



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

D.P.U. 15-175

December 2, 2015

Petition of Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for Approval of Contract with Enbridge Gas Distribution, Inc. pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94A.

NOTICE OF FILING AND PUBLIC HEARING

On November 25, 2015, Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts (“Bay State” or “Company”) filed a petition with the Department of Public Utilities (“Department”) seeking approval of a six-year storage agreement (“Agreement”) with Enbridge Gas Distribution, Inc. pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94A. The Agreement will provide the Company with a maximum storage capacity of 1,820,000 dekatherms (“Dth”) and a maximum daily withdrawal quantity of 26,500 Dth. The Department has docketed this petition as D.P.U. 15-175.

The Department will conduct a public hearing to receive comments on the Company’s petition on **Tuesday, December 29, 2015, at 2:00 p.m.** at the Department’s offices, One South Station, 5th Floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02110. The Department will conduct a procedural conference immediately following the public hearing. Any person who desires to comment may do so at the time and place noted above, or submit written comments to the Department not later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **Tuesday, December 29, 2015**.

The Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (“Attorney General”) filed a notice to intervene in this matter pursuant to G.L. c. 12, § 11E(a). Further, pursuant to G.L. c. 12, § 11E(b), the Attorney General filed a notice of intent to retain experts and consultants to assist her investigation of the Company’s filing, and has requested Department approval to spend up to \$150,000 in this regard. Pursuant to G.L. c. 12, § 11E(b), the costs incurred by the Attorney General relative to her retention of experts and consultants may be recovered in the Company’s rates. Any person who desires to comment on the Attorney General’s notice of intent to retain experts and consultants in this matter may submit written comments to the Department not later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **Tuesday, December 22, 2015**.

Any person who desires to participate in the evidentiary phase of this proceeding must file a written petition for leave to intervene with the Department not later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **Tuesday, December 22, 2015**. A petition for leave to intervene must satisfy the timing and substantive requirements of 220 C.M.R. § 1.03. Receipt by the Department, not mailing, constitutes filing and determines whether a petition has been timely filed. A petition filed late may be disallowed as untimely, unless good cause is shown for waiver under 220 C.M.R. § 1.01(4). To be allowed, a petition under 220 C.M.R. § 1.03(1) must satisfy

the standing requirements of G.L. c. 30A, § 10. All responses to petitions to intervene must be filed by the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on the second business day after the petition to intervene was filed.

An original and two (2) copies of all written comments or petitions to intervene must be filed with Mark D. Marini, Secretary, Department of Public Utilities, One South Station – 5th Floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02110 not later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on the dates noted above. One copy of all written comments or petitions to intervene should also be sent to counsel for the Company, Shaela McNulty Collins, Esq., NiSource Corporate Services, 4 Technology Drive, Suite 250, Westborough, Massachusetts 01581 (shaelacollins@nsource.com).

All documents should also be submitted to the Department in electronic format using one of the following methods: (1) by e-mail attachment to dpu.efiling@state.ma.us and to Laurie Ellen Weisman, Hearing Officer, laurie.e.weisman@state.ma.us; or (2) on a CD-ROM. The text of the e-mail or CD-ROM must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (D.P.U. 15-175); (2) the name of the person or company submitting the filing; and (3) a brief descriptive title of the document. The electronic filing should also include the name, title, and telephone number of a person to contact in the event of questions about the filing. All documents submitted in electronic format will be posted on the Department's website: <http://web1.env.state.ma.us/DPU/FileRoom/dockets/bynumber> (enter "15-175").

A copy of the petition and accompanying exhibits are available for inspection during regular business hours at the Department's offices and on the Department's website. For further information regarding the petition, please contact counsel for the Company, Shaela McNulty Collins, Esq., NiSource Corporate Services, 4 Technology Drive, Suite 250, Westborough, Massachusetts 01581 (shaelacollins@nsource.com) 508-836-7038. For further information regarding this notice, please contact Laurie Ellen Weisman, Hearing Officer, Department of Public Utilities, One South Station, Boston, Massachusetts, 02110, 617-305-3500.