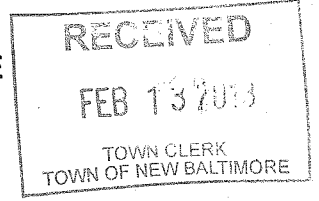


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STATE OF NEW YORK DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE
THREE EMPIRE STATE PLAZA, ALBANY, NY 12223-1350
www.dps.ny.gov



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Acting Secretary

February 4, 2013

Dear Community Leader:

As shown below, the New York State Public Service Commission will hold multiple public statement hearings, to hear the views of the public on **Case 12-M-0192**, the Joint Petition of **Fortis Inc. et al.** and **CH Energy Group, Inc. et al.** for Approval of the Acquisition of CH Energy Group, Inc. by Fortis Inc. and Related Transactions.

A summary of the plan is provided in the attached fact sheet and the date, times and location for the public statement hearings are as follows:

Kingston

Poughkeepsie

Thursday, February 21, 2013

Thursday, February 21, 2013

3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Council Chambers
Kingston City Hall
420 Broadway
2nd Floor.

Common Council Chambers
62 Civic Center Plaza
3rd Floor

The enclosed fact sheet also provides detailed information on how to participate in the public statement hearing and available options to submit comments on the case. I would appreciate your assistance in making people in your area aware of the hearings.

Sincerely,

Douglas Elfner
Director
Office of Consumer Policy

Enclosure



Summary of Rate Case 12-M-0192

Joint Petition of **Fortis Inc. et al.** and **CH Energy Group, Inc. et al.** for Approval of the Acquisition of CH Energy Group, Inc. by Fortis Inc. and Related Transactions.

PSC Seeking Public Comment on Joint Proposal

The New York State Public Service Commission seeks public comments on the Joint Proposal regarding the acquisition of CH Energy Group Inc. by Fortis Inc. Opportunities to comment include public statement hearings, which will be held before an Administrative Law Judge.

It is not necessary to be present at the start of the hearing, to make an appointment in advance, or to present written material in order to speak at the hearing. Persons will be called to speak after completing a request card. Comments received via alternative measures, together with all statements transcribed at the public statement hearings, will become part of the record, will be posted for public viewing on the Commission's website at www.dps.ny.gov, and will be reported to the Commission for its consideration. The hearings will remain open and will continue until everyone wishing to speak has been heard or other reasonable arrangements have been made.

Disabled persons requiring special accommodations may place a collect call to the Department of Public Service's Human Resources Management Office at 518-474-2520. TDD users may request a sign language interpreter by placing a call through the New York Relay Service at 711. Individuals with difficulty understanding or reading English are encouraged to call the Commission at 1-800-342-3377 for free language assistance services regarding this fact sheet.

Public Statement Hearings Thursday, February 21, 2013

Kingston: 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Council Chambers
Kingston City Hall
420 Broadway
2nd Floor

Poughkeepsie: 8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Common Council Chambers
62 Civic Center Plaza
3rd Floor

Background

On April 20, 2012, FortisUS Inc. (Fortis) formally asked the New York State Public Service Commission (Commission) to approve the acquisition of CH Energy Group, Inc (Central Hudson). The petition sought the Commission's approval of the acquisition of all the outstanding stock of Central Hudson Electric and Gas and hence, indirectly, ownership of Central Hudson.

Summary of Joint Proposal

A Joint Proposal was filed in this case on January 28, 2013. The proposal, which may be accepted, rejected or modified by the Commission, in whole or in part, was signed by representatives of the Department of Public Service Staff; Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corporation (Central Hudson) and its parent company; Fortis, Inc. (Fortis) and its subsidiaries; the New York State Department of State Utility Intervention Unit; Multiple Intervenors; and the Counties of Dutchess, Orange and Ulster.