

**ORDER NO. 89467**

THE JOINT APPLICATION OF  
CHESAPEAKE UTILITIES CORPORATION  
AND SOUTH JERSEY INDUSTRIES, INC.  
FOR APPROVAL OF AN AGREEMENT BY  
WHICH CHESAPEAKE UTILITIES  
CORPORATION WILL ACQUIRE THE  
ELKTON GAS COMPANY

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BEFORE THE  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
OF MARYLAND

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Case No. 9632  
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**Issue Date: January 27, 2020**

**ORDER GRANTING CONSENT MOTION  
TO EXTEND STATUORY REVIEW PERIOD**

1. On January 8, 2020, Chesapeake Utilities Corporation and South Jersey Industries, Inc. (“Joint Applicants”) filed a Joint Application for Approval of an Agreement by which Chesapeake Utilities Corporation (“Chesapeake”) Will Acquire the Elkton Gas Company (“Joint Application) with the Public Service Commission of Maryland (“Commission”). The Joint Applicants request, pursuant to Public Utilities Article, *Annotated Code of Maryland* (“PUA”), § 6-105 and Code of Maryland Regulations (“COMAR”) 20.07.04.01 *et seq.* that the Commission authorize Chesapeake: (1) to acquire the Elkton Gas Company (“Elkton Gas”) pursuant to a Stock Purchase Agreement dated December 5, 2019; (2) to acquire the power to exercise substantial influence over the policies and actions of Elkton Gas; and (3) to obtain any and all such further relief as may be appropriate and necessary.

2. On January 10, 2020, the Commission docketed the Joint Application as Case No. 9632 and delegated the conduct of the proceedings to the Public Utility Law Judge Division.<sup>1</sup>

3. On January 23, 2020, a pre-hearing conference was held and a procedural schedule was discussed. The parties agreed to a procedural schedule that contemplated and incorporated a 45-day extension of the initial 180-day review period provided by PUA § 6-105(g)(6)(i). The Public Utility Law Judge issued a Notice of Procedural Schedule on January 23, 2020 that tentatively adopted the agreed-upon procedural schedule, pending a Commission decision on a request to extend the statutory review period pursuant to PUA § 6-105(g)(6)(ii).

4. On January 24, 2020, the Joint Applicants filed a Consent Motion requesting an order extending the statutory review period, and submitted that good cause exists for such extension. The Joint Applicants aver that an additional 45 days is required to ensure the proceedings can be completed and a sufficient evidentiary record developed. The Maryland Office of People's Counsel and Staff consent to the extension and no party has sought to intervene in this matter.

5. Pursuant to PUA § 6-105(g)(6)(ii), the Commission finds good cause exists to extend the 180-day period an additional 45 days, so that a sufficient evidentiary record can be developed and the proceedings completed.

**IT IS THEREFORE**, this 27th day of January in the year Two Thousand Twenty by the Public Service Commission of Maryland,

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<sup>1</sup> Maillog 228119.

**ORDERED** that the 180-day review period is hereby extended an additional 45 days pursuant to PUA § 6-105(g)(6)(ii).

By Direction of the Commission,

*/s/ Andrew S. Johnston*

Andrew S. Johnston  
Executive Secretary