



DIS Case Number: 03-1526-GA-GAG

## Section A: Application Information

### A-1. Applicant's legal name, address, telephone number, and web site address

the applicant's legal name, address, telephone number, and web address.

Legal Name: City of St Marys                      Country: United States  
Phone:                      Extension (if applicable): Street: 101 East Spring Street  
4193943303  
Website (if any): www.cityofstmarys.net                      City: St. Mary's                      Province/State: OH  
  
Postal Code: 45885

### A-2. Contact person for regulatory matters

Gregory Foxhoven  
101 East Spring St  
St Marys, OH 45885  
US  
gfoxhoven@cityofstmarys.net  
4193943303

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

Gregory Foxhoven  
101 East Spring St  
St Marys, OH 45885  
US  
gfoxhoven@cityofstmarys.net  
4193943303

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

Phone: 419-394-3303                      Extension (if applicable):                      Country: United States  
Fax: 419-394-2452                      Extension (if applicable): Street: 101 East Spring Street  
Email: gfoxhoven@cityofstmarys.net                      City: St. Mary's                      Province/State: OH



**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.

File(s) attached.

**B-2. Operation and governance plans**

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.

Files(s) attached.

**B-3. Opt-out disclosure notice**

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.

File(s) uploaded

**B-4. Experience and Plans**

Provide a description of the applicant's experience in providing the service(s) for which it is applying (e.g. number and type of customers served, utility service areas, amount of load, etc.). Also provide the 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 4928.10 of the Revised Code.

File(s) attached



Public Utilities  
Commission

# Application Attachments

**City of St. Mary's**

**Exhibit B-2**

**Operation and Governance  
Plan**

ORDINANCE NO. 2003-25

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE TO APPROVE THE  
PLAN OF OPERATION AND GOVERNANCE  
FOR THE CITY OF ST. MARYS' NATURAL GAS AGGREGATION PROGRAM

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 4929 of the Ohio Revised Code, to facilitate competitive retail natural gas service to promote natural gas savings, lower cost natural gas supplies, and other benefits, certain governmental entities may aggregate certain natural gas consumers within their jurisdiction; and,

WHEREAS, on May 6, 2003, the electors of the City of St. Marys approved of the City's plan to create an aggregation program for customers located within the boundaries of the City; and,

WHEREAS, Ohio Revised Code 4929.26(C) requires a governmental entity interested in the automatic registration of customers under governmental aggregation, subject to customer rights to "opt-out" of such an aggregation, to adopt a Plan of Operation and Governance for its aggregation program; and,

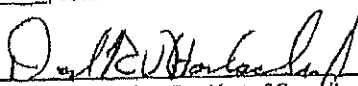
WHEREAS, public hearings were held on June 3<sup>rd</sup> and June 10<sup>th</sup> with regards to the City of St. Marys' Municipal Natural Gas Aggregation Program Plan of Operation and Governance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF ST. MARYS, OHIO:

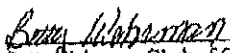
SECTION 1. That this Council hereby adopts the City of St. Marys Plan of Operation and Governance, (attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference as Exhibit A) for the implementation and administration of the City's municipal gas aggregation program in accordance with Ohio Revised Code 4929.26(C).

SECTION 2. That this is an emergency ordinance, the reason for the emergency being that opportunities to coordinate aggregation activities with certain suppliers of natural gas services may become limited; all of which is necessary for the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of St. Marys; therefore, this ordinance shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage.

Passed this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of JUNE, 2003.

  
Daniel R. Hoelscher, President of Council


ATTEST:

  
Betty Wehrman, Clerk of Council

Approved by the Law Director this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of JUNE, 2003.

  
Craig E. Noble, Law Director

Approved by the Mayor this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of JUNE, 2003.

  
Greg Freese, Mayor

**CERTIFICATION**

CITY OF ST. MARYS, OHIO

SS:

COUNTY OF AUGLAIZE

I, Betty Wehrman, Clerk of St. Marys City Council, St. Marys, Ohio, do hereby certify that the foregoing copy of Ordinance/Resolution No. 2003-25 is a true and correct copy, passed by the legislative body of the above said City on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of JUNE, 2003.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto placed my name and affixed the seal of the City of St. Marys, Ohio.

JUNE 24, 2003  
Date

Betty Wehrman  
Betty Wehrman, Clerk of Council

**AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING  
THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE AND SAFETY TO FILE AN  
OHIO NATURAL GAS GOVERNMENTAL AGGREGATORS RENEWAL  
APPLICATION AND RELATED DOCUMENTS WITH THE  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO, APPROVING CERTAIN  
CHANGES IN THE PLAN OF OPERATION AND GOVERNANCE  
FOR THE CITY OF ST. MARYS NATURAL GAS AGGREGATION PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 4929 of the Ohio Revised Code, to facilitate competitive retail natural gas service, to promote natural gas service to promote natural gas savings, lower cost natural gas supplies, and other benefits, certain governmental entities may aggregate certain natural gas consumers within their jurisdiction; and,

WHEREAS, on May 19, 2003, the electors of the City approved of the city's plan to create an aggregation program for customers located within the boundaries of the City; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to the requirements of Section 4929.26(C) applicable to a governmental entity providing for the automatic registration of customers under governmental aggregation, subject to customer rights to "opt-out" of such an aggregation, this Council on June 23, 2003, adopted Ordinance No. 2003-25 approving the plan of operation and governance for the City of St. Marys Natural Gas Aggregation Program; and,

WHEREAS, this Council now finds it to be in the public interest to authorize the Director of Public Service and Safety to file an Ohio Natural Gas Governmental Aggregators Renewal Application and related documents with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio and to approve certain changes in the Plan of Operation and Governance for the City of St. Marys Natural Gas Aggregation Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL, FOR THE CITY OF ST. MARYS, OHIO:

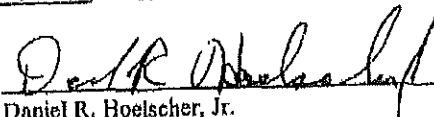
SECTION 1. That the Director of Public Service and Safety is hereby authorized to file an Ohio Natural Gas Governmental Aggregators Renewal Application and related documents with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio.

SECTION 2. That this Council hereby approves the following changes in the Plan of Operation and Governance for the City of St. Marys Natural Gas Aggregation Program that was approved by Ordinance No. 2003-25,

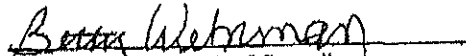
1. Replacement of the expression "switching fee" with the expression "early termination fee" on pages 6, 7, and 8 as requested by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio.
2. The addition of the CRNGS (Certified Retail Natural Gas Supplier) supplier name, phone number and hours of operation as follows: Interstate Gas Supply, 800-280-4474, hours of operation Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

SECTION 3. That this is an emergency ordinance, the reason for the emergency being that the immediate acceptance of these changes is necessary to continue to facilitate competitive retail natural gas service for the citizens of St. Marys; all of which is necessary for the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of St. Marys; therefore, this ordinance shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage.

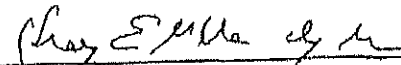
Passed this 11th day of April, 2005.

  
Daniel R. Hoelscher, Jr.  
President of Council


ATTEST:

  
Betty Wehrman, Clerk of Council

Approved by the Law Director this 11th day of April, 2005.

  
Craig E. Noble, Law Director

Approved by the Mayor this 11th day of April, 2005.

  
Greg Freewalt, Mayor

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION:

I hereby certify that Ordinance No. 2005-05 was duly published in The Evening Leader on  
\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, 2005.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Betty Wehrman, Clerk of Council



**Exhibit A**

**Ordinance 2003-25**

# CITY OF ST.MARYS

## PLAN OF OPERATION AND GOVERNANCE FOR MUNICIPAL OPT-OUT NATURAL GAS AGGREGATION

ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL

(June 23, 2003)

# FINAL PLAN OF OPERATION AND GOVERNANCE FOR MUNICIPAL GAS AGGREGATION

## Overview

At the May 6, 2003 general election, local residents authorized the City of St. Marys (the City) to create a municipal opt-out natural gas aggregation program (the Aggregation Program) in compliance with Section 4929.26 of the Ohio Revised Code. Under the opt-out natural gas aggregation program, all eligible natural gas consumers within the City's corporation limits will be automatically included in the Aggregation Program initially. However, all consumers will also be given the opportunity to opt-out or decline participation in the Aggregation Program as detailed herein.

The City's purpose in creating the Aggregation Program is to represent local consumer interests in emerging competitive natural gas markets by aggregating natural gas loads within the City's corporation limits (including municipal facilities) and negotiating affordable, reliable natural gas supplies and other related services on behalf of local consumers. The City may pursue this purpose individually or in cooperation with other entities.

Many small commercial and residential natural gas consumers lack the leverage to effectively negotiate natural gas supply rates and services. A governmental aggregation program provides them with an option for professional representation and the bargaining power of a larger, more diverse consumer group that may be more attractive to suppliers, allowing them to effectively participate in the competitive process and achieve benefits.

## 1. Description of Services

The Aggregation Program is designed to reduce the amount a consumer pays for natural gas energy, and to gain other favorable economic and non-economic terms in service contracts. The City will not buy and resell natural gas, but will represent collective consumer interests to set terms and conditions for service. Through a negotiation process, the City will develop a contract with a Competitive Retail Natural Gas Services Provider (CRNGS Provider) or Providers for firm all-requirements natural gas service. Once the contract has been finalized, it will be submitted to the St. Marys City Council for approval.

The Aggregation Program covers the natural gas supply portion only of a participant's natural gas bill. Dominion East Ohio (DEO) will continue to deliver natural gas to Aggregation Program participants' homes and businesses through its natural gas distribution system as a monopoly function regulated by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO). DEO will also continue to install, operate and maintain its system of pipelines, Rights of Way, meters and other natural gas distribution components. Aggregation Program participants should continue to call DEO if their natural gas is

## FINAL PLAN OF OPERATION AND GOVERNANCE FOR MUNICIPAL GAS AGGREGATION

interrupted or if they have billing questions. The PUCO will continue to oversee DEO natural gas safety and reliability service standards.

Oversight of the Aggregation Program will be the responsibility of the Director of Public Service & Safety, who shall report to Council. The Director of Public Service & Safety, subject to City Council approval, will have the authority to develop specifications for the Aggregation Program, to appoint an Aggregation Program Manager, and to select, hire and manage the CRNGS Provider. The CRNGS Provider and the Aggregation Program Manager will work under the direction of the Director of Public Service & Safety with the advice and counsel of the City Attorney.

Due to the complexity of the natural gas utility industry and the uncertainties of its associated restructuring activities, the City of St. Marys may contract with a consultant or consultants to provide the necessary expertise to represent the City's interest in legislative and regulatory matters and/or to serve as the Aggregation Program Manager. Such services may include, but are not limited to, facilitating consumer enrollment and opt-out, assisting with consumer education, addressing consumer questions and concerns, providing reports on program operation, enrollment and savings, negotiating future CRNGS Provider contracts, and representing the City in dealings with CRNGS Providers, DEO, the Ohio Legislature, the PUCO and the Ohio Consumer's Counsel (OCC).

The City deems any and all information related to an eligible customer to be confidential and proprietary trade secret information. The CRNGS Provider shall keep all eligible customer information provided to it by the City or DEO in supplying eligible customers within the City's corporation limit confidential and shall not disclose such information to any third party, unless such disclosure is required to serve any eligible customer, the third party agrees to keep such eligible customer information confidential, and the City consents to the disclosure of such information to the third party.

The City will require any CRNGS Provider to disclose any subcontractors that it uses in fulfillment of the services described herein.

The CRNGS Provider will provide a local or toll free telephone number for participant questions and concerns about enrollment, opt-out provisions, billing and other Aggregation Program issues.

The CRNGS Provider will develop internal controls and processes to help ensure that the City remains in good standing as a governmental aggregator that complies with all laws, rules and regulations regarding the same as they may be periodically amended.

Natural gas service reliability is an essential to Aggregation Program participants. The City will strive to provide high-quality service and reliability through provisions of the CRNGS Provider contract, through traditional proceedings related to DEO distribution

## FINAL PLAN OF OPERATION AND GOVERNANCE FOR MUNICIPAL GAS AGGREGATION

services; and through direct discussions with DEO concerning specific or general problems related to quality and reliability of its distribution system.

If for any reason a CRNGS Provider fails to provide uninterrupted service, the City will attempt to acquire an alternative natural gas supply. If this attempt fails, participants will default to DEO established tariff rates. In no case will participants be without natural gas as the result of the CRNGS Provider's failure to provide uninterrupted service. The City will seek to minimize this risk by contracting only with reputable CRNGS Providers that demonstrate reliable service. The City also intends to include conditions in its CRNGS Provider contract that will indemnify participants against risks or problems with natural gas supply service and price.

All Aggregation Program participants shall enjoy the protections of law afforded to consumers as they currently exist or as they may be amended from time to time. These include rights to question billings or service quality or service practices. All program participants shall also enjoy the individual right to decline participation in the Aggregation Program subject to the terms and conditions contained herein.

All Aggregation Program participants will be treated equitably. They will be guaranteed the right to raise and resolve disputes with the CRNGS Provider, be provided all required notices and information; and always retain the right to opt-out of the Aggregation Program or switch suppliers subject to the terms and conditions contained herein.

All consumers within the City's corporation limits shall be eligible to participate in the Aggregation Program subject to the terms and conditions described herein, Ohio law, PUCO rules and regulation governing natural gas service, and DEO approved tariffs.

Service under the Aggregation Program shall include all eligible customer classes in adherence with universal service principles and requirements, and the traditional non-discriminatory practices of local government. CRNGS Provider contracts shall contain provisions to maintain these principles and equitable treatment of all customer classes.

Low-income consumers shall remain subject to all provisions of Ohio law and PUCO rules and regulations as they may be amended from time to time regarding their rights to return to DEO General Service and participation in the Aggregation Program.

The City developed this Plan of Operation and Governance in compliance with Ohio law regarding municipal opt-out aggregation of natural gas consumers, including two public hearings prior to its adoption.

The St. Marys City Council shall approve through resolution or ordinance the Aggregation Program's Plan of Operation and Governance in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Section 4929.26. Amendments to the Plan of Operation and Governance may be subject to St. Marys City Council approval and filing with the PUCO.

## FINAL PLAN OF OPERATION AND GOVERNANCE FOR MUNICIPAL GAS AGGREGATION

After adoption of the Plan of Operation and Governance, the City will file with the PUCO for governmental aggregator certification and also register as a governmental aggregator with DEO.

Aggregation Program participants are subject to the same standards and responsibilities as other natural gas consumers, including payment of billings and access to metering and other equipment necessary to carry out utility operations.

The Aggregation Program may be discontinued upon the termination or expiration of the CRNGS Provider contract without any extension, renewal or subsequent contract being executed. In the event of Aggregation Program termination, each participant will receive notification at least 60 days prior to such program termination and could return to DEO General Service Rate or select another approved CRNGS Provider.

### 2. Determination of Rates

The City will not buy and resell natural gas to Aggregation Program participants. The City will aggregate natural gas loads within the City's corporation limits including municipal facilities. Through a competitive selection process, the City will develop and negotiate a contract with a CRNGS Provider or Providers for firm, all-requirements service. The contract will contain mutually agreeable price terms for affordable, reliable natural gas supplies and other related services. The City may pursue this purpose individually or in cooperation with other entities. Contracts will be monitored by the City on behalf of consumers.

CRNGS Providers will supply information on natural gas supply charges by DEO customer rate classification or other appropriate pricing category as approved by the City. All natural gas supply charges will be fully and prominently disclosed in consumer enrollment materials and will be subject to approval by the St. Marys City Council.

The City will contract only with a CRNGS Provider or Providers that meet, at a minimum, the following criteria:

1. Certified CRNGS Provider by the PUCO
2. Registered with DEO
3. Have a service agreement under DEO Gas Transportation Service Tariff
4. Successfully completed Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) computer system testing with DEO and that CRNGS Provider's EDI computer system is capable of effectively processing Aggregation Program EDI transactions in a timely manner
5. Meet standards of creditworthiness established by the City
6. Have a customer call center capable of effectively handling participants' questions, concerns and disputes in a timely manner using a toll-free telephone number
7. Hold the City harmless from any financial obligations arising from offering natural gas and/or energy-related services to Aggregation Program participants

## FINAL PLAN OF OPERATION AND GOVERNANCE FOR MUNICIPAL GAS AGGREGATION

The CRNGS Provider's contract will run for a fixed term (i.e., one to five years) and contain all pricing, charges, early termination fees, etc. in clear and easily understood terms, and it will include a sales tax instead of a gross receipts tax.

The CRNGS Provider's rates will include an administrative fee, which shall (if implemented) be collected on behalf of the City to fund the implementation and administration of the City's Aggregation Program. The administrative fee will be adjusted annually to cover the City's cost of administering the program. The fee will be reviewed annually to ensure that the amounts collected do not exceed the cost of administering the aggregation program.

DEO assigns customer rate classifications, character of service and associated regulated rates subject to PUCO approved tariffs. In addition to the CRNGS Provider's gas service charges, consumers will continue to be billed for DEO service and delivery charges. Although the City may participate in regulatory proceedings and represent the interests of consumers regarding these regulated rates, it cannot assign or alter customer rate classifications.

### 3. Plan for Providing Opt-out Notice

Initially, each eligible consumer within the City's corporation limits will be automatically included in the Aggregation Program. However, prior to actual enrollment, each consumer will receive a notice from the City detailing the Aggregation Program's rates, terms and conditions.

Each consumer will then have a 21-day period to opt-out of or decline to participate in the Aggregation Program without charge. Consumers opting out of the program will remain on Dominion East Ohio's (DEO) established tariff rates until such time as they select an approved CRNGS Provider. A similar opt-out period will be offered every two years during which time consumers can leave the Aggregation Program without paying an early termination fee.

### 4. Process for Determining the Pool of Customers

After contract approval by the St. Marys City Council, the CRNGS Provider will work with the City and DEO to identify all eligible consumers within the City's corporation limits.

All eligible consumers will be notified of the rates, charges and other terms and conditions of participation in the Aggregation Program and that they will be automatically enrolled in the Aggregation Program unless they "opt out" or decline participation in the program. Consumers will be given a 21-day period in which to notify the City that they wish to opt out or decline participation in the Aggregation Program.

## FINAL PLAN OF OPERATION AND GOVERNANCE FOR MUNICIPAL GAS AGGREGATION

After the initial 21-day opt-out period has elapsed, all eligible consumers who have not notified the City of their desire to opt out of the Aggregation Program will be enrolled by the CRNGS Provider at the earliest date practicable.

Consumers enrolled in the Aggregation Program by the CRNGS Provider will receive a letter from DEO notifying them of their enrollment. Consumers will have seven calendar days to notify DEO of any objection to their enrollment in the Aggregation Program. DEO will notify the CRNGS Provider of consumer objections or any reason that a consumer was not enrolled in the Aggregation Program.

Customers who meet the following criteria will become Members of the aggregation program:

- Are not currently buying gas from another supplier;
- Are up to date with their bill payments;
- Have not opted out of the program;
- Currently have service with DEO;
- Are classified as non-mercantile;
- Have not exercised their right of rescission, or;
- Are not on the Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PIPP).

New members may opt into the Program upon contract expiration with an alternate supplier. These members will need to contact the CRNGS Provider for enrollment information. The CRNG Provider has a right of refusal in accordance with criteria described in this plan.

The CRNGS Provider will build and maintain a database of all Aggregation Program participants. The database will include the name, address and DEO account number and may include other pertinent information as agreed upon by the City and the CRNGS Provider. Such information may include the CRNGS Provider's account number (if different from DEO account number), rate code, rider code (if applicable), most recent 12 months of natural gas consumption, and meter reading cycle. The Aggregation Program database will be updated at least quarterly. The City will have the right to access information in the database for purposes of auditing.

The CRNGS Provider will report to the City the status of Aggregation Program enrollment on at least a monthly basis.

Participants who wish to leave the Aggregation Program may do so:

- During the initial 21-day opt-out period;
- During the seven day rescission period;
- During subsequent opt-out period offered by the City at least every two years;
- At any other time; however an early termination fee may be assessed.

## FINAL PLAN OF OPERATION AND GOVERNANCE FOR MUNICIPAL GAS AGGREGATION

In addition to the initial 21-day opt-out period described above, each participant will be given an opportunity to opt out of the Aggregation Program every two years without paying an early termination fee. Consumers who choose to opt out of the Aggregation Program at any time other than during the initial 21-day opt-out period or during subsequent opt-out periods offered by the City may be subject to an early termination fee.

Any consumer who opts out of the Aggregation Program will be returned to DEO established tariff rates until such time as the consumer selects another approved CRNGS Provider.

### 5. Customer Billing Procedures

The City plans to utilize DEO consolidated billing service in which each consumer account receives one bill itemizing the CRNGS Provider's natural gas supply charges and DEO delivery, transition and other PUCO-approved charges. The billing statement will be consistent with applicable PUCO rules and regulations. The City will consider other billing options, including CRNGS Provider consolidated billing, if and when they become available and if it appears advantageous to do so.

### 6. Credit and Deposit Policies

Collection, credit and deposit procedures remain the responsibility of the Local Gas Utility, the selected supplier and the individual member. Members are required to remit and comply with the payment terms of the local utility. This program will not be responsible for late or no payment on the part of any of its members. The Municipality will have no separate credit or deposit policy. The selected supplier shall not charge more than 1 ½ percent per month for overdue balances owed to the selected supplier.

### 8. 7. Governmental Aggregator's Customer Service Procedures and Dispute Resolution

The Aggregation Program only impacts the source of natural gas supply. DEO will continue to deliver the natural gas purchased through the Aggregation Program to participants' homes and businesses through its natural gas distribution system. Participants with question or concerns regarding service delivery or safety, such as a natural gas outage or odor of gas should continue to contact DEO at 877 542-2630. Meter reading or other billing questions should also be directed to DEO at 800 362-7557. Questions regarding Aggregation Program enrollment or opting out should be directed to the CRNGS Provider. General questions and concerns should be directed to the Director of Public Service & Safety, City of St. Marys. Disputes unresolved by the aforementioned parties, should be directed to either the Ohio Consumer's Counsel or the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio. The following table gives toll-free telephone numbers for use by consumers.



# FINAL PLAN OF OPERATION AND GOVERNANCE FOR MUNICIPAL GAS AGGREGATION

Question or Concern	contact	Telephone Number
Natural gas outage or interruption	DEO	877-542-2630
Turn natural gas on or off	DEO	800-362-7557
Meter reading/billing	DEO	800-362-7557
To enroll in or opt-out of the Aggregation Program	CRNS Provider – Interstate Gas Supply Hours: Mon – Fri: 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM	800 280-4474
Aggregation Program Questions or concerns	Director of Public Service & Safety	419-394-3303
Unresolved disputes (residential customers)	Ohio Consumer's Counsel	877-742-5622 occ@occ.state.oh.us
Unresolved disputes (all customers)	Public Utilities Commission of Ohio	(800)-686-7826 (voice) (800)-686-1570 (TDD)

## 8. Members Moving Into/Within the Aggregation (New Account Number)

Consumers who move into the City after the initial opt-out period will be not be automatically included in the Program, but will be afforded an opportunity to enroll. However, the City cannot guarantee that the rates, terms and conditions to consumers enrolling in the Aggregation Program after the initial 21-day opt-out period will match those of the initial enrollees.

The same rule will apply to participants who move within the City after the initial opt-out period, if they are given a new account number by DEO. That is, they will not be automatically included in the Program, but will be given an opportunity to re-enroll under a new set of rates, terms and conditions.

## 9. Members Moving Within the Aggregation (Same Account Number)

Participants who relocate within the City limits and retain the same DEO account number, will be allowed to continue in the Aggregation Program at their new location under the same terms and conditions as at their former location, subject to any switching fees imposed by DEO.

## FINAL PLAN OF OPERATION AND GOVERNANCE FOR MUNICIPAL GAS AGGREGATION

### **10. Joining the Program at a Later Date (Opting-In)**

Residents of the City who initially choose to opt-out of the Program, for whatever reason, and wish to enroll at a later date, will be treated the same as a new resident. That is, they will not automatically become part of the existing program, but will be given an opportunity to enroll. However, the City cannot guarantee that rates, terms and conditions to consumers enrolling in the Aggregation Program after the initial 21-day opt-out period will match those of the initial enrollees.

## **DEFINITIONS**

### *Aggregation*

Combining the natural gas loads of multiple customers for the purposes of supplying or arranging for the supply of competitive retail natural gas service to those customers.

### *Aggregation Program Manager*

The person or entity designated by the City to oversee the operation and management of the City of St. Marys Municipal Natural Gas Aggregation Program.

### *Competitive Retail Natural Gas Service (CRNGS)*

A component of retail natural gas service deemed competitive under the Ohio Revised Code or pursuant to an order of the PUCO. This includes but is not limited to the services provided by competitive retail natural gas service providers, natural gas marketers, aggregators and governmental aggregators.

### *Competitive Retail Natural Gas Service Provider (CRNGS Provider)*

A person or entity certified by the PUCO and registered with DEO who supplies or offers to supply a competitive retail natural gas service over the DEO natural gas distribution system. This term does not apply to DEO in its provision of standard offer natural gas service.

# FINAL PLAN OF OPERATION AND GOVERNANCE FOR MUNICIPAL GAS AGGREGATION

## *Consumer*

Any person or entity that is an end user of natural gas and is connected to any part of DEO natural gas distribution system within the City of St. Marys corporation limits.

## *Delivery Charge*

Charge imposed by DEO for delivering natural gas to a consumer's home or business. The charge includes meter reading, billing, transition costs, maintaining natural gas system reliability and responding during emergencies and outages (also called the distribution charge).

## *Distribution*

Delivery of natural gas to a home or business through DEO owned pipelines, meters and other equipment. DEO distribution system operations will remain regulated by the PUCO.

## *Governmental Aggregator*

An incorporated village or city, township or county acting as an aggregator for the provision of a CRNGS under authority conferred under Section 4929.26 of the Ohio Revised Code.

## *Mercantile Customer*

A customer that consumes, other than for residential use, more than five hundred thousand cubic feet of natural gas per year at a single location within the state; or a customer that has three or more locations within the state that consume natural gas, other than for residential use.

## *Natural Gas Related Service*

Service directly related to the consumption of natural gas at a consumer's home or business. This may include, but is not limited to, the installation of metering, remote reading indices, regulation; the maintenance, repair or replacement of appliances and other energy-consuming devices at a consumer's premises, and the provision of energy consumption measurement and billing services.

## FINAL PLAN OF OPERATION AND GOVERNANCE FOR MUNICIPAL GAS AGGREGATION

### *Natural gas Supply Charge*

All charges related to the acquisition of natural gas by the CRNGS Provider, and its delivery to the City's distribution system.

### *Ohio Consumers' Counsel (OCC)*

The Ohio Consumers' Counsel (OCC), established by the Ohio Legislature in 1976, represents the interests of Ohio's four million residential utility customers served by investor-owned utilities in proceedings before the PUCO, other regulatory agencies and in the courts. The OCC also educates consumers about utility issues and resolves complaints individuals have with investor-owned utility companies.

### *Participant*

A consumer enrolled in the City of St. Marys Municipal Natural gas Aggregation Program.

### *Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO)*

The state agency charged with assuring all consumers (residential commercial and industrial) served by investor-owned utilities have access to adequate, safe, and reliable utility services at fair prices. The PUCO regulates a wide variety of investor-owned utilities, including natural gas, electricity, pipeline, heating/cooling, local telephone, long distance telephone, waterworks, wastewater, railroad, household goods carriers, water transportation, hazardous materials carriers, and commercial transportation carriers.

**City of St. Mary's**

**Exhibit B-3**

**Automatic Aggregation  
Disclosure – Opt-out Form**

IGS.com | PO Box 9060 Dublin, OH 43017 | Phone: 877-353-0162 | Fax: 800-584-4839

TEST CUSTOMER  
6100 EMERALD PKWY  
DUBLIN OH 43017



November 10, 2022

Dear Resident or Small Business Owner:

The City of St. Marys has selected IGS Energy of Dublin, Ohio as the supplier of natural gas to participants in its Natural Gas Aggregation Program. You are eligible to participate with other residents and small businesses in your community. You will automatically be enrolled in the St. Marys Natural Gas Aggregation Program unless you notify IGS Energy that you do not wish to participate.

Under governmental aggregation, the City of St. Marys acts on behalf of natural gas consumers in the community to negotiate a gas supply contract with eligible suppliers. Both the City of St. Marys and IGS Energy must be certified by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio. The St. Marys voters approved the implementation of the program on May 6, 2003 and the City Council Members approved ordinance 2003-25. Your participation in the aggregation program for the City of St. Marys will begin within one or two billing periods after enrollment with Dominion Energy Ohio (DEO) and end with your December 2023 billing period.

Your price under the City of St. Marys Natural Gas Aggregation Program will be a fixed rate \$9.29 per MCF, plus applicable state and local taxes through your December 2023 billing period. Please refer to the attached Terms and Conditions for full details of this offer.

**You will be automatically enrolled in the St. Marys Natural Gas Aggregation Program unless you choose to "opt out" – that is, to not participate.** There is no cost for enrollment. You do not need to do anything to be included. You may cancel your enrollment from this program at any time with no cancellation fee by providing notice to IGS Energy.

**If you want to be excluded from the St. Marys Natural Gas Aggregation Program you must return the enclosed "Opt-Out" form or contact IGS Energy at 1-877-353-0162 by December 1, 2022.** If you do not opt out at this time, you will be enrolled in the program until it expires with your December 2023 billing period. If you do nothing, you will soon receive a letter from DEO notifying you of your transfer to your community's new program with IGS Energy as your supplier. **If you wish to remain in the program, simply ignore that letter.**

Under this program IGS Energy will deliver your gas to DEO and then DEO will deliver that gas to you. DEO will maintain the pipeline system that delivers natural gas to your home or business. DEO will continue to read your meter and will continue to send you a monthly bill that will include the gas supply charge from IGS Energy. You will still contact DEO regarding loss of gas service, odor of gas, or for any other concerns or issues having to do with your local service. Budget billing and automatic billing options will continue to be available through DEO.

If you have any questions please call IGS Energy at 1-877-353-0162, weekdays, from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. EST. For general information on natural gas deregulation in Ohio, you can also visit the Web Sites of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel ([www.occ.ohio.gov](http://www.occ.ohio.gov)) or the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio ([www.PUCO.ohio.gov](http://www.PUCO.ohio.gov)).

Sincerely,

### The City of St. Marys and IGS Energy

*P.S. Remember to return the "Opt-Out" form only if you do not want to participate in the St. Marys Natural Gas Aggregation Program.*

If the home or small business for which you have received this letter is not located within the City of St. Marys, you have received this letter in error. Please contact IGS Energy at 1-877-353-0162 to be removed from the aggregation list.

**You are not eligible to participate in this program if you are currently enrolled in the PIPP program. If you are already under contract with a competitive retail natural gas service provider, you may incur a contract termination fee or other charges if you fail to opt-out of the aggregation program.**

13 digit account number as it appears on your DEO gas bill.

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Service Address:

TEST CUSTOMER  
6100 Emerald Pkwy  
Dublin OH 43017

**I wish to opt out of the St. Marys  
Natural Gas Aggregation  
Program.**

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (REQUIRED) \_\_\_\_\_



**Term:** The community's opt-out government aggregation program (the "Program") and my service with Interstate Gas Supply, Inc. (elsewhere referred to as "IGS Energy" and the consumer will be referred in the first person, "my", "me" or "I") as my supplier on the Program will begin within one to two billing cycles after my enrollment or rate change is confirmed with the utility company and shall continue through my December 2023 utility billing cycle, unless notified otherwise. IGS Energy will supply the commodity portion of my natural gas and Dominion Energy Ohio (DEO) will be my Natural Gas Distribution Company ("NGDC"). I can contact the IGS Energy choice department by phone at 1-877-353-0162, by fax at 1-800-584-4839, in writing at P.O. Box 9060, Dublin, OH 43017, or through their web site at <http://www.igsenergy.com>.

**Regulatory:** The NGDC's choice program and the government aggregation for my community are subject to ongoing Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) jurisdiction, and I understand that if the choice program or this Program is terminated, this Agreement may be terminated, without penalty to either party.

**Price:** My price through the December 2023 NGDC billing cycle shall be a fixed rate of \$9.29 per MCF, which does not include applicable sales tax or NGDC transportation and other charges.

**Renewal:** If my community's governmental aggregation continues, at least every two years from the establishment of this Program the government aggregator or its supplier shall provide me notice of my right to opt out of the aggregation without penalty. The process for providing me with notice of my right to opt-out shall include a provision for me to return a post card or similar notice to the governmental aggregator or the supplier. For renewals, I will have at least twenty-one days from the post mark date on the written notice to choose to opt out of the Program, and my return post card or notice that is post marked before the opt out deadline has elapsed shall count as timely sent. The notice will follow the procedures established for the initial opt-out notice set forth in this rule and shall prominently disclose to customers all changes to the terms and conditions associated with the aggregation. I am entitled to opt-out of the government aggregation program at least every two years from the commencement date of the Program, without a penalty. If I am in the Program when the Program is renewed and I do not exercise my right to opt-out, I will be continued in the Program.

**Rescission Period:** I will have 21 days from the post mark date of my opt-out notice to exercise my right to opt-out of my community's Program. If I do not opt-out of the Program, IGS Energy will submit my enrollment to the NGDC and if I am new to the Program or a new customer to IGS Energy I will have 7 business days from the post-mark date of the confirmation notice sent by the NGDC to rescind my enrollment. I can rescind my enrollment by contacting the NGDC in writing or by telephone at the number provided on the confirmation notice within that 7-day period. Otherwise, I can cancel this agreement as detailed below.

**Cancellation:** Either party can cancel this Agreement within the first 30 days of enrollment with IGS Energy by providing the other with notice of cancellation, with no cancellation fee. At any other time either party can cancel this agreement with notice to the other, without a cancellation fee. Cancellation notices provided after the NGDC deadline may result in additional month(s) of service beyond the cancellation notice date, as the effective date of all cancellations are subject to NGDC guidelines and I agree to continue to pay for my service with IGS Energy for all periods billed with IGS Energy. I understand that if I switch my service to another supplier or back to the NGDC an NGDC switching fee may apply under the NGDC's tariff and the NGDC may charge a price other than the NGDC commodity rate.

**Contact and Dispute Resolutions:** In the event of a billing dispute or issues regarding volume or metering, I should contact the NGDC at the number listed on their bill. For other questions or concerns about pricing, I can contact the IGS Energy choice department by phone weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. EST at 1-877-353-0162, by fax 1-800-584-4839, in writing at P.O. Box 9060, Dublin, OH 43017, or through their web site at [www.igsenergy.com](http://www.igsenergy.com). Also, I can contact IGS Energy through e-mail at [choice@igsenergy.com](mailto:choice@igsenergy.com). If my questions or concerns are not resolved after I have called IGS Energy, or for general utility information, residential and business customers may call the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) toll free at 1-800-686-7826 or for TDD/TTY toll free at 1-800-686-1570, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. weekdays, or visit the PUCO website at [www.puco.ohio.gov](http://www.puco.ohio.gov). The Ohio Consumers Counsel (OCC) represents residential utility customers in matters before the PUCO. The OCC can be contacted toll free at 1-877-742-5622 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. weekdays or visit [www.occ.ohio.org](http://www.occ.ohio.org).

**Billing:** For my convenience I will receive only one bill, which will be issued by the NGDC each month and will contain IGS Energy's gas price plus applicable taxes and all of the NGDC's transportation and other applicable charges, including any late fees assessed by the NGDC. I agree to continue to pay the NGDC for the entire gas bill under the NGDC's payment terms and conditions. If I pay under the budget bill payment plan, I understand that this service is available and will remain available. IGS Energy reserves the right to issue an invoice to me directly, such invoice would contain IGS Energy's gas price and may also contain applicable taxes and all of the NGDC's transportation and other applicable charges. If the NGDC discontinues or materially alters its billing service, then IGS Energy may invoice me directly and if I fail to pay within the terms specified on the invoice(s) a late fee of 1.5% per month on all past-due amounts will apply. If IGS Energy bills me directly for services provided, IGS Energy may terminate this Agreement with fourteen (14) days written notice should I fail to pay the bill or meet any agreed-upon payment arrangements. If I fail to pay my invoices timely which include IGS Energy charges, the NGDC may disconnect my service, according to tariff guidelines. I may request, at no charge, up to 24 months of my payment history for services rendered by IGS Energy. Other than for operation, maintenance, assignment and transfer of my account or, where IGS Energy is performing billing services, or for commercial collections, IGS Energy will not disclose my account number to any other third party without my affirmative written consent or electronic authorization or pursuant to a court or Commission order and that, other than for credit checking and credit reporting, if IGS Energy is performing billing services, IGS Energy will not disclose my social security number without my affirmative written consent or pursuant to court order. I authorize IGS Energy to obtain my billing payment and usage history from the NGDC.

**Assignment:** This contract is assignable by IGS Energy without my consent subject only to required regulatory approvals. IGS will use its best efforts to give the NGDC and me thirty (30) days written notice prior to any assignment.

**Moving/Termination:** I understand that this contract will automatically terminate, without penalty, if I relocate outside my community aggregation Program boundaries, or if the requested service location is not served by the NGDC. Also, I understand that I have the right to terminate this Agreement, without penalty, if I relocate inside the NGDC service territory and the NGDC does not have contract portability and if IGS Energy agrees to allow me to continue. In such instances, I would have to enroll with IGS Energy under a new agreement, as this Agreement is only valid for opt-out government aggregation. I understand that I am not entitled to the pricing or service from IGS Energy hereunder at my new location until such time as the NGDC accepts my enrollment with IGS Energy at my new location and/or transfers my contract to my new location and that the pricing hereunder will not be extended for additional months that I was not with IGS Energy, unless agreed to in writing by IGS Energy. Except as provided in this Agreement, if IGS Energy returns me to the NGDC's sales service, this Agreement will terminate without penalty to me.

**Eligibility / Limitation of Liability / Jurisdiction:** This Agreement is for residential and small commercial customers that use less than 500 MCF a year and are otherwise eligible for opt-out government aggregation programs. IGS Energy and my community shall use its best efforts to ensure that only eligible customer accounts within its governmental boundaries and customers who have not opted out are included in its aggregation. If ineligible accounts, accounts from outside of the governmental aggregator's governmental boundaries, or accounts for customers who opted out of the aggregation are switched to the governmental aggregation, as soon as IGS Energy is aware of such event the governmental aggregator (or IGS Energy) will promptly contact the natural gas company to have the customer switched back to the customer's former supplier, and will pay any switching fee imposed by the NGDC for such switch. Participation in the program is subject to the rules of the NGDC and the rules established in Ohio Administrative Code 4901:1-28. Customers are sometimes terminated or not enrolled in the program due to NGDC issues. In such instances, I can contact the NGDC to correct the problem and be reinstated or enrolled in the Program. Regardless of the reason for termination, in no case will the original term be extended for months that I was unable to participate nor will IGS Energy have any liability for any early termination or for any months that I was unable to participate in the Program. IGS Energy assumes no liability or responsibility for losses or consequential damages arising from items associated with the NGDC including, but not limited to: operations and maintenance of their system; any interruption of service; termination of service; or deterioration of service, nor does IGS Energy assume responsibility or liability for damages arising from any in-home or building damages and in addition shall not be responsible for any indirect, consequential, special or punitive damages whether arising under contract, tort (including negligence or strict liability) or any other legal theory. The parties agree that if the customer is unable to resolve its issues through the PUCO as detailed under "Contract and Dispute Resolution" above or if suit is filed, any legal action involving this Agreement shall be brought only in a court of the State of Ohio. The Parties shall not pursue any claims arising under this Agreement on a class or other representative basis and will not seek to coordinate or consolidate any legal actions arising under this Agreement with any other proceeding. The parties agree that this Agreement shall be interpreted under the laws of the State of Ohio, regardless of Ohio's choice of law provision.

**By returning this signed form, you will be excluded from the opportunity to join other residents in the St. Marys Natural Gas Governmental Aggregation Program**

#### NOTICE

Return the "Opt-Out" form only if you do not want to participate in the St. Marys Natural Gas Aggregation Program.

Return by **December 1, 2022** to:

Natural Gas Governmental Aggregation Program  
PO Box 9060  
Dublin, Ohio 43017-0960

# Competitive Retail Natural Gas Service Affidavit

County of Auglaize :

State of Ohio :

Gregory J. Foxhoven, Affiant, being duly sworn/affirmed, hereby states that:

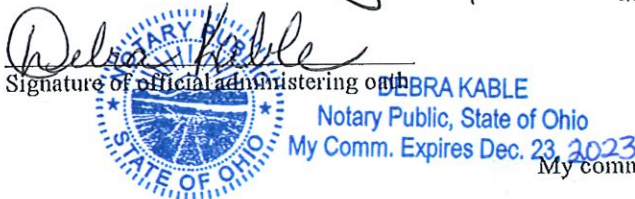
1. The information provided within the certification or certification renewal application and supporting information is complete, true, and accurate to the best knowledge of affiant, and that it will amend its application while it is pending if any substantial changes occur regarding the information provided.
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 Sections 4905.10 and 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 fully with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio and its staff on any utility matter including 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 comply with all state and/or federal rules and regulations concerning consumer protection, the environment, and advertising/promotions.
8. Applicant will inform the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio of any material change to the information supplied in the application within 30 days of such material change, including any change in contact person for regulatory purposes or contact person for Staff use in investigating consumer complaints.
9. The facts set forth above are true and accurate to the best of his/her knowledge, information, and belief and that he/she expects said applicant to be able to prove the same at any hearing hereof.
10. Affiant further sayeth naught.

[Signature], Director of Public Service and Safety  
Signature of Affiant & Title

Sworn and subscribed before me this 17th day of January, 2023  
Month Year

[Signature]  
Signature of official administering oath

Debra Kable, Notary  
Print Name and Title



My commission expires on December 23, 2023



**City of St. Mary's**

**Exhibit B-1**

**Authorizing Ordinance**

ORDINANCE NO. 2003-05

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE TO FACILITATE  
COMPETITIVE RETAIL NATURAL GAS SERVICE  
TO PROMOTE NATURAL GAS SAVINGS, LOWER COST NATURAL GAS SUPPLIES  
AND OTHER BENEFITS FOR CERTAIN NATURAL GAS CONSUMERS,  
AUTHORIZING ALL ACTIONS NECESSARY TO EFFECT  
AN OPT-OUT NATURAL GAS AGGREGATION PROGRAM  
PURSUANT TO SECTION 4929.26 OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE AND  
ARTICLE XVIII SECTION 4 OF THE OHIO CONSTITUTION;  
DIRECTING THE AUGLAIZE COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS  
TO SUBMIT A BALLOT QUESTION TO THE ELECTORS;  
AND AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH AMPO, INC. FOR SUCH PURPOSES

WHEREAS, Article XVIII Section 4 of the Ohio Constitution grants the City of St. Marys (the "Municipality") certain authority related to utility service; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 4929 of the Ohio Revised Code, to facilitate competitive retail natural gas service to promote natural gas savings, lower cost natural gas supplies, and other benefits, certain governmental entities may aggregate certain natural gas consumers within their jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 4929.26, Revised Code, the Municipality is authorized to establish an opt-out natural gas aggregation program ("Gas Aggregation") for the benefit of certain natural gas consumers within the Municipality so that the consumers may realize lower cost natural gas supplies and other benefits from the aggregation and collective purchasing of natural gas supplies; and

WHEREAS, Gas Aggregation provides an opportunity for natural gas consumers collectively to realize natural gas savings, lower cost natural gas supplies, and other benefits that the consumers may not otherwise be able to realize individually; and

WHEREAS, the Municipality desires to submit to the electors of the Municipality the question of whether the Municipality should create a Gas Aggregation program to facilitate competitive retail natural gas service to promote natural gas savings, lower cost natural gas supplies, and other benefits in accordance with Section 4929.26, Revised Code; and

WHEREAS, this Ordinance constitutes an emergency measure providing for the immediate preservation of the public peace, property, health, or safety, in that opportunities to coordinate aggregation activities with certain suppliers of natural gas may become limited; and

WHEREAS, the Municipality has adopted this Ordinance pursuant to the authority conferred by Article XVIII Section 4 of the Ohio Constitution and Section 4929.26, Revised Code; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF ST. MARYS, OHIO:

SECTION 1. This Council finds and determines that to facilitate competitive retail natural gas service to promote natural gas savings, lower cost natural gas supplies, and other benefits, it is in the best interest of the Municipality and certain natural gas consumers within the jurisdiction of the Municipality to establish an opt-out natural Gas Aggregation program in the Municipality pursuant to Section 4929.26, Revised Code. Provided that this Ordinance and the Gas Aggregation program is approved by the electors of the Municipality in accordance with this Ordinance, the Municipality is hereby authorized to take all actions necessary to affect a Gas Aggregation program pursuant to Section 4929.26, Revised Code. The Municipality may exercise this authority jointly with other entities to the full extent permitted by law, and for such purposes, the Director of Public Service and Safety of the City of St. Marys is hereby authorized

to execute and deliver an agreement with AMPO, Inc. to assist the Municipality as its consultant and agent to effect the Gas Aggregation program. Actions necessary to effect the Gas Aggregation program include determining and entering into service agreement(s) with natural gas suppliers to facilitate the sale and purchase of all natural gas commodity and services to serve the enrolled natural gas consumers. The Municipality shall be authorized by the electors to be the only entity authorized to act for and on behalf of the enrolled natural gas consumers to determine and select the natural gas supplier(s) to provide the commodity and all other services for the Gas Aggregation program and the enrolled consumers.

SECTION 2. The Gas Aggregation program shall not apply to persons meeting any of the following criteria, as more specifically described in Section 4929.26(A)(2), Revised Code: (i) the person is both a distribution service customer and a mercantile customer, (ii) the person has an existing commodity sales service contract with a retail natural gas supplier, (iii) the person has an existing commodity sales service as part of a retail natural gas aggregation pursuant to Rules and Orders of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio ("Commission"), or (iv) such other persons that are not eligible pursuant to Rules and Orders of the Commission or the plan of operations and governance (the "Plan") for the Gas Aggregation program.

SECTION 3. The Board of Elections of Auglaize County is hereby directed to submit the following question to the electors of the Municipality at the primary election on May 6, 2003:

To facilitate competitive retail natural gas service to promote natural gas savings, lower costs of natural gas supplies, and other benefits, shall the City of St. Marys have the authority to aggregate retail natural gas loads located in the City of St. Marys and enter into service agreements for the sale and purchase of natural gas commodity and other services, such aggregation to occur automatically, except where any person affirmatively elects not to be so enrolled by a stated procedure?

FOR, the City of St. Marys to facilitate competitive retail natural gas service to promote natural gas savings and other benefits by acting as an aggregator.

NOT FOR, the City of St. Marys to facilitate competitive retail natural gas service to promote natural gas savings and other benefits by acting as an aggregator.

The Clerk of this Council is instructed to file a certified copy of this Ordinance and the proposed form of the ballot question with the Auglaize County Board of Elections not later than February 20, 2003, which is seventy-five (75) days prior to May 6, 2003. The Gas Aggregation program shall not take effect unless approved by a majority of the electors voting upon the proposed ballot question at the election held in accordance with this Ordinance and Sections 4929.26, Revised Code. Upon approval, the Gas Aggregation shall take effect at the earliest permissible point in time and continue thereafter in accordance with Section 4929.26, Revised Code, and other requirements of Chapter 4929, Revised Code.

SECTION 4. Upon approval by a majority of the electors voting at the election provided for in this Ordinance, the Municipality shall develop and adopt a Plan of operations and governance for the Gas Aggregation program. Consumers enrolled in the Gas Aggregation program shall be supplied their natural gas requirements and other services in accordance with supply agreement(s) determined and arranged by the Municipality, as opportunities become available to provide benefits on behalf of the natural gas consumers enrolled in the Gas Aggregation program and the consumers located within the jurisdiction of the Municipality. The Municipality shall be authorized by the electors to be the only entity authorized to act for and on behalf of the natural gas consumers that have enrolled in the Gas Aggregation program to determine and select the natural gas supplier(s) to provide the commodity and all other services for the Gas Aggregation program and the enrolled consumers. Before adopting such Plan, at least two public hearings on the Plan shall be held. Before the first hearing, notice of the first hearing shall be published once a week for two consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the Municipality. The notice shall summarize the Plan and state the date, time, and location of each hearing.

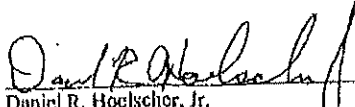
SECTION 5. The adopted Plan shall not aggregate any retail natural gas load within the Municipality, unless the person whose retail natural gas load is to be so aggregated is notified in advance that the person will be enrolled automatically in the Gas Aggregation program and shall remain so enrolled, unless the person affirmatively elects not to be so enrolled by a stated procedure. The disclosure shall state the rules, charges, and other terms and conditions of the enrollment. Once enrolled the consumer may only opt-out of the Gas Aggregation program every two years without paying a switching fee. Any such person that opts-out of the Gas Aggregation program shall default to the natural gas company providing distribution service for the person's retail natural gas load, until the person chooses an alternative supplier.

SECTION 6. That the Auglaize County Board of Elections shall cause an appropriate notice to be duly given of the election to be held on May 6, 2003, on the foregoing proposal and otherwise to provide for such election in the manner provided by the laws of the State of Ohio.

SECTION 7. This Council finds and determines that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Ordinance were taken in an open meeting of this Council and that all deliberations of this Council and any of its committees that resulted in those formal action were in compliance with the Law.

SECTION 8. That this is an emergency ordinance, the reason for the emergency being that the immediate passage of this legislation is necessary in order for said issue to be placed on the May ballot, and provided it receives the affirmative vote of 2/3 of all the members elected to Council and approval by the Mayor, it shall therefore take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage.

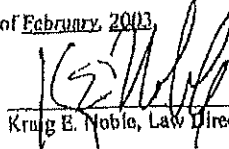
Passed this 10<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2003.

  
Daniel R. Hoelscher, Jr.  
President of Council

ATTEST:

  
Betty Wehrman, Clerk of Council

Approved by the Law Director this 10<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2003.

  
Krug E. Noble, Law Director

Approved by the Mayor this 10<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2003.

  
Greg Freeman, Mayor

**City of St. Mary's**

**Exhibit B-4**

**Experience and Plan**

The City of St. Marys has experience in negotiating, contracting and providing for common services for residents of the City. Some examples of experience as a service provider are:

- Electric Power purchase, generation and distribution
- Municipal Opt-in Gas Aggregation
- Water and Sewer Service
- Police and Fire Service
- Parks and Recreation

The Mayor, City Council and City Staff routinely negotiate for services and supplies that benefit the residents of St. Marys.

However, due to the complexity of municipal opt-out aggregation, the City has chosen to retain the services of a consultant to assist them in designing, implementing and maintaining their gas aggregation program.

#### Contractual Arrangements for Capability Standards

The City of St. Marys states that a valid contract exists with:

AMPO, Inc., A Subsidiary of AMP-Ohio  
2600 Airport Drive  
Columbus, Ohio 43219

for the purpose of providing consulting services on municipal opt-out gas aggregation.

Detailed summary of the services being provided:

- Provide and assist with developing model ordinances to create opt-in or opt-out natural gas aggregation programs.
- Coordinate and work with municipal local officials and staff to develop a procurement strategy for reliable and competitive natural gas supplies and related services for the natural gas aggregation program.
- Assist with the preparation of a Plan of Operation and Governance for the natural gas aggregation program.
- Coordinate and assist with the preparation and filing of the required aggregation certification documents with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio ("PUCO").
- Assist with performing the PUCO requirements for governmental aggregation programs.
- Provide consulting services and administer the process of negotiating with certified natural gas suppliers, developing and soliciting requests for quotations ("RFQ") or requests for proposals ("RFP").
- Evaluate and manage the ongoing negotiations and/or RFQ or RFP.

- Analyze the negotiations and/or RFQ or RFP's from certified retail natural gas suppliers and make recommendations to local officials and staff.
- Assist with developing and negotiating the contract with the certified retail natural gas supplier to serve the aggregation program.
- Assist the municipality in executing and administering agreements with the selected certified retail natural gas supplier.
- Coordinate the PUCO customer notifications and other requirements for enrolling residents in the municipal natural gas aggregation program.
- Work with and assist the municipality, the certified retail natural gas supplier, and the natural gas local distribution company to facilitate the enrollment of customers in the municipal natural gas aggregation program at the earliest date practicable.
- Work with the certified retail natural gas supplier to coordinate and communicate with the municipality regarding enrollments in the municipal natural gas aggregation program, cost savings to participants, and other related matters.
- Assist the municipality in developing effective consumer education materials to explain the aggregation program and make community presentations as needed.
- Assist with monitoring proceedings of applicable legislative and regulatory bodies and provide analysis and updates on changes that may impact the municipal natural gas aggregation program, its participants, or the municipality.
- Represent the municipality at meetings with the certified retail natural gas supplier and the local distribution company concerning the municipal natural gas aggregation program rates, terms and conditions of service, customer concerns, etc.
- Assist and work with the municipality to prepare and file annual reports required by the PUCO and Section 4905.10(A) and Section 4911.18(A), Ohio Revised Code.
- Coordinate with municipal legal counsels to facilitate legal reviews and/or opinions that may be needed in connection with the aggregation program. Please note that the performance of any legal work, including but not limited to the legal reviews and/or opinions, are beyond the scope of AMPO's services.
- As the initial term of the certified retail natural gas supplier contract agreement nears its end, repeat Phase I activities to secure ongoing competitive natural gas supplies and related services for the municipal natural gas aggregation program.

#### Documentation of Contracting Party's Experience in Energy Aggregation:

##### **AMP-Ohio**

Founded in 1971, Columbus based American Municipal Power-Ohio (AMP-Ohio) was organized as a nonprofit corporation for the purpose of owning and operating electric facilities or otherwise providing for the generation, transmission and/or distribution of electric power and energy to its member communities. Members include 80 of Ohio's 86 municipally owned electric systems, two West Virginia public power communities and three in Pennsylvania, ranging in size from 116 customers to more than 80,000

customers. Collectively, AMP-Ohio member communities serve approximately 364,000 customers.

AMP-Ohio coordinates, negotiates and develops power supply options and interchange agreements on behalf of its members. AMP-Ohio also owns and operates the Richard H. Gorsuch Generating Station, a 213-megawatt coal-fired facility located in Marietta, Ohio, that provides power to 48 participating communities, and has undertaken an ambitious program of siting distributed generation in member communities throughout Ohio. In addition, AMP-Ohio serves as an independent project manager for Ohio members participating in joint ventures to share ownership of power generation and transmission facilities, including the OMEGA JV5 project, a 42 MW run-of-the-river hydroelectric power station completed on the Ohio River in 1999.

AMP-Ohio also operates a sophisticated 24-hour energy control center that monitors electric loads and transmission availability, dispatches, buys and sells power and energy and controls AMP-Ohio and member-owned generation. A competent in-house engineering, operations, safety, power supply, key accounts, economic development, rate and environmental staff is available at AMP-Ohio's headquarters to assist member communities in addition to performing AMP-Ohio duties and providing support to the joint ventures.

AMP-Ohio's knowledgeable, experienced staff understands the unique challenges faced by local government staff and elected officials. AMP-Ohio is governed by a 16-member Board of Trustees, all of who are local government representatives, and a number of AMP-Ohio staff members—including its president—once worked for local governments.

#### **AMPO, Inc.**

Formed in 1998, AMPO, Inc. is a wholly owned, taxable subsidiary of AMP-Ohio whose purpose is to provide direction and service to local governments and other energy consumers in evolving energy markets. This includes the development and implementation of local electric and natural gas aggregation programs, review and negotiation of energy contracts, and the evaluation and implementation of energy supply alternatives for local business, industry and government. AMPO, Inc. has been an approved supplier in the Columbia Gas of Ohio CHOICE<sup>SM</sup> and Dominion East Ohio Energy Choice programs and currently works with over 40 Ohio communities to offer natural gas and/or electric aggregation programs to residential and small commercial customers.



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**Case No(s). 03-1526-GA-GAG**

**Summary: In the Matter of the Application of City of St Marys**