BEFORE THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

| In the Matter of the Application of Black Hills/Kansas |) | |
|--|---|-----------------------------|
| Gas Utility Company, LLC, d/b/a Black Hills Energy, |) | |
| for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Authority |) | Docket No. 15-BHCG- 446-COC |
| to Transact the Business of a Natural Gas Public Utility |) | |
| in Certain Portions of Douglas County, Kansas. |) | |

APPLICATION OF BLACK HILLS/KANSAS GAS UTILITY COMPANY, LLC, d/b/a BLACK HILLS ENERGY, FOR A CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND AUTHORITY TO TRANSACT THE BUSINESS OF A NATURAL GAS PUBLIC UTILITY

Black Hills/Kansas Gas Utility Company, LLC, d/b/a Black Hills Energy, hereby requests the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas ("Commission") grant it authorization to transact business as a natural gas 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, Black Hills states:

1. Black Hills 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. Black Hills holds a certificate of convenience and authority issued by the Commission, authorizing it to engage in such utility business. Black Hills 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 corporation authorized to do business in Kansas, and all amendments thereto and restatements thereof, and the same are incorporated hereby by reference.

2. Black Hills and Atmos Energy 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 the following described territory:

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

all in Douglas County, Kansas.

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 and the areas Black Hills will transfer to Atmos Energy.

Atmos Energy will submit a corresponding Application to Cease providing service in the territory described in paragraph 2.

5. This transfer of territory is pursuant to an agreement between Black Hills and Atmos Energy which also includes a transfer of territory from Black Hills to Atmos Energy, the applications for which are being filed in separate dockets concurrently with this Application. Due to the location of Black Hills' existing facilities in this area, it is in the best interest of the natural gas customers that the service territory set forth in this Application be transferred into Black Hills' service area. Atmos Energy and Black Hills have agreed that Atmos Energy will transfer to Black Hills the territory described in paragraph 2 above, in exchange for certain territory being transferred in separate dockets from Black Hills to Atmos Energy.

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

WHEREFORE, Black Hills respectfully requests the Commission issue an Order granting Black Hills a Certificate of Public Convenience and Authority to transact the business of a natural gas public utility in the territory described in paragraph 2 of this Application.

James G. Flaherty, #11177

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Attorneys for Black Hills/Kansas Gas Utility Company,

LLC, d/b/a Black Hills 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 Black Hills/Kansas Gas Utility Company, LLC, d/b/a Black Hills Energy; that he has read the above and foregoing Application of Black Hills/Kansas Gas Utility Company, LLC, d/b/a Black Hills Energy, for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Authority to Transact the Business of a Natural Gas Public Utility, knows the contents thereof; and that the statements contained therein are true.

James G. Flaherty

Rouda Dassinger

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 31st day of March, 2015.

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

Appointment/Commission Expires:

Notary Public

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

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

James Price Attorney Atmos Energy P. O. Box 650205 Dallas, Texas 75265-0205

Karen P. Wilkes Division Vice President of Regulatory and Public Affairs Atmos Energy 1555 Blake Street, Suite 400 Denver, Colorado 80202

James G. Flaherty

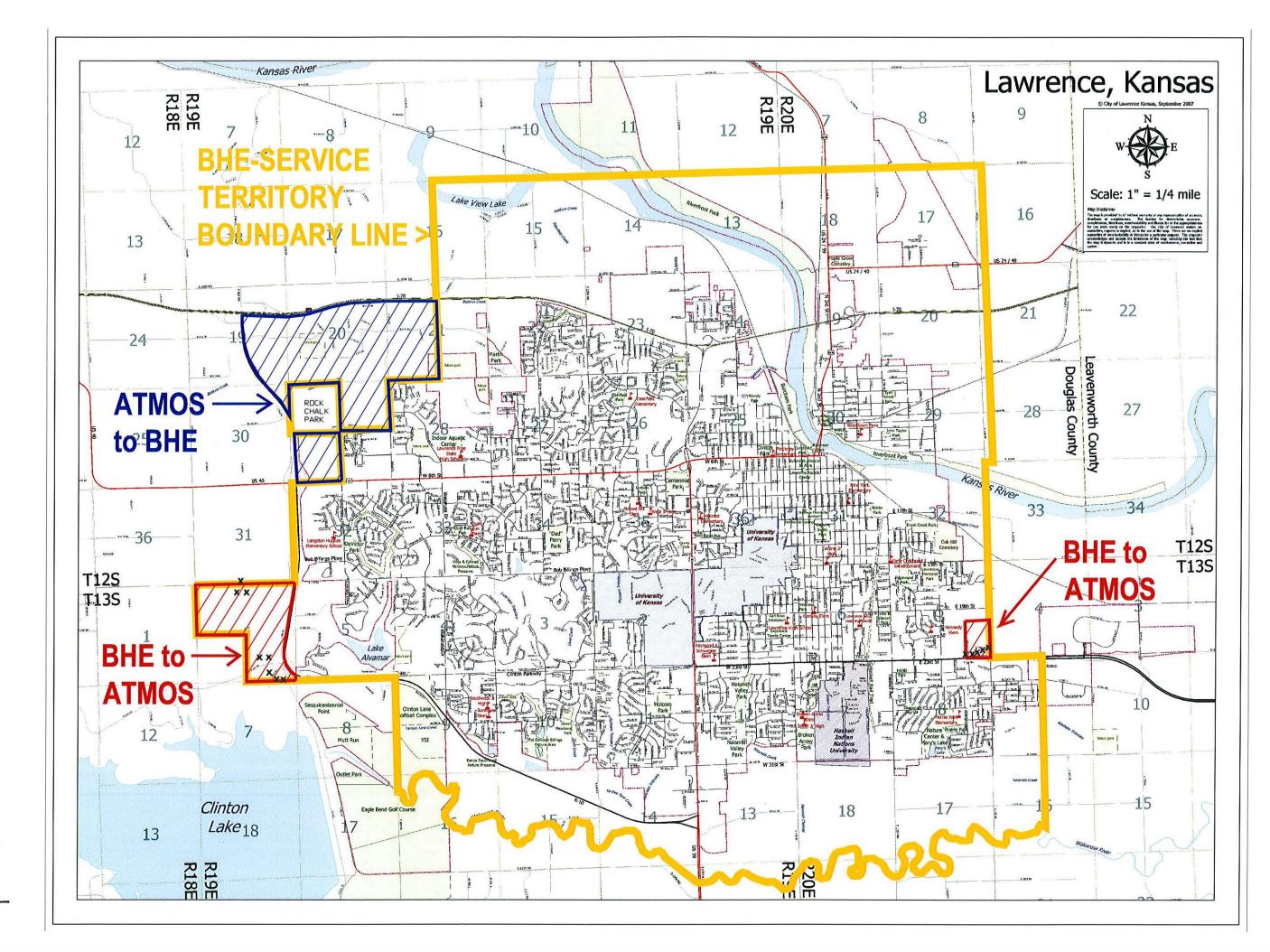


EXHIBIT A