

PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
Harrisburg, PA 17120

**Licensing Requirements for
Natural Gas Suppliers**

Public Meeting – January 12, 2012
2266832 - LAW
Docket No. L-2011-2266832

STATEMENT OF
COMMISSIONER PAMELA A. WITMER

Before the Commission today is a proposed rulemaking order that solicits comments on the issue of removing the exemption from natural gas licensing requirements for marketing services consultants and nontraditional marketers. The rulemaking was initiated through my October 14, 2011 Motion directing staff to conduct a review of the Commission's existing natural gas licensing regulations.

The current regulations exempt marketing services consultants and nontraditional marketers from licensing as natural gas suppliers (NGSs). However, some exempted entities have applied for a NGS license in order to supply natural gas services to retail customers, even though they are not required to do so. To date, the Commission's practice has been to issue NGS licenses to such entities upon demonstration that they meet the financial and technical requirements of NGS licensure and also comply with, and will be governed by, the applicable provisions of the Public Utility Code and Commission regulations.

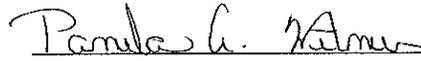
Our action here today provides an opportunity for interested parties to comment on whether it is appropriate, given the current NGS market, to discontinue the NGS licensing exemption of marketing services consultants and nontraditional marketers and instead require all natural gas aggregators, marketers and brokers to be licensed by the Commission in order to offer natural gas supply services to retail customers.

As I previously stated, I believe that it is necessary for the Commission to continuously review both the Public Utility Code and our regulations to ensure that their purpose is being properly effectuated. It is our job to ensure that the Commission's regulations are consistent with the law and responsive to changes within the regulated community. The proposed regulation addresses the issues the Commission set forth in its October 14 Motion.

I also wish to stress my desire for interested parties to comment on these proposed changes. In reviewing the proposed rulemaking, I believe it is instructive and appropriate for parties to review comments previously submitted on this issue under the 2001 proceeding that promulgated

our current regulation. See Licensing Requirements for Natural Gas Suppliers, Final Rulemaking Order, Docket No. L-00000150, 31 Pa. B. 3943 (July 21, 2001).

DATE: January 12, 2012



PAMELA A. WITMER
COMMISSIONER