# STATE OF MICHIGAN

## BEFORE THE MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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In the matter of the application of **GREAT LAKES ENERGY GAS SERVICES, L.L.C.,** for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to provide gas service in Dalton Township, Muskegon County.

Case No. U-13421

At the December 6, 2002 meeting of the Michigan Public Service Commission in Lansing, Michigan.

> PRESENT: Hon. David A. Svanda, Commissioner Hon. Robert B. Nelson, Commissioner

## **ORDER APPROVING SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT**

On May 22, 2002, Great Lakes Energy Gas Services, L.L.C., (GLE Gas Services) filed an application, pursuant to the provisions of 1929 PA 69, as amended, MCL 460.501 et seq., requesting a certificate of public convenience and necessity to extend its facilities and to provide gas service to customers in Dalton Township, Muskegon County.

Pursuant to due notice, a prehearing conference was held on July 2, 2002 before Administrative Law Judge George Schankler. GLE Gas Services and the Commission Staff participated in the proceedings.

Subsequently, the parties submitted a settlement agreement resolving all issues in this case.

According to the terms of the settlement agreement, attached as Exhibit A, the parties agree that (1) GLE Gas Services has obtained the requisite franchise to provide gas service in Dalton Township, (2) providing GLE Gas Services with a certificate of public convenience and necessity

for that township will serve the public interest, and (3) the requested certificate of public convenience and necessity should be granted.

The Commission FINDS that:

a. Jurisdiction is pursuant to 1929 PA 69, as amended, MCL 460.501 et seq.; 1909 PA 300, as amended, MCL 462.2 et seq.; 1919 PA 419, as amended, MCL 460.51 et seq.; 1939 PA 3, as amended, MCL 460.1 et seq.; 1969 PA 306, as amended, MCL 24.201 et seq.; and the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, as amended, 1992 AACS, R 460.17101 et seq.

b. The settlement agreement is reasonable and in the public interest, and should be approved.

### THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that:

A. The settlement agreement, attached as Exhibit A, is approved.

B. Great Lakes Energy Gas Services, L.L.C., is granted a certificate of public convenience and necessity to provide gas service to customers in all portions of Dalton Township, Muskegon County, for which it has a franchise, provided that: (1) construction and maintenance of the facilities identified in the settlement agreement complies with the Michigan Gas Safety Standards and applicable Commission rules, and no newly-constructed lines cross another utility's gas mains or service lines or parallel another utility's mains or service lines within a street or right-of-way; (2) any extension of service pursuant to the certificate of public convenience and necessity granted by this order must be consistent with the company's then-existing customer attachment program or main extension policy; and (3) prior to constructing any extension of a main within a township section occupied by another utility, Great Lakes Energy Gas Services, L.L.C., must give 30 days' written notice to the Commission Staff and the other utility, identifying the location of the proposed extension and providing a copy of its customer attachment program or main extension policy, if applicable.

The Commission reserves jurisdiction and may issue further orders as necessary.

Any party desiring to appeal this order must do so in the appropriate court within 30 days after issuance and notice of this order, pursuant to MCL 462.26.

MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

( S E A L)

/s/ David A. Svanda Commissioner

/s/ Robert B. Nelson Commissioner

By its action of December 6, 2002.

/s/ Dorothy Wideman Its Executive Secretary proposed extension and providing a copy of its customer attachment program or main extension policy, if applicable.

The Commission reserves jurisdiction and may issue further orders as necessary.

Any party desiring to appeal this order must do so in the appropriate court within 30 days after issuance and notice of this order, pursuant to MCL 462.26.

MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Commissioner

Commissioner

By its action of December 6, 2002.

Its Executive Secretary

#### Exhibit A

#### STATE OF MICHIGAN

## BEFORE THE MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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In the matter of the application of GREAT LAKES ENERGY GAS SERVICES L.L.C. for a certificate of public convenience and necessity relative to Dalton Township, Muskegon County.

Case No. U-13421

## SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

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On May 22, 2002, Great Lakes Energy Gas Services, L.L.C. ("GLE Gas Services') filed an application for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to extend its facilities and to provide gas service to customers in Dalton Township, Muskegon County, Michigan. On June 6, 2002, the Commission issued its Notice of Hearing. In accordance with the Commission's Notice of Hearing, GLE Gas Services provided the requisite notice to the Dalton Township Clerk, the Muskegon County Clerk, the Lakewood Club Clerk, and The Detroit Edison Company.

At the July 2, 2002 prehearing conference, GLE Gas Services presented proof of service of the Notice of Hearing and appearances were entered on behalf of GLE Gas Services and Commission Staff ("Staff"). Also, a prehearing conference was established by presiding Administrative Law Judge George Schankler ("ALJ"). Based on discussions in this matter, the parties have agreed to enter into this Settlement Agreement.

This Settlement Agreement is submitted pursuant to Section 78 of the Administrative Procedures Act of 1969, as amended (1969 PA 306,  $\S78$ ; MCL 24.278) and Rule 333 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, R 460.17333. By this Settlement Agreement, GLE Gas Services and Staff hereby agree and stipulate as follows:

A. GLE Gas Services has obtained the requisite franchise to provide gas service in Dalton Township, Muskegon County, Michigan.

B. GLE Gas Services' proposed initial facilities are depicted on the map attached hereto as Exhibit A. The requested certificate of public convenience and necessity to provide gas service to customers in Dalton Township, Muskegon County, Michigan is in the public interest and should be granted.

C. GLE Gas Service can serve new customers in the area of Dalton Township, Muskegon County, Michigan where it has a franchise and in a manner that does not create an undue safety concern. All facilities will be constructed, maintained and operated in a manner which satisfies the requirements of the Michigan Gas Safety Code and applicable Commission rules. Additionally, newly constructed gas mains or services lines will not cross another utility's mains or service lines or parallel another utility's mains or service lines within a street or rightof-way. D. GLE Gas Services agrees that any extension of service pursuant to the requested certificate of public convenience and necessity will be consistent with the utility's then existing customer attachment program or main extension policy.

E. Prior to commencement of construction of any extension of main within a township section occupied by another utility, GLE Gas Services will provide 30 days' prior written notice of the same to the Michigan Public Service Commission Competitive Service Section Staff and the other utility, which notice shall identify the location of the proposed extension and include a copy of the utility's CAP worksheet or main extension policy, if applicable.

A rate book will be submitted to Staff.

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G. A financial statement concerning only thoses areas in which GLE Gas Services has obtained certificates of public convenience and necessity to extend its facilities and to provide gas service will be submitted to Staff.

H. This Settlement Agreement is without precedential effect and is intended only for final disposition of the issues in this proceeding. The parties hereto join in respectfully requesting the Commission to grant prompt approval of same. It is the opinion of the signatories hereto that this Settlement Agreement will be in the public interest, aid the expeditious conclusion of this case and minimize the time and expense which would otherwise have to be devoted to this matter by the Commission and the parties.

I. Each signatory hereto agrees not to appeal, challenge or contest the certificate approved by the Commission in this case if it is the result of a Commission order accepting and approving this Settlement Agreement without modification, If the Commission does not accept this Settlement Agreement without modification, this Settlement Agreement shall be withdrawn and shall not constitute any part of the record in this proceeding or be used for any other purpose whatsoever.

J. Section 81 of the Administrative Procedures Act of 1969 is waived by the signatories hereto, if this Settlement Agreement and Stipulation is approved by the Commission without modification.

K. Staff certifies that this Settlement Agreement is reasonable and in the public interest.

Dated: October <u>25</u>, 2002

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COMMISSION STAFF By William W. Derengoski (P34242) Assistant Attorney General 6545 Mercantile Way, Ste. 15 Lansing, MI 48911 (517) 241-6680

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Dated:October 24, 2002

GREAT LAKES ENERGY GAS SERVICES. LLC By Albert Ernst (P24059) Christine Mason Soneral (P58820) DYKEMA GOSSETT PLLC 124 W. Allegan, Suite 800 Lansing, MI 48933 (517) 374-9155/(517) 374-9184

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