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For Immediate Release

Maryland PSC Schedules Hearing for Proposed South Jersey Industries, Elkton Gas Transaction

(Baltimore, MD–April 17, 2018) – The Maryland Public Service Commission has scheduled a public comment hearing on the proposed acquisition of substantially all the assets of Elkton Gas by South Jersey Industries, Inc. (SJI). The hearing will be held on Tuesday, May 1, 2018 at 7pm at the Town of Elkton Council Chambers, 100 Railroad Avenue in Elkton, Maryland. Members of the public who wish to comment on the matter are welcome to attend the hearing before Chief Public Utility Law Judge Terry J. Romine.

Elkton Gas is a natural gas distribution company with approximately 6,700 residential and business customers in Cecil County, Maryland. Elkton Gas, which operates approximately about 102 miles of service main in and around the Town of Elkton, is an operating division of Pivotal Holdings, Inc. (Pivotal), which in turn is an indirect, whollyowned subsidiary of Southern Company Gas, formerly AGL Resources, Inc. SJI is a natural gas distribution and energy services holding company based in Folsom, New Jersey. It proposes to acquire from Pivotal substantially all of the assets of Elkton Gas.

In May 2016, the Commission approved the merger transaction of AGL Resources and the Southern Company in Case No. <u>9404</u>. As a result of that transaction, Elkton became an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of the Southern Company.

The Commission, in its authority to approve or deny the approximate \$10 million transaction, must consider the potential impacts of the transaction on customer rates and charges, on Elkton Gas' employment levels, on issues of reliability, quality of service and quality of customer service, and whether the transaction is in the public interest, including benefits and no harm to consumers. Evidentiary hearings in the case are scheduled for May 8 and 9, 2018 at the Commission's offices in Baltimore. The Commission must make a decision by August 29, 2018.

The application and associated filings in the case are available in the electronic docket for Case No. 9475, which may be viewed or downloaded at www.psc.state.md.us.

Comments referencing Case No. 9475 may also be mailed by Monday, May 7, 2018 to:

David J. Collins, Executive Secretary Maryland Public Service Commission William Donald Schaefer Tower, 16th Floor 6 St. Paul Street Baltimore, MD 21202

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About the Public Service Commission:

The Maryland Public Service Commission regulates electric and gas utilities, telephone companies (land lines), certain water and sewer companies, passenger motor vehicle carriers for hire (sedans, limousines, buses, Uber, Lyft), taxicab companies (in Baltimore City and County, Cumberland and Hagerstown) and bay pilot rates.

Upcoming Public Comment Hearings

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