PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

NOTICE OF SECOND EMERGENCY RULEMAKING

RM23-2020-2-G, NATURAL GAS; RM46-2020-01-E, LICENSURE OF ELECTRICITY SUPPLIERS; and RM47-2020-01-G, LICENSURE OF NATURAL GAS SUPPLIERS

1. The Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia (Commission), pursuant to its authority under D.C. Official Code § 2-505 (2016 Repl.), including its emergency rulemaking authority under § 2-505(c) (2016 Repl.), and § 34-802 (2012 Repl.), hereby gives notice of the adoption of the following amendments, on an emergency basis, to Chapters 23 (Natural Gas), 46 (Licensure of Electricity Suppliers), and 47 (Licensure of Natural Gas Suppliers) of Title 15 (Public Utilities and Cable Television) of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations (DCMR), whereby the Commission adds a waiver of rules provision in each of the respective chapters and is reflected in new Sections 2398, 4698, and 4798 (Waiver). The Commission takes this action in response to Mayor's Order No. 2020-079, dated July 22, 2020 (published at 67 DCR 9101 (July 24, 2020)), extending the public emergency and public health emergency through October 9, 2020.

2. This second emergency rulemaking provides the Commission with the immediate and temporary authority to waive any or all of the specific requirements of Chapters 23, 46, and 47 that may relate to and may be necessary to protect the health, safety, and well-being of the residents of the District of Columbia as we respond to the COVID-19 global pandemic. The authority to waive certain rules will help facilitate and expedite any necessary Commission actions in response to any upcoming and unforeseen contingencies as a result of COVID-19. A Notice of Proposed Rulemaking granting the Commission with the permanent authority to waive any or all of the specific requirements of Chapters 23, 46, and 47 was published on July 31, 2020, at 67 DCR 9214.

3. A Notice of Emergency Rulemaking, published in the *D.C. Register* on April 24, 2020, at 67 DCR 4647, was adopted on April 15, 2020, and became effective on that date, expiring August 13, 2020. These second emergency rules are identical to the emergency rules published on April 24, 2020, at 67 DCR 4647. This second emergency rulemaking was adopted on August 12, 2020, and becomes effective immediately. This second emergency rulemaking will remain in effect for up to one hundred twenty (120) days from the date of adoption, expiring December 10, 2020, unless superseded beforehand.

Chapter 23, NATURAL GAS, of Title 15 DCMR, PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CABLE TELEVISION, is amended as follows:

Section 2398, PENALTIES, is amended as follows:

2398 WAIVER

2398.1 The Commission may, upon request with good cause shown, or upon its own initiative, waive any provision of Chapter 23 of this title.

Chapter 46, LICENSURE OF ELECTRICITY SUPPLIERS, of Title 15 DCMR, PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CABLE TELEVISION, is amended as follows:

Section 4698, WAIVER, is added as follows:

4698.1 The Commission may, upon request with good cause shown, or upon its own initiative, waive any provision of Chapter 46 of this title.

Chapter 47, LICENSURE OF NATURAL GAS SUPPLIERS, of Title 15 DCMR, PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CABLE TELEVISION, is amended as follows:

Section 4798, WAIVER, is added as follows:

4798.1 The Commission may, upon request with good cause shown, or upon its own initiative, waive any provision of Chapter 47 of this title.