### BEFORE THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

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In the Matter of the Application of Atmos Energy, for Authority to Cease Transacting the Business of a Natural Gas Public Utility in Certain Portions of Douglas County, Kansas.

Docket No. 15-ATMG-<u>449</u>-CCS

# APPLICATION OF ATMOS ENERGY, TO CEASE TRANSACTING THE BUSINESS OF A NATURAL GAS PUBLIC <u>UTILITY IN A PORTION OF DOUGLAS COUNTY, KANSAS</u>

Atmos Energy hereby requests the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas

("Commission") grant it authorization to cease operating as a natural gas public utility in certain

portions of Douglas County, Kansas, specifically described as follows:

Southwest Quarter (SW/4) and Northeast Quarter (NE/4) Section 29, Township 12 South, Range 19 East

West Half (W/2) Section 21, Township 12 South, Range 19 East, South of the centerline of I-70 (Kansas Turnpike)

All of Section 20, Township 12 South, Range 19 East, South of the centerline of I-70 (Kansas Turnpike)

East Half (E/2) Section 19, Township 12 South, Range 19 East, South of the centerline of I-70 (Kansas Turnpike) and East of the centerline of K-10 Bypass

Northeast Quarter (NE/4) Section 30, Township 12 South, Range 19 East East of the centerline of K-10 Bypass

In support of its Application, Atmos Energy states:

1. Atmos Energy is a natural gas public utility company under the jurisdiction of the Commission, which is engaged in the delivery and sale of natural gas within the meaning of K.S.A.

66-104, in legally designated areas of Kansas. Atmos Energy holds a certificate of convenience and

authority issued by the Commission, authorizing Atmos Energy to engage in such utility business. Atmos Energy has previously filed with the Commission certified copies of its Articles of Incorporation under which it was organized and a Certificate of Registration as a foreign corporation authorized to do business in Kansas, and all amendments thereto and restatements thereof, and the same are incorporated herein by reference.

2. Atmos Energy and Black Hills have mutually agreed, subject to approval by the Commission, that as a matter of public convenience and to better serve certain natural gas customers, Black Hills should serve as the natural gas public utility in certain portions of Douglas County, Kansas, specifically described as follows:

Southwest Quarter (SW/4) and Northeast Quarter (NE/4) Section 29, Township 12 South, Range 19 East

West Half (W/2) Section 21, Township 12 South, Range 19 East, South of the centerline of I-70 (Kansas Turnpike)

All of Section 20, Township 12 South, Range 19 East, South of the centerline of I-70 (Kansas Turnpike)

East Half (E/2) Section 19, Township 12 South, Range 19 East, South of the centerline of I-70 (Kansas Turnpike) and East of the centerline of K-10 Bypass

Northeast Quarter (NE/4) Section 30, Township 12 South, Range 19 East East of the centerline of K-10 Bypass

3. The territory described in paragraph 2 above is currently within Atmos Energy's service

territory. Exhibit A provides an area map of the territory identifying the areas Atmos Energy will

transfer to Black Hills.

4. Black Hills will submit a corresponding Application for a Certificate of Public

Convenience and Authority to Transact the Business of a Natural Gas Public Utility for the territory described in paragraph 2.

5. This transfer of territory is pursuant to an agreement between Atmos Energy and Black Hills which also includes a transfer of territories from Black Hills to Atmos Energy in the Lawrence, Kansas area. The Lawrence, Kansas applications will be filed in separate dockets. Due to the location of Atmos Energy's and Black Hills' existing facilities in the area, it is in the best interest of the natural gas customers that the service territory be transferred. Atmos Energy and Black Hills have agreed that Atmos Energy will transfer to Black Hills the territory described in paragraph 2.

6. A copy of this Application is being served on Black Hills. No other person or entity requires notice of this Application.

WHEREFORE, Atmos Energy respectfully requests the Commission authorize Atmos Energy to cease transacting the business of a natural gas public utility in the territory described in paragraph 2 of this Application.

James G. Flaherty, #11177 ANDERSON & BYRD, LLP 216 S. Hickory, P. O. Box 17 Ottawa, Kansas 66067 (785) 242-1234, telephone (785) 242-1279, facsimile jflaherty@andersonbyrd.com Attorneys for Atmos Energy

## **VERIFICATION**

### STATE OF KANSAS, FRANKLIN COUNTY, ss:

James G. Flaherty, of lawful age, being first duly sworn on oath, states: That he is an attorney for Atmos Energy; that he has read the above and foregoing Application of Atmos Energy, to Cease Transacting the Business of a Natural Gas Public Utility in a Portion of Douglas County, Kansas, knows the contents thereof; and that the statements contained therein are true.

James G. Flaherty

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 31<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2015.

NOTARY PUBLIC - State of Kansas RONDA ROSSMAN My Appt, Exp. 5/25/2018

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Notary Public

Appointment/Commission Expires:

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a copy of the above and foregoing was mailed, postage prepaid, this 31<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2015, addressed to:

Patrick J. Joyce Senior Managing Counsel Black Hills Energy 1102 E. 1<sup>st</sup> Street Papillion, NE 68046

Ann L. Stichler Senior Regulatory Analyst Black Hills Energy Regulatory Services 1102 E. 1<sup>st</sup> Street Papillion, NE 68046

Fel James G. Flaherty



