribution system, one on Plank Road in New Haven, and the third just south of the intersection of U.S. Route 7 and Exchange Street in Middlebury.

4. The Project is described in more detail in the accompanying prefiled testimony and exhibits submitted herewith by Vermont Gas.

#### **Project Cost**

5. The Project is estimated to cost \$83,800,444.

#### **Project Schedule**

6. The current schedule is to construct the Project in 2014. This will bring gas service to anchor customers in the Middlebury industrial park by late 2014.

7. In order to achieve these important milestones, Vermont Gas asks that the Public Board issue a final Section 248 CPG by no later than September, 2013.

#### **VGS’s Requests for Section 248 Certificate of Public Good**

8. The Project does not involve construction of a waste-to-energy facility.

Therefore, 30 V.S.A. § 248(b)(9) is inapplicable to this Project.

9. Because the Project is a natural gas facility that is not part of or incidental to an electric generating facility, 30 V.S.A. § 248(b)(7) and (10) are inapplicable.

10. The Project as proposed by Vermont Gas meets the applicable criteria established by 30 V.S.A. § 248(b) and, therefore, warrants that the Board make the findings requisite to the issuance of Certificates of Public Good.

11. Vermont Gas has complied with the requirements of Board Rule 5.402(B)(3): the list of adjoining landowners provided with this filing was verified within 60 days of the filing of this Petition.

**Request for Relief**

WHEREFORE, Vermont Gas respectfully requests the Board to:

- A. Docket this Petition and schedule a prehearing conference in this matter as expeditiously as possible, and no later than January 7, 2013;
- B. Approve the proposed Docket Schedule attached hereto;
- C. Hold technical hearings no later than the week of July 8, 2013;
- D. Make findings as required by 30 V.S.A. § 248;
- E. Issue final Findings, a final Order and Certificate of Public Good approving the Project as proposed, by mid-September, 2013;
- F. Take such other action as may be required for the expeditious review of this Petition.

DATED at St. Johnsbury, Vermont, this 20<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2012.

VERMONT GAS SYSTEMS, INC.

By its attorneys,



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DOWNS RACHLIN MARTIN PLLC

John H. Marshall  
Kimberly K. Hayden  
Lisa A. Fearon

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**PETITIONER’S PROPOSED SCHEDULE**

Petitioner Files Petition and Testimony	December 20, 2012
Prehearing Conference	January 7, 2013
Site Visit <sup>1</sup> & Public Hearing	January 24, 2013
Deadline for Intervention Motions	January 31, 2013
Petitioner’s Response to Intervention	February 6, 2013
First Round of Discovery on Petitioner	February 13, 2013
Petitioner’s Responses Due	March 6, 2013
Second Round of Discovery on Petitioner	March 13, 2013
Petitioner’s Responses Due	March 17, 2013

**Settlement Schedule**

Settlement MOU	March 22, 2013
Parties File Joint Proposal for Decision	March 22, 2013
Technical Hearing on MOU/ Joint PFD	May 15, 2013

**Litigation Schedule if Contested Issues Remain**

Non-Petitioners Direct Testimony	April 1, 2013
Discovery on Non-Petitioners	April 8, 2013

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<sup>1</sup> The Site Visit may occur on a later date than the Public Hearing.

Non-Petitioners' Responses Due	April 29, 2013
Parties File Rebuttal Testimony	May 13, 2013
Discovery on Rebuttal Testimony	May 20, 2013
Responses Due	June 7, 2013
Technical Hearing	w/o July 8, 2013
Briefs	August 5, 2013
Reply Briefs	August 19, 2012