



1216 Lexington Ave. Suite 301
Mansfield, OH. 44907
www.trebelllc.com

November 11, 2021

Docketing Division
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 East Broad St.
Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793

RE: Natural Gas Governmental Aggregator Renewal Application — City of Ashland, Ashland County, OH.

CASE # 17-2498-GA-GAG

City of Ashland is pleased to submit its renewal application for natural gas governmental aggregator. The original application has been notarized and signed by an authorized official.

Material provided for review:

- Application for Governmental Aggregations and Affidavit
- Exhibit B-1 Authorizing Ordinance reflecting voter authorization;
- Exhibit B-2 Plan of Operation and Governance;
- Exhibit B-3 Automatic Aggregation Disclosure
- Exhibit B-4 Opt-Out Notice
- Exhibit B-5 Experience

Should you have any questions or additional needs, please call me at (614) 425.4885.

Sincerely,

Scott R. Belcastro
Principal
614.425.4885
scott@electricsuppliers.org

Enclosure



Public Utilities Commission

PUCO USE ONLY – Version 1.07		
Date Received	Renewal Certification Number	ORIGINAL GAG Case Number
		17 - 2498 - GA-GAG

RENEWAL CERTIFICATION APPLICATION OHIO NATURAL GAS GOVERNMENTAL AGGREGATORS

Please **type or print** all required information. Identify all attachments with an exhibit label and title (*Example: Exhibit B-1 – Authorizing Ordinance*). 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

A-1 Renewal Applicant information:

Legal Name City of Ashland, Ashland County
Address 206 Claremont Avenue, Ashland, OH 44805
Telephone No. 419-289-8170 Web site address <https://www.ashland-ohio.com/>
Current PUCO Certificate Number 18-636G(2) Effective Dates January 13, 2020 through January 13, 2021

A-2 Contact person for regulatory or emergency matters:

Name Scott Belcastro Title Principal
Business Address 1216 Lexington Ave., Suite 301, Mansfield, OH 44907
Telephone No. 614-425-4885 Fax No. 614-417-0410 Email Address scott@electricsuppliers.org

A-3 Contact person for Commission Staff use in investigating customer complaints:

Name Scott Belcastro Title Principal
Business address 1216 Lexington Ave., Suite 301, Mansfield, OH 44907
Telephone No. 614-425-4885 Fax No. 614-417-0410 Email Address scott@electricsuppliers.org

A-4 Applicant's address and toll-free number for customer service and complaints:

Customer service address 1216 Lexington Ave., Suite 301, Mansfield, OH 44907
Toll-Free Telephone No. 877-861-2772 Fax No. 614-417-0410 Email Address scott@electricsuppliers.org

(Ohio Natural Gas Governmental Aggregator Renewal) Page 1 of 3

SECTION B - APPLICANT AUTHORITY AND AGGREGATION PROGRAM INFORMATION

PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING AS SEPARATE ATTACHMENTS AND LABEL AS INDICATED

- B-1** Exhibit B-1 "Authorizing Ordinance," provide a copy of the adopted ordinance or resolution that reflects voter authorization to form a governmental aggregation program pursuant to Sections 4929.26 and 4929.27 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- B-2** Exhibit B-2 "Operation and Governance Plan," provide a copy of the applicant's plan for operation and governance of its aggregation program adopted pursuant to Sections 4929.26(C) or 4929.27(B) of the Revised Code. The Operation and Governance Plan should include all information pursuant to Rule 4901:1-28-03 of the Ohio Administrative Code.
- B-3** Exhibit B-3 "Automatic Aggregation Disclosure Notification," if the aggregation program provides for automatic aggregation in accordance with Section 4929.26(A) of the Revised Code, provide a copy of the disclosure notification required by Section 4929.26(D) of the Revised Code,
- B-4** Exhibit B-4 "Opt-Out Notice," provide a draft copy of the applicant's opt out notice that comports with the Opt-Out disclosure requirements pursuant to Rule 4901:1-28-04 of the Ohio Administrative Code. *(Ten days prior to public dissemination, the applicant shall docket with the Commission, the finalized Opt-Out notice that provides or offers natural gas aggregation service.)*
- B-5** Exhibit B-5 "Experience," provide a detailed description of the applicant's experience and plan for: providing aggregation services *(including contracting with consultants, broker/aggregators, retail natural gas suppliers)*; providing billing statements; responding to customer inquiries and complaints; and complying with all applicable provisions of Commission rules adopted pursuant to Section 4929.22 of the Ohio Revised Code and contained in Chapter 4901:1-29 of the Ohio Administrative Code.

Applicant Signature and Title

Clayton Miller

Sworn and subscribed before me this

13th

day of

October

Month

2021

Year

Barbara A Warnes

Signature of official administering oath

Print Name and Title

My commission expires on



BARBARA A WARNES
Notary Public
State of Ohio
My Comm. Expires
October 30, 2026



The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio

Ohio Natural Gas Governmental Aggregation
Affidavit Form
(Version 1.07)

In the Matter of the Application of)

City of Ashland)

for a Certificate or Renewal Certificate to Provide)
Natural Gas Governmental Aggregation Service in)
Ohio.)

Case No. 17-2498 -GA-GAG

County of Ashland

State of Ohio

Clayton

[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

Clayton

Sworn and subscribed before me this

13th day of

October

Month

2021

Year

Barbara A. Warnes

Signature of Official Administering Oath

Barbara A. Warnes

Print Name and Title



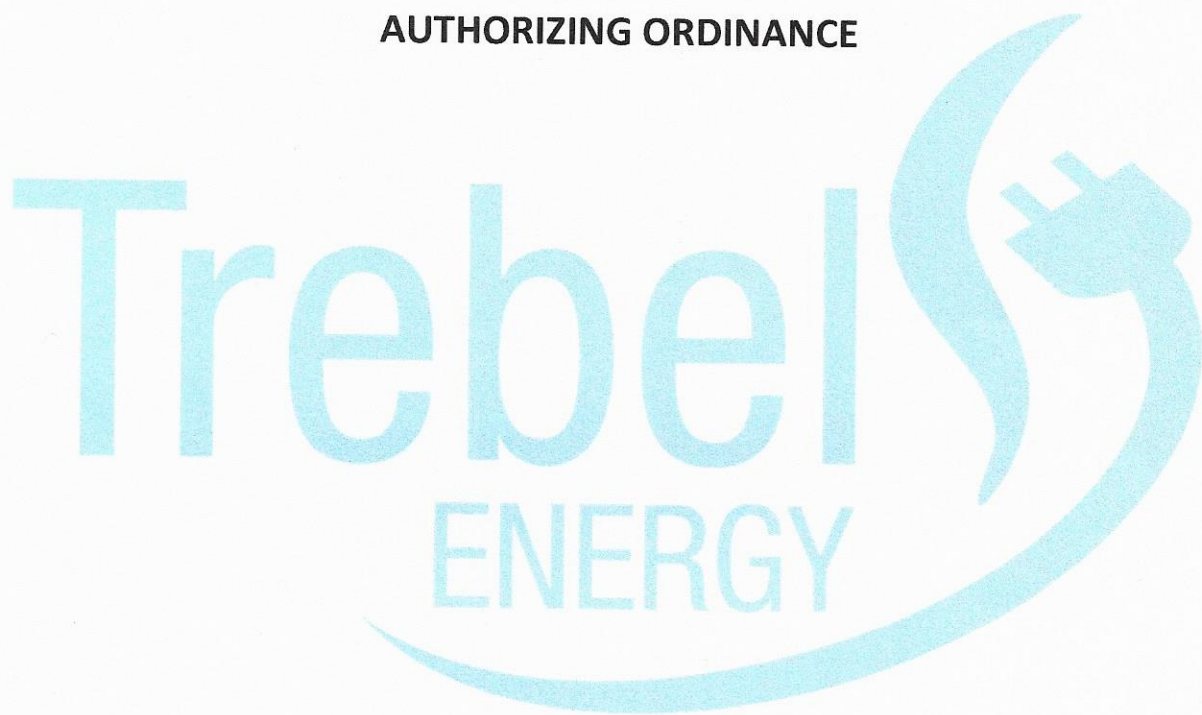
BARBARA A. WARNES
Notary Public
State of Ohio
My Comm. Expires
October 30, 2026

My commission expires on

(Ohio Natural Gas Governmental Aggregator Renewal) Page 3 of 3

EXHIBIT B-1

AUTHORIZING ORDINANCE



ORDINANCE NO.

66-16

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING ALL ACTIONS NECESSARY TO EFFECT AN OPT-OUT NATURAL GAS AGGREGATION PROGRAM FOR THE CITY OF ASHLAND, OHIO PURSUANT TO SECTION 4929.26, OHIO REVISED CODE, DIRECTING THE ASHLAND COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS TO SUBMIT A BALLOT QUESTION TO THE ELECTORS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Whereas, under Section 4929.26, Ohio Revised Code, the City of Ashland, Ohio (the "City") is authorized to establish an opt-out natural gas aggregation program for the benefit of natural gas consumers located within the incorporated areas of the City; and

Whereas, governmental aggregation provides an opportunity for residential and small business natural gas consumers to participate collectively in the potential benefits of natural gas deregulation through lower gas rates which they would not otherwise be able to have individually; and

Whereas, this Council seeks to establish a governmental aggregation program with opt-out provisions pursuant to Section 4929.26, Ohio Revised Code (the "Aggregation Program"), for the residents, businesses and other natural gas consumers in the City, as permitted by law; and

Whereas, this Council desires to submit to the electors of the City the question of whether the City should create a gas aggregation program in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Section 4929.26; and

Whereas, while the adoption of such a program is expected to provide residents with the potential of natural gas savings, residents would retain the right to "opt-out" and make their own arrangements with natural gas providers; and

Whereas, a vote in favor of the ballot issue would enable the City to proceed with such a program, but would not commit the City to proceeding if the Council should then find that it is not in the best interests of the citizens; Now, Therefore,

Be It Ordained by the Council of the City of Ashland, State of Ohio 4 members thereto concurring:

Section 1. This Council finds and determines that it is in the best interest of the City of Ashland, its residents, qualifying businesses and other natural gas consumers located within the corporate limits of the City to establish a Natural Gas Aggregation Program in the City of Ashland, as authorized by Section 4929.26 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Section 2. The authority to proceed with the proposed Natural Gas Aggregation Program must be approved by the electors of the City, pursuant to section 3 of this Ordinance. Upon approval by the electorate, the City of Ashland is hereby authorized to automatically aggregate, in accordance with Section 4929.26, Ohio Revised Code, and the Rules of the Public Utilities

Commission of Ohio, the sale and purchase of retail natural gas loads of customers located within the City of Ashland, and, for that purpose, to enter into service agreements to facilitate for those loads the sale and purchase of natural gas, and to take any other actions necessary to accomplish the same. Such aggregation will occur automatically for each person owning, occupying, controlling, or using a natural gas load center proposed to be aggregated and will provide for opt-out rights which, at a minimum, satisfy the requirements of Section 4929.26 of the Revised Code. The City may exercise such authority jointly with any other municipal corporation, township or county or other political subdivision of the State of Ohio to the full extent permitted by law.

Section 3. The Board of Elections of Ashland County is hereby directed to submit the following question to the electors of the City of Ashland at the primary election to be held on November 8, 2016:

Shall the City of Ashland have the authority to aggregate the competitive retail natural gas service for the retail natural gas loads for customer located in the City of Ashland and, for that purpose, to enter into services agreement to facilitate for those customers for the sale and purchase of natural gas (conversion to aggregation program will occur automatically unless the customers choose to opt out of the program)?

A majority vote is necessary for passage.

	YES-FOR THE MEASURE
	NO-AGAINST THE MEASURE

The Clerk of Council of the City of Ashland is instructed immediately to file a certified copy of this Ordinance and the proposed form of the ballot question with the Ashland County Board of Elections not less than ninety (90) days prior to November 8, 2016. The Natural Gas Aggregation Program shall not take effect unless approved by a majority of the electors voting upon this Ordinance and the Aggregation Program provided for herein at the election held pursuant to this Section and Section 4929.26 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Section 4. Upon the approval of a majority of the electors voting at the election provided for in Section 3 of this Ordinance, this Council individually or jointly with any other political subdivision, shall comply with all requirements of the Ohio Public Utilities Commission and develop a plan of operation and governance for the Natural Gas Aggregation Program. Before adopting such plan, this Council shall hold at least two public hearings on the plan.

Notice of the hearings shall be published once a week for two consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the City prior to the first hearing. The notice shall summarize the plan and state the date, time, and location of each hearing. No plan adopted by this Council shall aggregate the natural gas load of any natural gas load center within the City unless it, in advance, clearly discloses to the person owning, occupying, controlling, or using the load center

that the person will be enrolled automatically in the Aggregation Program and will remain so enrolled unless the person affirmatively elects by a stated procedure not to be so enrolled. The disclosure shall state prominently the rates, charges, and other terms and conditions of enrollment. The stated procedure shall allow any person enrolled in the Aggregation Program the opportunity to opt out of the program at least every two years without paying a switching fee. Any such person that opts out of the Aggregation Program pursuant to the stated procedure shall default to the standard service offer provided under of Section 4929.26, Ohio Revised Code, until the person chooses an alternative supplier.

Section 5. That it is found that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the passage of this Ordinance were adopted in an open meeting of this Council and that all deliberations of this Council and any of its committees that resulted in such formal actions were in meetings open to the public and in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Section 6. That this Ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, and for the welfare of the citizens of the City, and for the further reason that it is necessary that this measure be enacted immediately in order to comply with time deadlines for filing with the Board of Elections, and that, provided it receives the majority vote of two-thirds or more of those elected to Council, this Ordinance shall therefore take effect and be in force immediately from and after its passage.

Passed: July 5th, 2016

Ruth G. Detrow
Ruth G Detrow, President of Council

Attest: Jodi M Toms
Jodi M Toms, Clerk of Council

Approved: Glen P. Stewart
Glen P. Stewart, Mayor

Approved as to form and correctness:

Richard P. Wolfe II
Richard P. Wolfe II, Director of Law

Date: July 5th, 2016

Proof of Publication

Ashland Publishing Company
40 E. Second St.
Ashland, OH 44805
Phone: (419) 281-0581
Fax: (419) 281-5591

I, CS being first duly sworn depose and say that I am CSR of
Ashland Publishing Company

60 Ashland Times-Gazette a newspaper printed and published in the city of Ashland, and of General circulation in the County of Ashland, State of Ohio, and personal knowledge of the facts herein stated and that the notice hereto annexed was Published in said newspapers for 2 insertions on the same day of the week from and after the 21st day of November, 2017 and that the fees charged are legal.

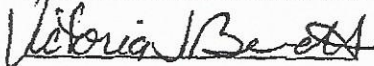

Signature

Name of Account: Aspen Energy Corporation
Ad Number: 12389603
No. of Lines: 24

Day(s) Published: 11/21, 11/28.

Printers Fee: \$145.80 + 8.00 marketplace total \$153.80

Sworn to and subscribed before this 29th day of November, 2017.





Victoria J. Bennett
Notary Public, State of Ohio
My Commission Expires 5-11-2022

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

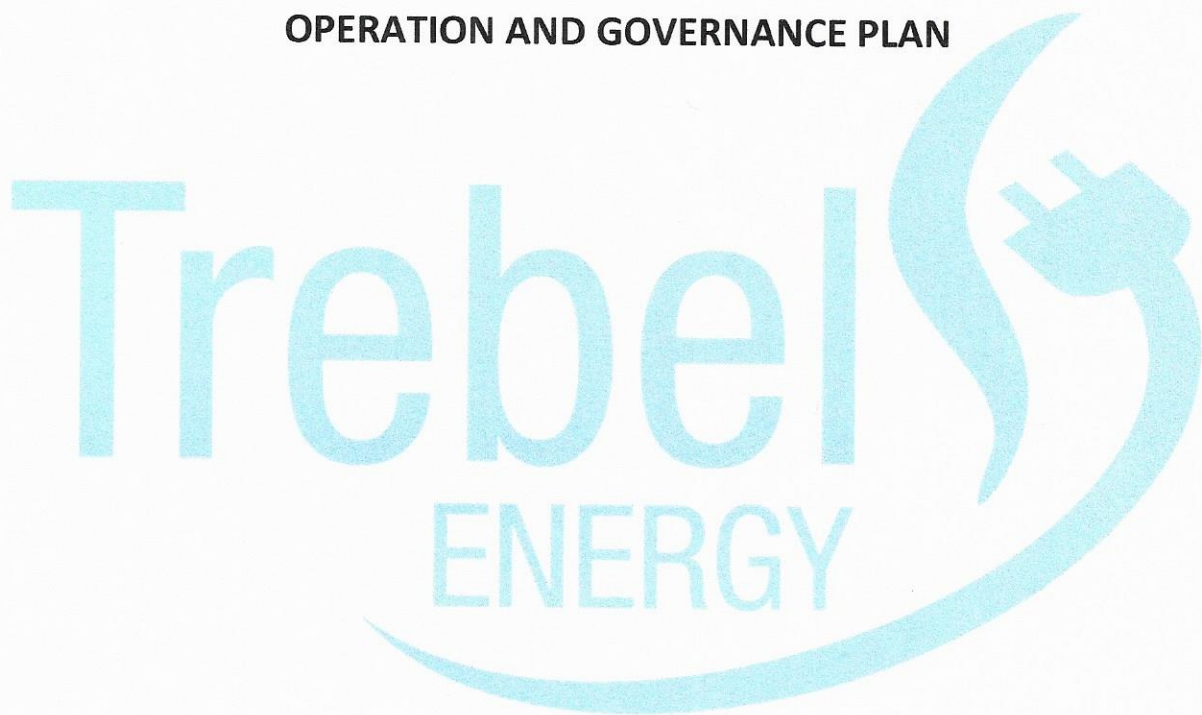
Pursuant to Sections 4928.20(C) and 4929.27(B) of the Ohio Revised Code, the City of Ashland, Ohio shall conduct public hearings for the purpose of obtaining public input on the Plan of Operation and Governance of the natural gas aggregation program. The Plan of Operation and Governance includes the following provisions: (1) service provided; (2) determination of rates; (3) opt-out procedures; (4) billing and credit; (5) switching fees; and (6) participation in the aggregation program. The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio may suggest other provisions to the Plan after its review.

All eligible customers who receive natural gas service from Columbia Gas of Ohio shall be included in the City aggregation program. If an acceptable supply offer is received and accepted by the City, eligible customers shall receive an opt-out letter for the natural gas program explaining the rate and terms and conditions of the program.

The two public hearings shall be held at 4:30 PM and 5:30 PM on December 5th, 2017; all hearings shall be conducted at City of Ashland Council Chambers. The hearings will be held on the 3rd floor of the Municipal Building (206 Claremont Ave.).

EXHIBIT B-2

OPERATION AND GOVERNANCE PLAN



PLAN OF OPERATION AND GOVERNANCE

Natural Gas Governmental Aggregation

Introduction. On November 7, 2017, a majority of the voters in the City Of Ashland, OH approved a referendum that authorized the City Of Ashland ("the City") to pursue Automatic Governmental Aggregation. After the City held two public hearings on the matter, as prescribed by Section 4929.26 of the Ohio Revised Code, the City approved this Plan of Operation and Governance, prepared in accordance with Section 4901:1-28-03 of the Ohio Administrative Code. Once certified as a Governmental Aggregator, the City will be authorized to combine multiple retail natural gas customer loads within its geographic boundaries (the "Aggregation") for the purpose of arranging for the purchase of natural gas supply in Ohio's competitive retail natural gas market.

Governmental Aggregation Services. The City, as a Governmental Aggregator, will serve as purchasing agent for the Aggregation. As purchasing agent, the Governmental Aggregator shall (i) select a Competitive Retail Natural Gas Supplier ("Supplier") to supply the Aggregation, (ii) negotiate the terms of supply between the Supplier and each Aggregation participant, and (iii) oversee the enrollment procedures administered by the Supplier.

The Contract. The supply contract negotiated by the Governmental Aggregator for the Aggregation (the "Contract") shall be for firm, all-requirements supply. Each Aggregation participant will be individually bound to the Supplier by the Contract, and will be solely responsible for payment and performance. The natural gas supply charges for the Aggregation are included in the Contract that will be negotiated by the Governmental Aggregator. The natural gas supply charges will take the form of either a fixed price or a variable price. All natural gas supply charges will be fully and prominently disclosed in consumer enrollment materials (such as the Opt-out Notice), available on the Supplier's website, and available by calling the Supplier's toll free customer service telephone number.

Eligibility, Opt-out Disclosures, and Pooling Accounts. Section 4901:1-28-05 of the Ohio Administrative Code requires Columbia Gas (the "Utility") to use its best efforts to provide the Governmental Aggregator with an account list of eligible customers, including the names, account numbers, and service and mailing addresses for all eligible customers residing within the Governmental Aggregator's boundaries. The following customers are not eligible: customers on the Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PIPP), customers that have past due amounts owing to the Utility, customers that are already under contract with a competitive retail natural gas supplier, and mercantile customers. Using this list of eligible accounts the Supplier, with the assistance of the Governmental Aggregator, will review the list to verify that the eligible accounts are located within the geographic limits of the City and that an area within the City limits has not been inadvertently filtered from the list.

The Supplier, with assistance from the Governmental Aggregator, will prepare and mail an "Opt-out Notice" to each account identified as (i) eligible by the Utility and (ii) within the geographic limits of the City by the Governmental Aggregator and the Supplier, within thirty (30) days of receipt of the list from the Utility. The Opt-out Notice will inform the eligible account holder that the Governmental Aggregator is forming an automatic (or "Opt-out") aggregation, provide the price for natural gas supply

to the Aggregation and other terms and conditions of service, and explain how the account holder can decline participation in the Aggregation. As required by 4901:1-28- 04 of the Ohio Administrative Code, the Opt-out Notice will indicate that the account holder has 21 days to affirmatively respond by telephoning a toll-free number, using a website or returning a postcard to the Supplier that is included in the Opt-out Notice.

The Supplier will receive all Opt-out requests and adjust the eligible account list accordingly. In addition, if any Opt-out Notices are returned by mail to Supplier marked as undeliverable, those accounts are removed from the eligible account list as well. Upon completion of the 21 day Opt-out period, the Supplier will notify the Utility of the remaining accounts that will form the Aggregation, and through an electronic data interchange transaction, enroll the Aggregation. Upon enrollment, each participant will receive an enrollment notice from the Utility that will indicate that the enrollee may rescind its participation in the Aggregation by contacting the Utility within seven business days.

In addition to the initial 21-day Opt-out period, each participant will be provided an opportunity to opt-out every two years without paying an early termination fee.

Billing. Aggregation participants will receive a single, monthly bill from the Utility, which will include charges from the Supplier for its natural gas supply, as well as the Utility distribution charges. Aggregation participants will be billed according to their Utility billing cycle.

Credit, Collections and Deposits. The Utility's credit and collection policy and policies regarding deposits will apply to the Aggregation participants and shall be administered by the Utility. Neither the Governmental Aggregator, nor the Supplier will implement additional policies with respect to credit, deposits and collections.

Concerns and Complaints. Aggregation participants will have multiple means of expressing concerns and reporting complaints. As a general rule, concerns regarding service reliability and billing should be directed to the Utility. The Utility will continue to read meters, handle billing, and generally have the most information about the physical service to a location or account. Questions regarding the administration of the Aggregation should be directed to the Supplier. The Supplier's customer service center is available by telephone 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Any unresolved disputes should be directed to the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio and/or the Ohio Consumers Council. As a convenience, below are a list of helpful toll free telephone numbers.

<u>Nature of Complaint</u>	Contact	Phone Number
Gas Odor/Leaks-Fire-Explosions	Columbia Gas	1-800-344-4077
Service turn on/off	Columbia Gas	1-800-344-4077
Billing Disputes	Columbia Gas	1-800-344-4077
Price/Joining/Leaving Program	Supplier Customer Service	
Program Regulatory Questions	Supplier Customer Service	
Unresolved Disputes	Public Utilities Commission	1-800-686-7826
Unresolved Disputes	Ohio Consumers Council	1-877-742-5622

The Supplier will attempt to resolve all customer complaints in a timely and good faith manner. The Supplier shall investigate and provide a status report to the customer when the complaint is made directly to them and/or the City within three (3) business days following receipt of the complaint. Or in the case of a Public Utilities Commission of Ohio ("PUCO") complaint the Supplier will investigate and provide a status report to the customer and PUCO staff within three (3) business days following receipt of the complaint. If an investigation into a complaint received from the customer or a complaint referred by the PUCO is not completed within ten (10) business days, then a status report will be given to the customer, and, if applicable, the PUCO. These status reports will be given every three (3) business days until the investigation is complete, unless the action that must be taken takes longer than three (3) business days and the customer has been notified. Final results of a Commission-referred complaint will be provided to the PUCO either orally (phone) or in writing (e-mail, written correspondence), no later than three (3) business days after the investigation is completed. The final results will be provided in writing to the customer no later than three (3) business days after the investigation is completed. Customers retain the right to contact the PUCO regarding complaints and disputes. All customers have the right to contact the PUCO by writing to Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, ATTN: IAD, 180 E. Broad St., Columbus, OH 43215-3793; by fax to (614) 752-8351; through their website at www.puc.state.oh.us or by calling toll free (800) 686-7826 (VOICE) or (800) 686-1570 (TTY-TDD). Records of customer complaints will be retained for two (2) years after the occurrence of the complaint. A copy of the complaint record will be provided to the PUCO within three (3) business days, if requested.

Moving within the City. Aggregation participants who move from one location to another within the corporate limits of the City and retain the same account number, will remain an Aggregation participant and will receive the same price they would have received if their location had not moved. Aggregation participants who move from one location to another within the corporate limits of the City and are assigned a new account number may enroll their new account in the Aggregation and receive the same price as they would have received if their location had not moved, provided the new account is eligible for Aggregation. Participants who move and receive a new account number may be dropped from the Aggregation by the Utility, but they will not be charged an early termination fee from the Supplier. If a participant is dropped from the Aggregation due to a move within the City, the participant should contact the Supplier to be reenrolled.

Moving outside of the City. Aggregation participants who move out of the City limits will no longer be eligible to participate in the Aggregation, but they will not be charged an early termination fee from the Supplier.

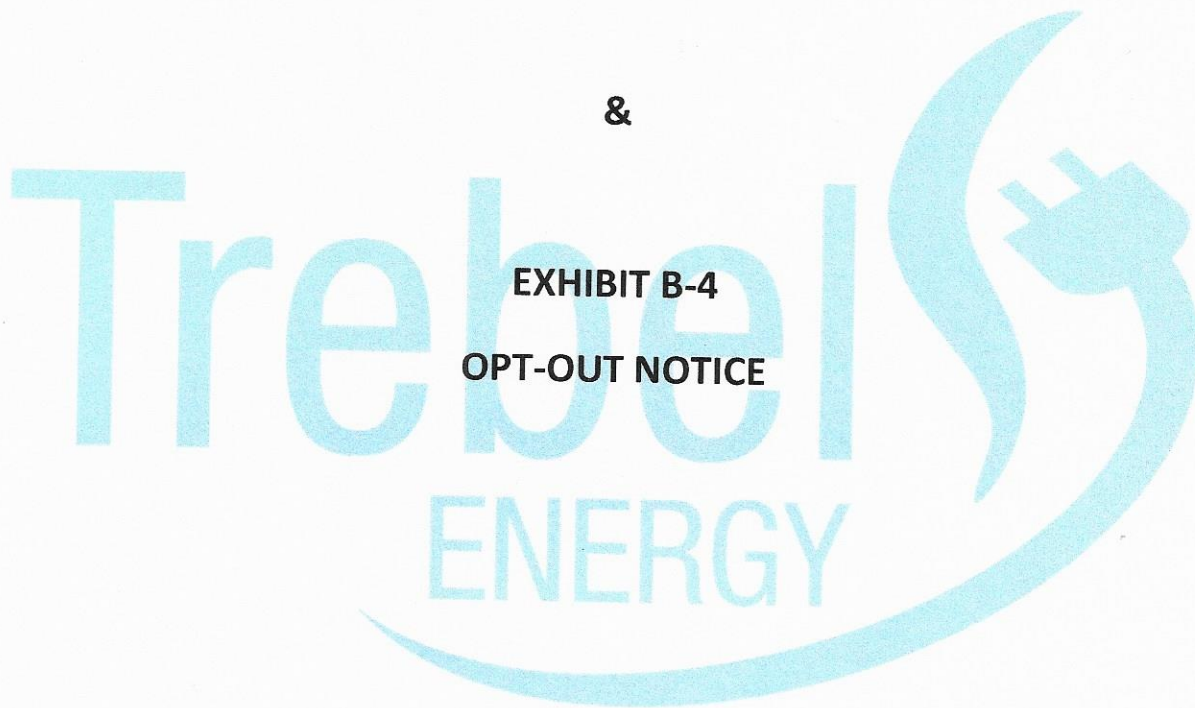
Enrolling after the Opt-out Period. Residential and small business accounts located within the City's corporate limits that are eligible to join the Aggregation but initially chose to opt-out of the Aggregation, or otherwise weren't included in the Aggregation, may join the Aggregation after the expiration of the applicable Opt-Out Period by contacting the Supplier. The rate for those joining the Aggregation after the expiration of the Opt-out Period may be different from the rate negotiated for the Aggregation by the Government Aggregator. In the event that the Supplier is able to offer to newly eligible customers the same price that is provided to the current Aggregation participants, the Supplier may refresh the Aggregation by providing those who move in to the City the opportunity to be included

automatically, rather than waiting until the next pricing term of the Contract. The process for refreshing the Aggregation with new enrollments would follow the process noted above for determining eligibility, providing Opt-out Notices, and pooling the accounts. (Current Aggregation participants and those who previously declined participation would not receive the Opt-out Notice intended only for newly eligible customers.)

EXHIBIT B-3
AUTOMATIC AGGREGATION DISCLOSURE

&

EXHIBIT B-4
OPT-OUT NOTICE





DO NOT DISCARD:
Important Natural Gas Aggregation
Information Enclosed.

Welcome to the City of Ashland
Natural Gas Governmental
Aggregation Program!

March 4, 2021

Dear Natural Gas Consumer,

The City of Ashland has selected Volunteer Energy as its supplier for the City's Natural Gas Governmental Aggregation Program. Under this 2017 voter approved program, City officials bring together citizens in order to gain buying power for the purchase of natural gas from a retail supplier certified by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio. As the City's selected supplier, Volunteer Energy is pleased to offer natural gas for your home or business at a rate of NYMEX month-end close plus \$0.1619 per Ccf. This rate will be effective April 2021 through September 2022 term. Prior to the end of the term, your community will determine your rate for the next period of the program. **Columbia Gas is still your utility and will continue to provide monthly billing and service.**

You are automatically enrolled.

As an eligible Ashland resident or small business, you are automatically enrolled and **do not need to take any further steps in order to receive this negotiated rate.** Or, you may choose at this time to opt-out of the program by taking the steps outlined below. After you become a participant in the City's natural gas aggregation program, Columbia Gas will send a postcard confirming your selection of Volunteer Energy as your natural gas provider. As required by law, this postcard will inform you of your option to cancel your enrollment with Volunteer Energy within seven (7) business days of its postmark date. To remain in the City's government aggregation program, you don't need to take any action when this postcard arrives. You will be automatically enrolled. To learn more about Volunteer Energy and the Governmental Aggregation Program please see the enclosed Terms and Conditions and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs).

If you choose to opt-out.

You don't need to do anything to get this exclusive rate. However, if you decide not to participate in the program we must receive your opt-out response by March 25, 2021 either by mail or phone.

mail — Return the completed form below to:

Ashland Governmental Aggregation Program
Volunteer Energy
790 Windmill Drive
Pickerington, OH 43147

phone — Call 800-977-8374 and speak directly with a Volunteer Energy representative.



ABOUT THE PROGRAM

- Because of your community's buying power, you will receive a negotiated natural gas rate of NYMEX plus \$0.1619 per Ccf for your April 2021 through September 2022 term.
- You will still receive one bill from Columbia Gas. That bill will simply list Volunteer Energy as your natural gas supplier, along with your negotiated rate.
- You will still contact Columbia Gas for all service calls and emergencies.
- Budget billing and auto payment are still available from Columbia Gas.

VolunteerEnergy.com/what-is-energy-aggregation/

The rate provided will NOT include taxes or local utility charges. If you are already enrolled with another natural gas supplier, a cancellation fee may apply if you choose to end your agreement with that supplier. The Terms and Conditions govern your participation in the program. Please do not contact the City of Ashland. If you have additional questions about this offer, contact Volunteer Energy. Ohio supplier certification # 02-022G(9).

AGGREGATION PROGRAM OPT-OUT FORM

☐ I do NOT want to participate in the City of Ashland Natural Gas Governmental Aggregation Program.

Governmental Aggregation opt-out number:



service address:

EMAIL ADDRESS _____ ()
PHONE _____

SIGNATURE REQUIRED Account Holder

PRINTED NAME _____ DATE _____

ACCOUNT HOLDER'S SIGNATURE _____

☐ Check here if any of the information above is incorrect. Please make corrections on the back of this form.

Detach completed form and return by March 25, 2021 to: Ashland City Governmental Aggregation Program, Volunteer Energy, 790 Windmill Drive, Pickerington, OH 43147



ENERGY SUPPLY TERMS AND CONDITIONS

KEEP FOR YOUR RECORDS

UTILITY..... Columbia Gas of Ohio
RATE PLAN City of Ashland Aggregation Rate
PRICE & TERMS..... NYMEX plus \$0.1619 per Ccf effective April 2021 through September 2022 term.
CANCELLATION FEE None

These TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE have important information you need to know before you commit to natural gas service from Volunteer Energy Services, Inc. ("VESI"). VESI is an Ohio corporation whose customers include a variety of Ohio natural gas end users. As a natural gas supply customer of VESI, you agree to the Terms and Conditions of VESI's natural gas supply contract.

Service Arrangement: VESI's energy supply will be delivered to your residence or facility via Columbia Gas of Ohio's (COH) pipeline on a month to month basis. Upon acceptance by the Columbia Gas of Ohio, the cost will be equal to the NYMEX (New York Mercantile Exchange) month-end close plus an adder of \$.1619 per Ccf at the burner tip through your September 2022 term.

Term: The length of service shall commence when accepted by VESI and shall continue April 2021 through September 2022 unless otherwise cancelled by either party. Natural gas service will begin within 60 days of acceptance by Columbia Gas of Ohio. You may terminate natural gas service with VESI by providing a 30-day notice in writing or by telephone to VESI. Columbia Gas of Ohio will continue to deliver VESI-supplied natural gas to your home at the agreed upon rate.

Office Locations and Hours: VESI's offices are located at 790 Windmill Drive, Pickerington, Ohio 43147 and are open from 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. E.S.T., Monday through Friday. VESI can be reached by telephone at (614) 856-3128 or toll free at 800-977-8374. Telephone service hours are from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. E.S.T., Monday through Friday. E-mail address is sraffeld@volunteerenergy.com.

Bill Payment Process: COH will continue to bill you monthly for natural gas delivery services and also for VESI's natural gas service. Should you fail to pay the bill or fail to meet any agreed upon payment arrangement, COH may terminate your service in accordance with its company tariffs, and this agreement with VESI may be automatically terminated.

Complaint Dispute Resolution: If you have any complaints regarding your natural gas service or your monthly bill, please contact us at 1-800-977-8374. Upon request, VESI will provide you up to twenty-four months of your payment history without charge. If your complaint is not resolved after you have called VESI, or for general utility information, residential and business customers may contact the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) for assistance at 1-800-686-7826 (toll free) from eight a.m. to five p.m. weekdays, or at <http://www.puco.ohio.gov>. Hearing or speech impaired customers may contact the PUCO via 7-1-1 (Ohio relay service). Additionally, the Ohio consumers' council (OCC) represents residential utility customers in matters before the PUCO. The OCC can be contacted at 1-877-742-5622 (toll free) from eight a.m. to five p.m. weekdays, or at <http://www.pickocc.org>.

Emergency Service Problems: If you become aware of a gas emergency condition, or experience an unanticipated loss of gas service, you should contact COH at the telephone number listed on your gas bill.

Termination/Rescission of Agreement: You may terminate / rescind your natural gas supply enrollment with VESI within seven (7) days of the post mark date of the confirmation letter from COH. After the initial seven (7) day period, either you or VESI may terminate the contract at any time by providing the non-terminating party thirty (30) days written notice of such termination, without penalty. You will remain responsible for all natural gas consumed by you prior to the actual termination of service. If your supply contract with VESI is terminated, your natural gas supply will automatically be provided by COH under its standard tariff unless or until you choose another supplier. If you voluntarily terminate participation in the City's natural gas governmental aggregation program, you may be charged a price other than the COH regulated sales service rate. **There will be no early termination fees associated with the City of Ashland program.** Service will automatically terminate upon the occurrence of any of the following: (1) the requested service location is not served by COH; (2) you move outside the COH service area or to an area not served by VESI; or (3) VESI terminates your supply agreement and returns you as a customer to COH. You have the right to terminate natural gas service with VESI, without penalty, for any reason at any time.

Program Compliance: COH's deregulation program is subject to the ongoing jurisdiction of the PUCO. If the PUCO cancels the program, this contract is rendered void with no penalty to either party. The laws of the State of Ohio will govern the terms of natural gas supply.

Change In Law: In the event that there is a change (including a change in interpretation) in law, administrative regulation, rule, filed tariff (in effect at the start of the Initial Term, not pending and disputed), regulatory design, market or transportation design or structure, ordinance, order, judicial decision, or statute, including, without limitation, changes in utility tariffs and pipeline protocols, or any fees or costs, including any charged by pipelines or utility, or the commencement of enforcement of a change in law or administrative regulation, and such results in VESI incurring additional costs and expenses in providing your natural gas service under this Contract, such additional costs and expenses will be your responsibility and will be assessed in your rate, charges and fees for natural gas service, notwithstanding the type of product you elected.

Eligibility: VESI's rate excludes COH charges and taxes. Natural gas service is subject to enrollment processing timelines as determined by COH and VESI's aforementioned Terms and Conditions of Service. To be eligible to participate in the City's natural gas aggregation program, you must: (1) have a residence or business located in the City of Ashland; (2) be eligible to receive natural gas from COH; (3) meet Ohio non-mercantile requirements; (4) be current with your natural gas payments or payment arrangements; (5) not be enrolled in the PIPP program; and (6) currently not taking natural gas supply service from another natural gas marketer.

If you believe you received this letter in error or are not located in the City of Ashland, please contact VESI to remove your account from our aggregation list.

790 Windmill Dr. · Pickerington, OH 43147 · p. 800.977.8374 · volunteerenergy.com

PLEASE COMPLETE IF THE INFORMATION ON THE FRONT OF THIS FORM IS INCORRECT

NAME as it appears on your utility bill

SERVICE ADDRESS as it appears on your utility bill

City

STATE ZIP

Exhibit B-5 "Experience"

Applicant's Experience and Plan for Providing Aggregation Services:

Due to the complexity of governmental aggregation, the applicant Ashland City "City" will rely on the energy consulting services of Trebel, LLC to assist them in designing, implementing, and maintaining the Program. Trebel, LLC is a PUCO certified Electric Aggregator/Broker (certificate #14-867E(3) and Natural Gas Aggregator/Broker (certificate #12-267G(4)). Trebel, LLC has experience in managing numerous governmental programs in the Ohio market.

Below is a detailed summary of services being provided:

Broker shall provide energy related Services, including but not limited to the following:

- Assist with the preparation and submission of Governmental Aggregation application for the Public Utilities of Ohio ("PUCO");
- Assist with preparation of resolutions, public notices, Plan of Operations and Governance, and communications with residents;
- Evaluate existing electric and or natural gas costs and rates and provide market expertise;
- Where applicable prepare Request of Proposal (RFP);
- Assist with usage data collection and verification;
- Pre-screen all energy suppliers and act as point of contact;
- Work directly with suppliers to meet all requirements related to local governments aggregation plan. This includes preparation of all notifications required to be sent to participants;
- Act as an exclusive sourcing agent with the suppliers;
- Assist with preparation of ongoing reporting requirements of the PUCO; and

Trebel, LLC is a national energy consulting company serving commercial, governmental, small business and residential clients primarily throughout the deregulated energy markets. Our primary mission is to help clients by lowering their energy supply cost, increase site efficiency and leverage state and federal incentive opportunities.

**This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities
Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on**

11/11/2021 3:48:10 PM

in

Case No(s). 17-2498-GA-GAG

Summary: Application renewal electronically filed by Mr. Scott R. Belcastro on
behalf of City of Ashland, Ashland County, OH