

RENEWAL CERTIFICATION FILING INSTRUCTIONS COMPETITIVE RETAIL NATURAL GAS SUPPLIERS

I. *Where to File:* Applications should be sent to: Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO or Commission), Docketing Division, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus Ohio 43215-3793.

II. *What to File:* Applicant must submit one original notarized application signed by a principal officer and three copies, including all exhibits, affidavits, and other attachments. All attachments, affidavits, and exhibits should be clearly identified. *For example, Exhibit C-10 should be marked “Exhibit C-10 - Corporate Structure.”* All pages should be numbered and attached in a sequential order.

IMPORTANT REQUIREMENT: The renewal application must be docketed in the applicant’s original GA-CRS case number. Therefore, applicant should enter that number on the renewal application form when filing a renewal application.

III. *When to File:* Pursuant to Rule 4901:1-27-09 of the Ohio Administrative Code, renewal applications shall be filed between 30 and 60 days to the prior certificate’s expiration date.

IV. *Renewal Application Form:* The renewal application form is available on the PUCO Web site, www.puco.ohio.gov or directly from the Commission located at: Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, Docketing Division, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793.

V. *Confidentiality:* An applicant may file financial statements, financial arrangements, and forecasted financial statements under seal. If these exhibits are filed under seal, they will be afforded protective treatment for a period of six years from the date of the certificate for which the information is being provided.

An applicant may file a motion for a protective order for other information not filed under seal per the previous paragraph. If the motion is filed in conformance with rule 4901:1-27-07 of the Administrative Code, it shall be automatically approved on the thirty-first day after the date of filing and the information shall be afforded protective treatment for a period of six years from the date of the certificate for which the information is being provided, unless the commission or an attorney examiner appointed by the commission rules otherwise.

At the expiration of the six-year period provided for in the previous paragraphs, the information will be automatically released into the open record. An applicant wishing to extend a protective order beyond the six-year time period must comply with paragraph (F) of rule 4901-1-24 of the Administrative Code.

VI. *Commission Process for Certification Renewal:* An application for renewal shall be made on forms approved and supplied by the Commission. The applicant shall complete the

appropriate renewal form in its entirety and supply all required attachments, affidavits, and evidence of capability specified by the form at the time an application is filed. The Commission renewal process begins when the Commission's Docketing Division receives and time/date stamps the application. An incomplete application may be suspended or rejected. An application that has been suspended as incomplete will cause delay in renewal.

The Commission may approve, suspend, or deny an application within 30 days. If the Commission does not act within 30 days, the renewal application is deemed automatically approved on the 31st day after the official filing date. If the Commission suspends the renewal application, the Commission shall notify the applicant of the reasons for such suspension and may direct the applicant to furnish additional information. The Commission shall act to approve or deny a suspended application within 90 days of the date that the renewal application was suspended.

Upon Commission approval, the applicant shall receive notification of approval and a numbered, renewed certificate that specifies the service(s) for which the applicant is certified and the dates for which the certificate is valid. Unless otherwise warranted, the renewed certification designation will remain consistent with the previously granted certification. For example, a certified marketer will renew as a certified marketer.

Unless otherwise specified by the Commission, the competitive retail natural gas service (CRNGS) supplier's renewed certificate is valid for an additional period of two years, beginning and ending on the dates specified on the certificate. The applicant may renew its certificate in accordance with Rule 4901:1-27-09 of the Ohio Administrative Code. CRNGS suppliers, which include marketers, shall inform the Commission of any material change to the information supplied in a renewal application within thirty (30) days of such material change in accordance with Rule 4901:1-27-11 of the Ohio Administrative Code.

VII. *Contractual Arrangements for Capability Standards:* If the applicant is relying upon contractual arrangements with a third-party, to meet any of the certification requirements, the applicant must provide with its application all of the following:

- The legal name of any contracted entity;
- A statement that a valid contract exists between the applicant and the third-party;
- A detailed summary of the contract(s), including all services provided thereunder; and
- The documentation and evidence to demonstrate the contracting entity's capability to meet the requirements as if the contracting entity was the applicant.

VIII. Questions: Questions regarding filing procedures should be directed to CRNGS@puc.state.oh.us

IX. *Governing Law:* The certification/renewal of CRNGS suppliers is governed by Chapters 4901:1-27 and 4901:1-29 of the Ohio Administrative Code, and Section 4929.20 of the Ohio Revised Code.



PUCO USE ONLY – Version 1.08 May 2016		
Date Received	Renewal Certification Number	ORIGINAL CRS Case Number
		- - GA-CRS

RENEWAL CERTIFICATION APPLICATION
COMPETITIVE RETAIL NATURAL GAS SUPPLIERS

Please type or print all required information. Identify all attachments with an exhibit label and title (Example: Exhibit A-15 - Company History). All attachments should bear the legal name of the Applicant. Applicants should file completed applications and all related correspondence with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, Docketing Division, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793.

This PDF form is designed so that you may directly input information onto the form. You may also download the form by saving it to your local disk.

SECTION A - APPLICANT INFORMATION AND SERVICES

A-1 Applicant intends to renew its certificate as: (check all that apply)

- Retail Natural Gas Aggregator, Retail Natural Gas Broker, Retail Natural Gas Marketer

A-2 Applicant information:

Legal Name, Address, Telephone No., Web site Address, Current PUCO Certificate No., Effective Dates

A-3 Applicant information under which applicant will do business in Ohio:

Name, Address, Web site Address, Telephone No.

A-4 List all names under which the applicant does business in North America:

Table with 2 columns for listing business names in North America.

A-5 Contact person for regulatory or emergency matters:

Name, Title, Business Address, Telephone No., Fax No., Email Address

A-6 Contact person for Commission Staff use in investigating customer complaints:

Name Title
Business address
Telephone No. Fax No. Email Address

A-7 Applicant's address and toll-free number for customer service and complaints

Customer service address
Toll-Free Telephone No. Fax No. Email Address

A-8 Provide "Proof of an Ohio Office and Employee," in accordance with Section 4929.22 of the Ohio Revised Code, by listing name, Ohio office address, telephone number, and Web site address of the designated Ohio Employee

Name Title
Business address
Telephone No. Fax No. Email Address

A-9 Applicant's federal employer identification number

A-10 Applicant's form of ownership: (Check one)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sole Proprietorship | <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Limited Liability Partnership (LLP) | <input type="checkbox"/> Limited Liability Company (LLC) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corporation | <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="text"/> |

A-11 (Check all that apply) Identify each natural gas company service area in which the applicant is currently providing service or intends to provide service, including identification of each customer class that the applicant is currently serving or intends to serve, for example: residential, small commercial, and/or large commercial/industrial (mercantile) customers. (A mercantile customer, as defined in Section 4929.01(L)(1) of the Ohio Revised Code, means a customer that consumes, other than for residential use, more than 500,000 cubic feet of natural gas per year at a single location within the state or consumes natural gas, other than for residential use, as part of an undertaking having more than three locations within or outside of this state. In accordance with Section 4929.01(L)(2) of the Ohio Revised Code, "Mercantile customer" excludes a not-for-profit customer that consumes, other than for residential use, more than 500,000 cubic feet of natural gas per year at a single location within this state or consumes natural gas, other than for residential use, as part of an undertaking having more than three locations within or outside this state that has filed the necessary declaration with the Public Utilities Commission.)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Columbia Gas of Ohio	<input type="checkbox"/>	Residential	<input type="checkbox"/>	Small Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/>	Large Commercial / Industrial
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dominion East Ohio		Residential	<input type="checkbox"/>	Small Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/>	Large Commercial / Industrial
<input type="checkbox"/>	Duke Energy Ohio		Residential	<input type="checkbox"/>	Small Commercial		Large Commercial / Industrial
<input type="checkbox"/>	Vectren Energy Delivery of Ohio	<input type="checkbox"/>	Residential	<input type="checkbox"/>	Small Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/>	Large Commercial / Industrial

A-12 If applicant or an affiliated interest previously participated in any of Ohio’s Natural Gas Choice Programs, for each service area and customer class, provide approximate start date(s) and/or end date(s) that the applicant began delivering and/or ended services.

Columbia Gas of Ohio

<input type="checkbox"/>	Residential	Beginning Date of Service		End Date	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Small Commercial	Beginning Date of Service		End Date	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Large Commercial	Beginning Date of Service		End Date	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial	Beginning Date of Service		End Date	

Dominion East Ohio

<input type="checkbox"/>	Residential	Beginning Date of Service		End Date	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Small Commercial	Beginning Date of Service		End Date	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Large Commercial	Beginning Date of Service		End Date	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial	Beginning Date of Service		End Date	

Duke Energy Ohio

<input type="checkbox"/>	Residential	Beginning Date of Service		End Date	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Small Commercial	Beginning Date of Service		End Date	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Large Commercial	Beginning Date of Service		End Date	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial	Beginning Date of Service		End Date	

Vectren Energy Delivery of Ohio

<input type="checkbox"/>	Residential	Beginning Date of Service		End Date	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Small Commercial	Beginning Date of Service		End Date	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Large Commercial	Beginning Date of Service		End Date	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial	Beginning Date of Service		End Date	

A-13 If not currently participating in any of Ohio’s four Natural Gas Choice Programs, provide the approximate start date that the applicant proposes to begin delivering services:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Columbia Gas of Ohio	Intended Start Date	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dominion East Ohio	Intended Start Date	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Duke Energy Ohio	Intended Start Date	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Vectren Energy Delivery of Ohio	Intended Start Date	

PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING AS SEPARATE ATTACHMENTS AND LABEL AS INDICATED.

- A-14 Exhibit A-14 "Principal Officers, Directors & Partners,"** provide the names, titles, addresses and telephone numbers of the applicant's principal officers, directors, partners, or other similar officials.
- A-15 Exhibit A-15 "Company History,"** provide a concise description of the applicant's company history and principal business interests.
- A-16 Exhibit A-16 "Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws,"** provide the articles of incorporation filed with the state or jurisdiction in which the applicant is incorporated and any amendments thereto, *only if the contents of the originally filed documents changed since the initial application.*
- A-17 Exhibit A-17 "Secretary of State,"** provide evidence that the applicant is still currently registered with the Ohio Secretary of the State.

SECTION B - APPLICANT MANAGERIAL CAPABILITY AND EXPERIENCE

PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING AS SEPARATE ATTACHMENTS AND LABEL AS INDICATED

- B-1 Exhibit B-1 "Jurisdictions of Operation,"** provide a current list of all jurisdictions in which the applicant or any affiliated interest of the applicant is, at the date of filing the application, certified, licensed, registered, or otherwise authorized to provide retail natural gas service, or retail/wholesale electric services.
- B-2 Exhibit B-2 "Experience & Plans,"** provide a current description of the applicant's experience and plan for contracting with customers, providing contracted services, providing billing statements, and responding to customer inquiries and complaints in accordance with Commission rules adopted pursuant to Section 4929.22 of the Revised Code and contained in Chapter 4901:1-29 of the Ohio Administrative Code.
- B-3 Exhibit B-3 "Summary of Experience,"** provide a concise and current summary of the applicant's experience in providing the service(s) for which it is seeking renewed certification (e.g., number and types of customers served, utility service areas, volume of gas supplied, etc.).
- B-4 Exhibit B-4 "Disclosure of Liabilities and Investigations,"** provide a description of all existing, pending or past rulings, judgments, contingent liabilities, revocations of authority, regulatory investigations, or any other matter that could adversely impact the applicant's financial or operational

status or ability to provide the services for which it is seeking renewed certification since applicant last filed for certification.

- B-5 Exhibit B-5 "Disclosure of Consumer Protection Violations,"** disclose whether the applicant, affiliate, predecessor of the applicant, or any principal officer of the applicant has been convicted or held liable for fraud or for violation of any consumer protection or antitrust laws since applicant last filed for certification.

No Yes

If Yes, provide a separate attachment labeled as Exhibit B-5 "Disclosure of Consumer Protection Violations," detailing such violation(s) and providing all relevant documents.

- B-6 Exhibit B-6 "Disclosure of Certification Denial, Curtailment, Suspension, or Revocation,"** disclose whether the applicant or a predecessor of the applicant has had any certification, license, or application to provide retail natural gas or retail/wholesale electric service denied, curtailed, suspended, or revoked, or whether the applicant or predecessor has been terminated from any of Ohio's Natural Gas Choice programs, or been in default for failure to deliver natural gas since applicant last filed for certification.

No Yes

If Yes, provide a separate attachment, labeled as Exhibit B-6 "Disclosure of Certification Denial, Curtailment, Suspension, or Revocation," detailing such action(s) and providing all relevant documents.

SECTION C - APPLICANT FINANCIAL CAPABILITY AND EXPERIENCE

PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING AS SEPARATE ATTACHMENTS AND LABEL AS INDICATED

- C-1 Exhibit C-1 "Annual Reports,"** provide the two most recent Annual Reports to Shareholders. If applicant does not have annual reports, the applicant should provide similar information, labeled as Exhibit C-1, or indicate that Exhibit C-1 is not applicable and why. (This is generally only applicable to publicly traded companies who publish annual reports.)
- C-2 Exhibit C-2 "SEC Filings,"** provide the most recent 10-K/8-K Filings with the SEC. If applicant does not have such filings, it may submit those of its parent company. An applicant may submit a current link to the filings or provide them in paper form. If the applicant does not have such filings, then the applicant may indicate in Exhibit C-2 that the applicant is not required to file with the SEC and why.
- C-3 Exhibit C-3 "Financial Statements,"** provide copies of the applicant's two most recent years of audited financial statements (balance sheet, income statement, and cash flow statement). If audited financial statements are not available, provide officer certified financial statements. If the applicant has not been in business long enough to satisfy this requirement, it shall file audited or officer certified financial statements covering the life of the business. If the applicant does not have a balance sheet, income statement, and cash flow statement, the applicant may provide a copy of its two most recent years of tax returns (with social security numbers and account numbers redacted).
- C-4 Exhibit C-4 "Financial Arrangements,"** provide copies of the applicant's current financial arrangements to conduct competitive retail natural gas service (CRNGS) as a business activity (e.g., guarantees, bank commitments, contractual arrangements, credit agreements, etc.)

Renewal applicants can fulfill the requirements of Exhibit C-4 by providing a current statement from an Ohio local distribution utility (LDU) that shows that the applicant meets the LDU's collateral requirements.

First time applicants or applicants whose certificate has expired as well as renewal applicants can meet the requirement by one of the following methods:

1. The applicant itself stating that it is investment grade rated by Moody's, Standard & Poor's or Fitch and provide evidence of rating from the rating agencies.
2. Have a parent company or third party that is investment grade rated by Moody's, Standard & Poor's or Fitch guarantee the financial obligations of the applicant to the LDU(s).
3. Have a parent company or third party that is not investment grade rated by Moody's, Standard & Poor's or Fitch but has substantial financial wherewithal in the opinion of the Staff reviewer to guarantee the financial obligations of the applicant to the LDU(s). The guarantor company's financials must be included in the application if the applicant is relying on this option.
4. Posting a Letter of Credit with the LDU(s) as the beneficiary.

If the applicant is not taking title to the electricity or natural gas, enter "N/A" in Exhibit C-4. An N/A response is only applicable for applicants seeking to be certified as an aggregator or broker.

C-5 Exhibit C-5 "Forecasted Financial Statements," provide two years of forecasted income statements for the applicant's **NATURAL GAS related business activities in the state of Ohio Only**, along with a list of assumptions, and the name, address, email address, and telephone number of the preparer. The forecasts should be in an annualized format for the two years succeeding the Application year.

C-6 Exhibit C-6 "Credit Rating," provide a statement disclosing the applicant's current credit rating as reported by two of the following organizations: Duff & Phelps, Fitch IBCA, Moody's Investors Service, Standard & Poor's, or a similar organization. In instances where an applicant does not have its own credit ratings, it may substitute the credit ratings of a parent or an affiliate organization, provided the applicant submits a statement signed by a principal officer of the applicant's parent or affiliate organization that guarantees the obligations of the applicant. If an applicant or its parent does not have such a credit rating, enter "N/A" in Exhibit C-6.

- C-7 **Exhibit C-7 “Credit Report,”** provide a copy of the applicant’s current credit report from Experion, Dun and Bradstreet, or a similar organization. An applicant that provides an investment grade credit rating for Exhibit C-6 may enter “N/A” for Exhibit C-7.
- C-8 **Exhibit C-8 “Bankruptcy Information,”** provide a list and description of any reorganizations, protection from creditors, or any other form of bankruptcy filings made by the applicant, a parent or affiliate organization that guarantees the obligations of the applicant or any officer of the applicant in the current year or within the two most recent years preceding the application.
- C-9 **Exhibit C-9 “Merger Information,”** provide a statement describing any dissolution or merger or acquisition of the applicant within the two most recent years preceding the application.
- C-10 **Exhibit C-10 “Corporate Structure,”** provide a description of the applicant’s corporate structure, not an internal organizational chart, including a graphical depiction of such structure, and a list of all affiliate and subsidiary companies that supply retail or wholesale electricity or natural gas to customers in North America. If the applicant is a stand-alone entity, then no graphical depiction is required and applicant may respond by stating that they are a stand-alone entity with no affiliate within the two most recent years preceding the application.

SECTION D – APPLICANT TECHNICAL CAPABILITY

PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING AS SEPARATE ATTACHMENTS AND LABEL AS INDICATED.

- D-1 **Exhibit D-1 “Operations,”** provide a current written description of the operational nature of the applicant’s business. Please include whether the applicant’s operations will include the contracting of natural gas purchases for retail sales, the nomination and scheduling of retail natural gas for delivery, and the provision of retail ancillary services, as well as other services used to supply natural gas to the natural gas company city gate for retail customers.
- D-2 **Exhibit D-2 “Operations Expertise,”** given the operational nature of the applicant’s business, provide evidence of the applicant’s current experience and technical expertise in performing such operations.
- D-3 **Exhibit D-3 “Key Technical Personnel,”** provide the names, titles, email addresses, telephone numbers, and background of key personnel involved in the operational aspects of the applicant’s current business.

Applicant Signature and Title

Sworn and subscribed before me this day of Month Year

Signature of official administering oath

Print Name and Title



My commission expires on



The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio

Competitive Retail Natural Gas Service Affidavit Form (Version 1.07)

In the Matter of the Application of _____)
_____)
for a Certificate or Renewal Certificate to Provide)
Competitive Retail Natural Gas Service in Ohio.)

Case No. _____ -GA-CRS

County of _____
State of _____

_____ [Affiant], being duly sworn/affirmed, hereby states that:

- (1) The information provided within the certification or certification renewal application and supporting information is complete, true, and accurate to the best knowledge of affiant.
- (2) The applicant will timely file an annual report of its intrastate gross receipts and sales of hundred cubic feet of natural gas pursuant to Sections 4905.10(A), 4911.18(A), and 4929.23(B), Ohio Revised Code.
- (3) The applicant will timely pay any assessment made pursuant to Section 4905.10 or Section 4911.18(A), Ohio Revised Code.
- (4) Applicant will comply with all applicable rules and orders adopted by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio pursuant to Title 49, Ohio Revised Code.
- (5) Applicant will cooperate with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio and its staff in the investigation of any consumer complaint regarding any service offered or provided by the applicant.
- (6) Applicant will comply with Section 4929.21, Ohio Revised Code, regarding consent to the jurisdiction of the Ohio courts and the service of process.
- (7) Applicant will inform the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio of any material change to the information supplied in the certification or certification renewal application within 30 days of such material change, including any change in contact person for regulatory or emergency purposes or contact person for Staff use in investigating customer complaints.
- (8) Affiant further sayeth naught.

Affiant Signature & Title _____

Sworn and subscribed before me this _____ day of _____ Month _____ Year

Signature of Official Administering Oath

Print Name and Title



My commission expires on _____