# Propane Education & Research Council December 10-11, 2013 Amelia Island, Fla. MINUTES

# **Proceedings of December 10**

Chairwoman Paula Wilson called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.

Ms. Wilson, AmeriGas (Valley Forge, Pa.), welcomed the Council members in attendance:

Troy Andrews, Aux Sable Midstream (Tulsa, Okla.)

Michael E. Barnes, BP Energy Co. (Houston) — Vice Chairman, Producers

Robert Barry, Bergquist (Toledo, Ohio) — *Treasurer* 

Sharon Beemer, DCP Midstream (Houston)

Gene Bissell (Gladwyne, Pa.)

Steven Breckon, Lone Star NGL (Houston)

Robert Chalmers, JP Energy Partners (Irving, Texas)

Drew Combs, CHS Inc. (Inver Grove Heights, Minn.)

Gregg Dighero, EnCana (Denver)

Roxanne Fowles, MarkWest Energy Partners LP (Friendswood, Texas)

Sam Hawley, Enterprise Products Operating LLC (Houston)

Gerry Misel, Georgia Gas Distributors (Sandy Springs, Ga.)

Doug Rinke (Columbia, Mo.)

Michael Sheehan, Sheehan's Gas Co. (Bird Island, Minn.)

John Simcox, Thompson Gas & Electric Service (Hagerstown, Md.)

Tom Van Buren, Ferrellgas (Overland Park, Kan.) — Secretary

Richard Williams, Suburban Propane Partners LP (Whippany, N.J.)

David Wiseman, Williams Energy Resources LLC (Tulsa, Okla.)

#### Chairwoman's Report

**Approval of Minutes.** Ms. Wilson directed the councilors' attention to the minutes of the October 2013 Council meeting. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Council approved the minutes.

**Council Appointment.** Ms. Wilson announced the appointment of Mr. Wiseman to the Council and welcomed him to his first meeting.

**Executive Committee.** Ms. Wilson announced that Eric Benson, J.S. West & Co. (Modesto, Calif.), vice chairman representing marketers, had resigned from the Council. Ms. Wilson nominated Mr. Van Buren to be vice chairman, marketers, and Mr. Simcox to become secretary. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Council adopted the nominations.

Advisory Committee Appointments. Ms. Wilson announced that Doug MacMaster, Thompson Gas (Middletown, Md.), had resigned as vice chairman of the Market Outreach and Training Working Group. Ms. Wilson nominated Kirk McCullick, GrowMark, (Bloomington, Ill.), to the position. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Council adopted the nomination. Ms. Wilson reported she had appointed Monte

McLeod, Palmetto Gas (Sumter, S.C.), and David Kennedy, Blossman Gas (Swannanoa, N.C.), to the Research and Technology Development Working Group since the last Council meeting.

**Audit Committee.** Ms. Wilson called on Committee Chairman Mr. Simcox who gave the Annual State of the Audit Committee. Mr. Simcox reported that the committee approved the 2013 Internal Control Report, and that its annual report to the Council will be issued in April, 2014.

# **Report of the Vice Chairman, Marketers**

Ms. Wilson called on Phil Squair, senior vice president of the National Propane Gas Association (Washington, D.C.), who offered remarks on the ongoing partnership of the National Propane Gas Association with the Propane Education & Research Council and the Gas Processors Association.

Mr. Squair reported on NPGA's work with the Commerce Department to update the department's propane price analysis as required by the Propane Education and Research Act of 1996.

# Report of the Vice Chairman, Producers

Mr. Barnes called on Johnny Dreyer, senior vice president and corporate secretary of the Gas Processors Association (Tulsa, Okla.), who introduced Karl Gerdes, chairman of the GPA Research Committee. Dr. Gerdes provided an update on propane research projects that are funded through the PERC-GPA partnership agreement.

# **Treasurer's Report**

Mr. Barry reviewed the 2013 budget year surplus compared with the latest forecast and presented the investment management report.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Council adopted the treasurer's report and approved a proposal to close out seven dockets, with the funds returning to the general treasury (as follows).

Docket: 16598 (Industry Programs) \$2,000,000

**Project:** 2010 Partnership with States

**Action:** De-obligates the remaining balance of \$4,757 and returns these funds to

the general treasury

Docket: 17135 (Engine Fuel) \$400,000

**Project:** Construction Industry Conversion to Propane Driven Engines

**Action:** De-obligates the remaining balance of \$22,999 and returns these funds to

the general treasury

Docket: 18173 (Engine Fuel) \$650,000

**Project:** Market Outreach and Communications Program for the Second Half of

2012

**Action:** De-obligates the remaining balance of \$173 and returns these funds to

the general treasury

Docket: 18173 (Safety and Training) \$358,000

**Project:** Market Outreach and Communications Program for the Second Half of

2012

**Action:** De-obligates the remaining balance of \$210,342 and returns these funds

to the general treasury

Docket: 18251 (Safety and Training) \$22,900

**Project:** Propane Autogas Service and Maintenance Garage Information Booklet **Action:** De-obligates the remaining balance of \$2,163 and returns these funds to

the general treasury

Docket: 18173 (Agriculture) \$351,000

**Project:** Market Outreach and Communications Program for the Second Half of

2012

**Action:** De-obligates the remaining balance of \$52,517 and returns these funds to

the general treasury

Docket: 17440 (Agriculture) \$149,000

**Project:** PSI Prime/Mobile Industrial Irrigation Engines

**Action:** De-obligates the remaining balance of \$19,000 and returns these funds to

the general treasury

#### **Consent Calendar**

Ms. Wilson asked the councilors to turn their attention to the consent calendar in the briefing materials.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Council approved the funding requests and state rebate requests that appear on the consent calendar (as follows).

**Docket:** 19174 Principal Contractor: PERC

Title: 2014 Industry Outreach

Amount Requested: \$290,000 Action: Approved

Docket: 18368

Principal Contractor: Power Solutions International

Title: PSI Integration and Installation of 6.0L Bi-Phase System

on AMP Workhorse Chassis

Amount: \$44,000 Action: Approved

Docket: 19165

Principal Contractor: Nexight Group

Title: Update "Propane Reduces Greenhouse Gas Emissions: A

Comparative Analysis"

Amount Requested: \$131,000 Action: Approved

Docket: 19177
Principal Contractor: Logica3

Title: Gas Check Update

Amount Requested: \$179,750 Action: Approved

Docket: 19213

Principal Contractor: Dashe & Thomson

Title: Plant Operations E-Learning

Amount Requested: \$259,830 Action: Approved

Docket: 19214

Principal Contractor: Dashe & Thomson

Title: Plant Emergency Response Guide

Amount Requested: \$85,830 Action: Approved

Docket: 19245

Principal Contractor: ICF International

**Title:** 2014 Propane Market Research Initiative

Amount Requested: \$399,580 Action: Approved

Docket: 19248

**Principal Contractor:** American Petroleum Institute and ICF International

Title: 2013 API Survey & Report

Amount Requested: \$177,782 Action: Approved

**Docket:** 19247 Principal Contractor: TBD

Title: 2014 Advisory Committee and Program Support

Amount Requested: \$459,000 Action: Approved

# **President's Report**

PERC President and CEO Roy Willis discussed the Council's collaborative work with the GPA and the NPGA, and introduced **Docket 19246.** Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the funding request was approved (as follows).

Docket: 19246

**Principal Contractors:** Gas Processors Association and National Propane Gas

Association

**Title:** 2014 Partnership Agreement

Amount Requested: \$1,389,500 Action: Approved

Mr. Willis reported on the 2013 Fourth Quarter Project Portfolio, and provided a review of PERC's approach to the commercialization of propane technology.

Mr. Willis reported on presidential approvals he had made since the Council's last meeting (as follows).

Docket: 19278

Principal Contractor: Propane Technologies LLC

Title: Cabinet Heater Technical Support

Approved Amount: \$48,800

Docket: 19227

**Principal Contractor:** Strategic Communications LLC **Title:** Crisis Communications 2013

Approved Amount: \$35,000

Docket: 17181 (No-cost change order)

Principal Contractor: Nexight Group

Title: Propane Heat & Power Incentive Program

Approved Amount: \$0

### **Chief Business Development Officer's Report**

PERC Chief Business Development Officer Tucker Perkins provided an update on several active PERC projects, including research into gas heat pump technology; production and testing of the Freightliner Custom Chassis S2G bobtail; and a fleet vehicle demonstration program in Georgia.

#### **International NGL Trends**

Ms. Wilson introduced Craig Whitley, NGL analytics team lead at BP, who presented on recent trends in the international trade of natural gas liquids and their implications for the U.S. propane industry.

# **Industry Programs**

PERC Director of Industry Programs Pat Hyland provided an update on the Marketer Technology and Sales Training program for 2013, and introduced **Docket 19199.** Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the funding request was approved (as follows).

Docket: 19199

**Principal Contractor:** Sales Transformation Now

Title: 2014 Marketer Technology and Sales Training

Amount Requested: \$575,000 Action: Approved

Mr. Hyland provided an update on the Partnership with States program, and introduced **Docket 19185.** Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the funding request was approved (as follows).

**Docket:** 19185 Principal Contractor: PERC

Title: 2014 Partnership with States

Amount Requested: \$1,800,000 Action: Approved

The Council recessed at 4:32 p.m. EST.

**Proceedings of December 11** 

Ms. Wilson called the meeting back to order at 8:37 a.m. EST.

#### **Markets and Operations Reports**

PERC Vice President of Safety and Training Stuart Flatow introduced a video designed to discourage do-it-yourselfers from working on home gas systems. Randy Warner, chairman of the Safety and Training Working Group, reviewed safety training programs for the industry. Mr. Flatow discussed propane autogas safety and training efforts.

PERC Director of Autogas Business Development Michael Taylor reported on the Council's work to drive demand for propane autogas.

Mr. Perkins reviewed the market demand for an off-highway, mobile, liquid propane injection based engine, and introduced **Docket 19054**. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the funding request was approved (as follows).

Docket: 19054

Principal Contractor: Power Solutions International

Title: PSI 8.8L Off-Highway Engine Development

Amount Requested: \$1,038,800 Action: Approved

Mr. Perkins reviewed plans for researching the efficiency and emissions of propanefueled, air-cooled engines, and introduced **Docket 19180**. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the funding request was approved (as follows).

Docket: 19180

Principal Contractor: Rochester Institute of Technology

Title: Optimizing Operating Parameters for Propane-fueled Air

**Cooled Engines** 

Amount Requested: \$135,000 Action: Approved

PERC Director of Residential and Commercial Programs Bridget Kidd reviewed plans for 2014 in the sector, and introduced **Docket 19189**. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the funding request was approved (as follows).

Docket: 19189

Principal Contractor: Swanson Russell

Title: 2014 Residential and Commercial Outreach

Amount Requested: \$3,000,000 Action: Approved

PERC Senior Programs Manager Ingrid Bechard reviewed outreach and communications plans in the off-road and on-road propane autogas markets. Ms. Bechard introduced **Docket 19190**. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the funding request was approved (as follows).

Docket: 19190

Principal Contractor: Swanson Russell

Title: 2014 Off-Road Market Outreach

Amount Requested: \$995,000

Action: Approved

Ms. Bechard introduced **Docket 19191**. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the funding request was approved (as follows).

Docket: 19191

Principal Contractor: Swanson Russell

Title: 2014 Autogas Market Outreach

Amount Requested: \$750,000 Action: Approved

Mr. Perkins reviewed market outreach, and market incentive programs in the agricultural market. Mr. Perkins introduced **Docket 19192**. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the funding request was approved (as follows).

Docket: 19192

Principal Contractor: Swanson Russell

**Title:** 2014 Agriculture Market Outreach

Amount: \$725,000 Action: Approved

Mr. Perkins introduced **Docket 19200**. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the funding request was approved (as follows).

Docket: 19200

Principal Contractor: Nexight Group

**Title:** 2014 Propane Farm Incentive

Amount: \$895,600 Action: Approved

PERC Director of Communications Gregg Walker reviewed communications efforts, and introduced **Docket 19188.** Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the funding request was approved (as follows).

Docket: 19188

Principal Contractor: Swanson Russell

**Title:** 2014 Corporate Communications

Amount Requested: \$2,300,000 Action: Approved

**Industry and Public Comments** 

There were no industry and public comments.

**Old Business** 

There was no old business.

**New Business** 

Ms. Wilson invited industry and public comments. Mr. Sheehan noted that the propane supply in the Midwest has been hurt by the reversal of the Cochin Pipeline. Mr. Willis said PERC was interviewing firms to conduct research on ramifications of this event.

Ms. Wilson announced the Council will next meet February 13, 2014, by conference call.

By unanimous consent, the Council adjourned at 11:48 a.m. EST.

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