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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

August 6, 2020

NOTICE OF NEW SUPPLIER WEBSITE AND NEW SECURE PORTAL FOR RESIDENTIAL NATURAL GAS SUPPLIERS

To: All Licensed Residential Natural Gas Suppliers in Maryland

Pursuant to § 7-604.1 of the Public Utilities Article, Annotated Code of Maryland ("PUA"), the Public Service Commission ("Commission") is required to maintain a secure portal on its website to receive information about open offers to supply natural gas from natural gas suppliers. As a continuation of the Commission's efforts to educate residential customers about Customer Choice and pursuant to § 7-604.1 of the PUA, the Commission hereby provides notice of a new supplier website and new secure portal to enable licensed residential natural gas suppliers in Maryland to input various terms of open residential offers that will allow prospective consumers the ability to more readily compare such offers and make informed decisions regarding their natural gas supplier.

The new residential natural gas supplier website and secure portal can be accessed via the following link: <u>https://supplier.mdgaschoice.com/.</u> Natural gas suppliers should begin registering effective immediately to establish their new account and begin using the new secure portal to upload current residential offers. The Commission anticipates that it will deploy its new MD Gas Choice website for public use no later than October 1, 2020.¹ All registrations and open offer uploads should be completed no later than Tuesday, September 1, 2020.

Each residential natural gas supplier must register to use the new secure portal and will be validated as follows:

- The person registering for the first time should select "Create an Account" and from the drop-down menu select which supplier they represent only licensed residential natural gas suppliers are listed on the drop-down menu;
- The registrant will need to provide an e-mail address that includes the domain name of the supplier.² In addition, the person will create a unique username and password and provide name and address information;

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 1-800-735-2258 (TTY/Voice)
 • Website: www.psc.state.md.us

¹ After the Commission launches its new MD Gas Choice shopping website for residential choice customers, the new secure portal will also be accessible through the Commission's website, www.psc.state.md.us, by clicking "Gas Choice Supplier Secure Portal" located in the "Online Services" drop-down menu on the left navigation column.

² Public e-mail domain names, such as Yahoo, AOL, Hotmail, or Gmail, are not accepted as e-mail domain names of a supplier.

- When the person submits the registration request, an e-mail is sent to the e-mail address and will include a link to click to verify the e-mail address. Once received by the Commission, the Gas Choice Administrator will review the registration information; and
- After the review is completed and accepted, the Administrator will activate the new user account. The registered user will receive an e-mail notification that the account has been activated.

From that point, the supplier may use the new supplier website to log into their account and upload current residential offers. After open offer uploads have been completed and the launch of the Commission's MD Gas Choice shopping website, the public will be able to view and compare the current offers that have been uploaded by suppliers through the secure portal. The information displayed is solely the responsibility of the gas supplier that entered it. The Public Service Commission will not verify its accuracy and is not responsible for any losses due to any incorrect information.

Questions regarding the new supplier portal may be directed to Kevin Mosier, Assistant Director of Energy Analysis and Planning, at <u>kevin.mosier@maryland.gov</u>.

By Direction of the Commission,

/s/ Andrew S. Johnston

Andrew S. Johnston Executive Secretary