



## Public Utilities Commission

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

#### Instructions for Competitive Retail Natural Gas Service (CRNGS) Providers

- I. **Where to file:** Applications can be completed and submitted via the PUCO Community. Paper applications, an original plus two copies, can be mailed to: Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, Docketing Division, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus Ohio 43215-3793.
- II. **Case Number:** If Applicant is applying for any combination of broker and/or aggregator, the application must be filed with an "AGG" purpose code. If the application includes marketer, then the purpose code must be "CRS".
- III. **Renewal applications:** A certificate is valid for two years from the date of issuance. An application for renewal should be filed in the Applicant's existing case number 30-90 days prior to the expiration date printed on the certificate.
- IV. **Confidentiality:** An applicant may file financial statement, forecasted financial statements, financial arrangements, credit ratings, and credit reports under seal. Confidentiality for other items must be requested in a motion filed in the docket. Motions for protective orders must be filed in accordance with Ohio Administrative Code 4901:1-24, 4901:1-27, and 4901:1-24.
- V. **Commission approval process:** The Commission approval process begins when the Commission's Docketing Division receives and time/date stamps the application. An incomplete application may be suspended or rejected. An application that has been suspended an incomplete may cause delay in certification. The Commission may approve, suspend, or deny an application within 30 days. If no action is taken, the application is deemed automatically approved on the 31<sup>st</sup> day after the official filing date. Upon approval, the Commission will issue a numbered certificate that specifies the service(s) for which the applicant is certified and the dates for which the certificate is valid.
- VI. **Material change:** Providers are required to notify the Commission of any changes to the information provided in its most recent application within thirty days of the change.
- VII. **Governing law:** The certification and renewal of competitive providers is governed by Chapters 4901:1-21, 4901:1-24, 4901:1-27, 4901:1-28, and 4901:1-29 of the Ohio Administrative Code, and Sections 4928.08 and 4929.20 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- VIII. **Questions:** Questions regarding the application should be directed to [CRES@puco.ohio.gov](mailto:CRES@puco.ohio.gov) or [CRNGS@puco.ohio.gov](mailto:CRNGS@puco.ohio.gov).

This page is for informational purposes and should not be filed with the application.



## Public Utilities Commission

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

Case Number: \_\_\_\_\_ -GA- \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete all information. Identify all attachments with a label and title (example: Exhibit C-2 Financial Statements). For paper filing, you can mail the original and two complete copies to the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, Docketing Division, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793.

#### A. Application Information

##### A-1. Provider Type.

Select the competitive retail natural gas service (CRNGS) provider type(s) for which the applicant is seeking certification. Please note you can select more than one.

Retail Natural Gas Aggregator

☐

Retail Natural Gas Broker

☒

Retail Natural Gas Marketer

☐

##### A-2. Applicant's legal name and contact information.

Provide the name and contact information of the business entity.

Legal Name: Richards Energy Group, Inc.  
Street Address: 781 South Chiques Road  
City: Manheim State: PA Zip: 17545  
Telephone: 717-898-6330 Website: www.richardsenergy.com

##### A-3. Names and contact information under which the applicant will do business in Ohio.

Provide the names and contact information the business entity will use for business in Ohio. This does not have to be an Ohio address and may be the same contact information given in A-2.

Name: Richards Energy Group, Inc.  
Street Address: 781 South Chiques Road  
City: Manheim State: PA Zip: 17545  
Telephone: 717-898-6330 Email: prichards@richardsenergy.com

##### A-4. Names under which the applicant does business in North America.

Provide all business names the applicant uses in North America. You do not need to include the names provided in A-2 and A-3.

Name(s): Richards Energy Group, Inc.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**A-5. Contact person for regulatory matters.**

Name: Peter Richards Title: President  
Street Address: 781 S. Chiques Road  
City: Manheim State: PA Zip: 17545  
Telephone: 717.898.6330 Email: prichards@richardsenergy.com

**A-6. Contact person for PUCO Staff use in investigating consumer complaints.**

Name: Mike Frey Title: VP, Key Accounts  
Street Address: 781 S. Chiques Road  
City: Manheim State: PA Zip: 17545  
Telephone: 717.898.6330 Email: mfrey@richardsenergy.com

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

Street Address: 781 S. Chiques Road  
City: Manheim State: PA Zip: 17545  
Toll-free Telephone: 888-490-1766 Email: prichards@richardsenergy.com

**A-8. Applicant's federal employer identification number.**

FEIN: 02-0658096

**A-9. Applicant's form of ownership (select one).**

Sole Proprietorship <input type="checkbox"/>	Limited Liability Partnership (LLP) <input type="checkbox"/>	Corporation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Partnership <input type="checkbox"/>
Limited Liability Company (LLC) <input type="checkbox"/>	Other: _____		

**A-10. Identify current or proposed service areas.**

Identify each service area in which the applicant is currently providing service or intends to provide service and identify each customer class that the applicant is currently serving or intends to serve.

**Service area selection:**

Columbia Gas of Ohio <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dominion Energy Ohio <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Duke Energy Ohio <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Vectren Energy Delivery of Ohio <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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**Class of customer selection:**

Industrial

☒

Residential

☐

Small Commercial

☒

Large Commercial

☒

**A-11. Start Date.**

Indicate the approximate start date the applicant began/will begin offering services.

Date: 07/12/2021

**A-12. Principal officers, directors and partners.**

Please provide an attachment for all contacts that should be listed as an officer, director or partner.

**A-13. Company history.**

Provide an attachment with a concise description of the applicant's company history and principal business interests.

**A-14. Secretary of State.**

Provide evidence that the applicant is currently registered with the Ohio Secretary of State.

**A-15. Proof of Ohio office and employee.**

Provide "Proof of an Ohio Office and Employee" in accordance with Section 4929.22 of the Ohio Revised Code. List the designated Ohio employee's name, Ohio office address, telephone number and web site address.

Name: Paracorp Incorporated Title: Agent  
Street Address: 4568 Mayfield Road #204  
City: Cleveland State: OH Zip: 44121  
Telephone: 888-272-3725 Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**B. Managerial Capability**

Provide a response or attachment for each of the sections below.

**B-1. Jurisdiction of operations.**

List all jurisdictions in which the applicant or any affiliated interest of the applicant is certified, licensed, registered or otherwise authorized to provide retail natural gas service or retail/wholesale electric service as of the date of filing the application.

**B-2. Experience and plans.**

Describe 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.). Include 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 Sections 4928.10 and/or 4929.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

**B-3. Disclosure of liabilities and investigations.**

For the applicant, affiliate, predecessor of the applicant, or any principal officer of the applicant, describe all existing, pending or past rulings, judgments, findings, contingent liabilities, revocation of authority, regulatory investigations, judicial actions, or other formal or informal notices of violations, or any other matter related to competitive services in Ohio or equivalent services in another jurisdiction.

**B-4. Disclosure of consumer protection violations.**

Has the applicant, affiliate, predecessor of the applicant, or any principal officer of the applicant been convicted or held liable for fraud or for violation of any consumer protection or antitrust laws within the past five years? If yes, attach a document detailing the information.

Yes

☐

No

☒

**B-5. Disclosure of certification denial, curtailment, suspension, or revocation.**

Has the applicant, affiliate, or a predecessor of the applicant had any certification, license, or application to provide retail natural gas or retail/wholesale electric service denied, curtailed, suspended, revoked, or cancelled or been terminated or suspended from any of Ohio's Natural Gas or Electric Utility's Choice programs within the past two years? If yes, attach a document detailing the information.

Yes

☐

No

☒

## **C. Financial Capability**

Provide a response or attachment for each of the sections below.

**C-1. Financial reporting.**

Provide a current link to the most recent Form 10-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) or attach a copy of the form. If the applicant does not have a Form 10-K, submit the parent company's Form 10-K. If neither the applicant nor its parent is required to file Form 10-K, state that the applicant is not required to make such filings with the SEC and provide an explanation as to why it is not required.

**C-2. Financial statements**

Provide copies of the applicant's two most recent years of audited financial statements, including a balance sheet, income statement, and cash flow statement. If audited financial statements are not available, provide officer certified financial statements. If the applicant has not been in business long enough to satisfy this requirement, provide audited or officer certified financial statements covering the life of the business. If the applicant does not have a balance sheet, income statement, and cash flow

Within the previous 24 months, have any of the following filed for reorganization, protection from creditors or any other form of bankruptcy? If yes, attach a document detailing the information.

Applicant

Parent company of the applicant

Affiliate company that guarantees the financial obligations of the applicant

Any owner or officer of the applicant

Yes

☐

No

☒

**C-7. Merger information.**

Is the applicant currently involved in any dissolution, merger or acquisition activity, or otherwise participated in such activities within the previous 24 months? If yes, attach a document detailing the information.

Yes

☐

No

☒

**C-8. Corporate structure.**

Provide a graphical depiction of the applicant's corporate structure. Do not provide an internal organizational chart. The graphical depiction should include all parent holding companies, subsidiaries and affiliates as well as a list of all affiliate and subsidiary companies that supply retail or wholesale electricity or natural gas to customers in North America. If the applicant is a stand-alone entity, then no graphical depiction is required, and the applicant may respond by stating that it is a stand-alone entity with no affiliate or subsidiary companies.

**C-9. Financial arrangements.**

This section is only applicable if power marketer or retail electric generation provider has been selected in A-1.

Provide copies of the applicant's financial arrangements to satisfy collateral requirements to conduct retail electric/natural gas business activities (e.g., parental guarantees, letters of credit, contractual arrangements, etc., as described below).

Renewal applicants may provide a current statement from an Ohio local distribution utility (LDU) that shows that the applicant meets the LDU's collateral requirements. The statement or letter must be on the utility's letterhead and dated within a 30-day period of the date the applicant files its renewal application.

First-time applicants or applicants whose certificate has expired must meet the requirements of C-9 in one of the following ways:

1. The applicant itself states that it is investment grade rated by Moody's Investors Service, Standard & Poor's Financial Services, or Fitch Ratings and provides evidence of rating from the rating agencies. If you provided a credit rating in C-4, reference the credit rating in the statement.



2. The applicant's parent company is investment grade rated (by Moody's, Standard & Poor's, or Fitch) and guarantees the financial obligations of the applicant to the LDU(s). Provide a copy of the most recent credit opinion from Moody's, Standard & Poor's or Fitch.
3. The applicant's parent company is not investment grade rated by Moody's, Standard & Poor's or Fitch but has substantial financial wherewithal in the opinion of the Staff reviewer to guarantee the financial obligations of the applicant to the LDU(s). The parent company's financials and a copy of the parental guarantee must be included in the application if the applicant is relying on this option.
4. The applicant can provide evidence of posting a letter of credit with the LDU(s) listed as the beneficiary, in an amount sufficient to satisfy the collateral requirements of the LDU(s).

## D. Technical Capability

Provide an attachment for each of the sections below.

### D-1. Operations.

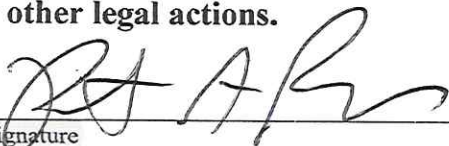
Retail natural gas brokers/aggregators: Include details of the applicant's business operations and plans for arranging and/or aggregating for the supply of natural gas to retail customers.

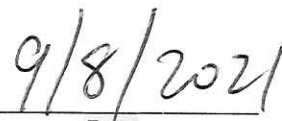
Gas Marketers: Describe the operational nature of the applicant's business, specifying whether operations will include the contracting of natural gas purchases for retail sales, the nomination and scheduling of retail natural gas for delivery, and/or the provision of retail ancillary services, as well as other services used to supply natural gas to the natural gas company city gate for retail customers.

### D-2. Operations expertise and key technical personnel.

Provide evidence of the applicant's experience and technical expertise in performing the operations described in this application. Include the names, titles, e-mail addresses, telephone numbers and background of key personnel involved in the operational aspects of the applicant's business.

**As authorized representative for the above company/organization, I certify that all the information contained in this application is true, accurate and complete. I also understand that failure to report completely and accurately may result in penalties or other legal actions.**

  
Signature

  
Date

  
Title

## Competitive Retail Natural Gas Service Affidavit

County of Lancaster :  
State of PA :

Peter F. Richards, 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]  
Signature of Affiant & Title

Sworn and subscribed before me this 8 day of September, 2021  
Month Year

[Signature]  
Signature of official administering oath

Peter F. Richards, President  
Print Name and Title

My commission expires on 01/12/2024



**This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities**

**Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on**

**9/13/2021 2:07:42 PM**

**in**

**Case No(s). 21-0940-GA-AGG**

Summary: Application Richards Energy Group, Inc. (OH) - State of Ohio - Natural Gas Broker License electronically filed by Mr. Greg Scheffler on behalf of Richards Energy Group, Inc.