

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. G-9, SUB 698
DOCKET NO. G-9, SUB 699
DOCKET NO. G-9, SUB 701
DOCKET NO. G-9, SUB 726
DOCKET NO. G-9, SUB 728
DOCKET NO. G-9, SUB 735
DOCKET NO. G-9, SUB 739
DOCKET NO. G-9, SUB 764

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of		
Application of Piedmont Natural Gas)	ORDER REQUIRING INFORMATION
Company, Inc. for Approval of Appendix F)	ABOUT STATUS OF RENEWABLE
to its North Carolina Service Regulations)	NATURAL GAS PROJECTS

BY THE CHAIR: On June 19, 2018, in Docket No. G-9, Sub 698, the Commission issued an Order Approving Appendix F and Establishing Pilot Program (Appendix F Order). In summary, the Appendix F Order approved a three-year pilot program to implement Appendix F to the Service Regulations of Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc. (Piedmont). Appendix F sets guidelines for Piedmont's receipt of Alternative Gas, also referred to as renewable natural gas (RNG), for delivery and redelivery on Piedmont's distribution system. With regard to participants in the pilot program, the Appendix F Order provides that "Piedmont and/or other Alternative Gas suppliers may apply to the Commission to participate in the pilot program; however, it must be demonstrated to the Commission that such additions will be useful in gathering information and data sought by the Commission." Appendix F Order, at 5.

On September 8, 2021, the Commission issued an Order that, among other things, extended the Appendix F pilot program for an additional three years.

The Commission has approved participation in the Appendix F pilot program by eight RNG project developers: C2e Renewables NC, in Docket No. G-9, Sub 699; Optima KV, LLC, in Docket No. G-9, Sub 701; Optima TH, LLC, in Docket No. G-9, Sub 726; GESS International North Carolina, Inc. in Docket No. G-9, Sub 728; Catawba Biogas, LLC in in Docket No. G-9, Sub 735; Foothills Renewables, LLC in Docket No. G-9, Sub 739; Align RNG North Carolina, LLC, d/b/a Align Renewable Natural Gas, in Docket No. G-9, Sub 764; and Anson Gas Producers, LLC, in Docket No. G-9, Sub 698 (collectively, RNG developers). In addition, the Commission has approved all four RNG interconnect agreements with Piedmont that have been submitted to the Commission for approval. Nevertheless, at present there are only two RNG projects supplying RNG to Piedmont,

Optima KV and Optima TH. These two projects supply relatively small quantities of RNG derived from swine waste and animal/food processing waste, respectively, to Piedmont.

As the Commission discussed in the Appendix F Order, the main purpose of the Appendix F pilot program is to obtain information and data about the effects of RNG on the quality of gas delivered by Piedmont to its ratepayers and the impacts, if any, of RNG on the structural integrity of Piedmont's pipeline and equipment. Towards that end, the more diversity in types and sources of RNG, quantities and pressure of RNG delivered to the pipeline, and location of deliveries of RNG, the more the Commission and parties will learn about these two points. As a result, the Commission has an interest in knowing the current status of proposed RNG facilities. This will enable the Commission to see the full picture of RNG development today, and will provide the Commission with a snapshot of where and when it is likely to see future RNG interconnections and deliveries on Piedmont's system, providing the Commission with a valuable planning tool.

Based on the foregoing and the record, the Chair finds good cause to require Piedmont and the RNG developers, as designated, to provide the information requested in the attached Appendix A. The requested information shall be verified and filed with the Commission in Docket No. G-9, Sub 698 on or before May 10, 2022.

IT IS, THEREFORE, SO ORDERED.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 31st day of March, 2022.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Joann R. Snyder", is written over a light gray circular stamp.

Joann R. Snyder, Deputy Clerk

Commission Questions

Piedmont

1. Has Piedmont developed a map and/or other planning tool(s) that demonstrate the anticipated locations, types (landfill gas, swine waste, poultry waste, etc.), quantities and pressures of RNG to be supplied at different interconnection points and injection points (collectively, interconnection points) by the RNG developers? If so, provide a copy.
2. Provide a description of any planning tool that Piedmont has for assessing the potential effects of RNG on heat rate, pipeline pressure, WOBBE index, and other quality of gas and pipeline safety factors, depending on: (a) type(s) of RNG, (b) location that the RNG is injected, and/or (c) quantity of RNG injected.
3. If Piedmont has a planning tool as described in Question No. 2 above, provide the information that Piedmont has gained about current and proposed RNG facilities from its use of the tool.
4. Provide the maximum RNG capacity that Piedmont's pipeline system can handle in the eastern part of the state, and the current RNG capacity on the pipeline.
5. Provide the percentage capacity of RNG, on a daily or monthly basis, on Line 110 in Kenansville.

RNG Developers

1. Describe the types of RNG (landfill gas, swine waste, poultry waste, etc.), the percentage of each type of RNG, and the quantities and pressures of RNG to be supplied at all interconnection points and injection points (collectively, interconnection points).
2. State the size and operating pressure of Piedmont's pipeline at all planned interconnection points.
3. State the current winter and summer volumes on Piedmont's pipeline at all planned interconnection points.
4. State the number of farms and other providers that have been contracted with to provide RNG.
5. Provide the details of your plans for selling RNG, including: (a) The name(s) and location(s) of the buyers, (b) whether the buyer(s) will be end users of the RNG or will resell it to another entity, and (c) the manner in which the price of the RNG will be determined.

6. Describe the status of any negotiations with Piedmont for entering into a receipt interconnect agreement (RIA), and state when you anticipate entering into an RIA.
7. Describe the current construction status of your RNG facility.
8. State the projected date for commercial operation of your RNG facility.