

STATE OF ÅLABAMA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION P.O. BOX 304260 MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130

JOHN A. GARNER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

TWINKLE ANDRESS CAVANAUGH, PRESIDENT JEREMY H. ODEN, ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER CHRIS "CHIP" BEEKER, J.R., ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER

# IN RE: REVISIONS TO THE COMMISSION'S DOCKET 17545 GAS PIPELINE SAFETY RULES

### **ORDER INSTITUTING A RULEMAKING PROCEEDING**

#### **BY THE COMMISSION:**

Staff from the Gas Pipeline Safety Division ("GPS Staff") of the Alabama Public Service

Commission (the "Commission" or the "APSC") has recommended that the Commission adopt

revisions to Gas Pipeline Safety ("GPS") Rule 9 which governs the telephonic reporting of

accidents/incidents. The GPS Staff recommends that GPS Rule 9 be modified as reflected below

to better clarify when operators are required to report accidents/incidents to the Commission:

## **Proposed GPS Rule 9**

#### 900-7-9 (GPS Rule 9): Telephonic Reporting of Accidents/Incidents

- 1. All public utilities and persons, as defined by Section 37-4-80(1) or Section 37-4-90(1), *Code of Alabama* 1975, shall notify, by telephone, the Gas Pipeline Safety office of any natural gas or hazardous liquid-related accident/incident that involves any of the following: 1) a death, 2) an injury requiring hospitalization, 3) exceeds \$10,000 in total damage to the operator's facilities, 4) involves a media or social media contact or inquiry to the operator, or 5) involves an outage affecting more than 50 customers. This notification shall be made not less than one (1) hour after operator notification of the accident/incident.
- 2. For purposes of GPS Rule 9, the term "damage" shall include the cost of lost product, material costs, labor costs, equipment costs and site clean-up costs. The term "damage" shall not, however, include costs related to third-party vehicles, or equipment for purposes of this rule.

The Commission will consider written comments from interested parties prior to the adoption of the modifications to GPS Rule 9 recommended by the GPS Staff. In order to be considered, said comments from interested parties must be properly filed with the Commission on or before the close of business on October 15, 2018. The Commission will consider any reply comments properly filed on or before the close of business on November 5, 2018. Any comments submitted will be available for review on the Commission's website at <u>www.psc.alabama.gov</u>.

IT IS SO ORDERED BY THE COMMISSION.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED BY THE COMMISSION, That jurisdiction in this cause is hereby retained for the issuance of any further order or orders as may appear to be just and reasonable in the premise.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, That this Order shall be effective as of the date hereof.

DONE at Montgomery, Alabama, this

day of September, 2018.

ALABAMA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Twinkle Andress Cavanaugh, President eren ommass

Chris "Chip" Beeker, Jr., Commissioner

ATTEST: A True Copy

Walter L. Thomas, Jr., Secretary