



**THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES**

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November 30, 2018

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d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts
4 Technology Drive, Suite 250
Westborough, MA 01581

President Mark Smith
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36 5th Street
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President Karen Zink
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President Marcy Reed
Boston Gas Company & Colonial Gas Company
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Waltham, MA 02451

President James Wojcik
Blackstone Gas Company
61 Main Street
Blackstone, MA 01504

President Thomas Meissner
Unitil
6 Liberty Lane West
Hampton, NH 03842

President William Akley
NSTAR Gas Company
d/b/a Eversource Energy
247 Station Drive
Westwood, MA 02090

RE: Chairman's Fifth Set of Orders under G.L. c. 25, § 4B

Dear All,

This follows up on my letter of September 26, 2018, in which I issued my Third Set of Orders pursuant to section 4B of chapter 25 of the General Laws and the authority granted to me by Governor Baker thereunder. My letter ordered investor-owned gas distribution companies (the "Gas Companies") regulated by the Department of Public Utilities (the "Department") to pay for and cooperate with an independent statewide examination of the safety of the Commonwealth's gas distribution system to be conducted by a third-party evaluator.

To assure public safety and the continuing availability of gas, the Department has signed a contract with Dynamic Risk, effective November 14, 2018, to conduct this independent statewide examination. The examination will assess (1) the physical integrity and safety of the Commonwealth's gas distribution system and (2) the operation and maintenance policies and practices of the Gas Companies and municipal gas companies, with respect to the Commonwealth's gas distribution system. Dynamic Risk will issue a report that will include, but not be limited to, potential opportunities for improvement in each of these areas.

Under the powers granted to me by Governor Baker and consistent with my September 26 letter, I hereby issue the following orders:

- The Gas Companies shall pay for the independent examination to be conducted by Dynamic Risk based on a pro rata share to be determined;
- The Gas Companies shall promptly and fully respond to any requests for information from Dynamic Risk.

If any of the Gas Companies fail to carry out any of these orders, it will be assessed penalties up to \$1,000,000 per violation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Angela M. O'Connor". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Angela" being the most prominent part.

Angela M. O'Connor
Chairman

cc:

Brian Roy
Acting Gas Superintendent
Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept.

Richard Labossiere
Manager of Engineering & Planning
Middleborough Gas & Electric Dept.

Peter Dion
General Manager
Wakefield Municipal Gas & Light Dept.

Anthony Contrino
General Manager
Westfield Gas & Electric Light Dept.