BEFORE THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

In the Matter of the Application of Atmos)	
Energy Corporation Seeking Approval to Cease)	(55
and Abandon Natural Gas Service to Certain)	Docket No. 24-ATMG- <u>677</u> - CCS
Irrigation and Farm Tap Customers Served Off)	
of Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline Inc.'s)	
Interstate Transmission Pipeline)	

APPLICATION

Atmos Energy Corporation ("Applicant" or "Atmos Energy"), requests from the Kansas Corporation Commission ("Commission" or "KCC") approval to cease and abandon natural gas service to certain irrigation and farm tap customers served off of Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline, Inc.'s ("Southern Star") interstate transmission pipeline located in the state of Kansas. Concurrently with the filing of this Application, Black Hills/Kansas Gas Utility Company, d/b/a Black Hills Energy ("Black Hills"), has filed an application for a certificate of convenience and necessity in order to provide natural gas service to the same irrigation and farm tap customers that Atmos Energy is seeking to cease and abandon natural gas service. This request is being made pursuant to K.S.A. 66-131. In support of its Application, Atmos Energy states as follows:

- 1. Atmos Energy is a natural gas public utility operating in the State of Kansas pursuant to certificates of convenience and necessity issued by the Commission. Atmos Energy's principal place of business within the state of Kansas is located at 25090 W. 110th Terr., Olathe, Kansas 66061. Atmos Energy serves approximately 139,000 customers in over 110 Kansas communities. Atmos Energy serves over three million natural gas utility customers in the United States.
- 2. Pleadings, notices, order and other correspondence and communications regarding this Application should be sent by electronic mail to the undersigned counsel and:

Kathleen R. Ocanas, Division Vice President Rates and Regulatory Affairs Atmos Energy Corporation 25090 W. 110th Terr. Olathe, Kansas 66061 Kathleen.ocanas@atmosenergy.com

- 3. Atmos Energy currently provides natural gas service per its Commission-approved tariffs and rates to the farm tap and irrigation customers listed in **Exhibit 1** to this Application. These farm tap and irrigation customers are served directly off of Southern Star's interstate transmission pipeline. Atmos Energy has provided natural gas service to these customers ever since Southern Star's predecessor, Williams Gas Pipelines Central, Inc. ("Williams"), was ordered by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC") to exit its merchant business in accordance with FERC Order 636. On January 28, 2004, this Commission issued an order cancelling Williams' KCC-issued certificate of convenience and necessity and its direct sale tariffs. *See*, Order No. 34, Order Cancelling Certificate and Tariffs, issued January 28, 2004, Docket No. 96-WMNG-016-COA.
- 4. Southern Star is selling all of its metering and other tap facilities currently used to serve the irrigation and farm tap customers connected to its interstate transmission pipeline in Kansas. Black Hills is purchasing some of those facilities from Southern Star and has filed an application with the Commission for approval of said acquisition in a separate docket. Southern Star is selling to Black Hills the interstate pipeline's metering and other tap facilities currently used to serve the irrigation and farm tap customers listed in **Exhibit 1**. Concurrently with Atmos Energy's Application to cease and abandon service to the customers listed in **Exhibit 1**, Black Hills is seeking a customer specific certificate of convenience and necessity to serve the customers listed in **Exhibit 1** to this Application. It is Atmos Energy's understanding that Black Hills is sending notice to the customers listed in

provide natural gas service to them per Black Hills' Commission approved tariffs and rates. Atmos Energy's Application in this docket is subject to the Commission approving Black Hills' application. Exhibit 1 notifying those customers that Black Hills is seeking permission from the Commission to

customers/addresses listed in Exhibit 1 to this Application only. S Atmos Energy's request to cease and abandon service ıs. limited to the

Application and for such other relief as the Commission deems to be reasonable and necessary. Application to cease and abandon service to the customers/addresses listed in Exhibit 1 to this WHEREFORE, Atmos Energy requests that the Commission issue on order granting its

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Attorneys for Atmos Energy Corporation

VERIFICATION

STATE OF KANSAS COUNTY OF FRANKLIN, ss:

James G. Flaherty, of lawful age, being first duly sworn on oath, states: That he is an attorney for Atmos Energy Corporation, and is duly authorized to make this affidavit; that he has read the foregoing Application, knows the contents thereof; and that the facts set forth therein are true and correct.

James G. Flaherty

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 16th day of April, 2023.

NOTARY PUBLIC - State of Kansas RONDA ROSSMAN My Appt. Expires May 25, 2026

Ronda RossnavNotary Public

Appointment/Commission Expires:

CONFIDENTIAL