Matthew G. Bevin Governor

Charles G. Snavely Secretary Energy and Environment Cabinet



Commonwealth of Kentucky

Public Service Commission

211 Sower Blvd.

P.O. Box 615 Frankfort, Kentucky 40602-0615 Telephone: (502) 564-3940 Fax: (502) 564-3460 psc.ky.gov Michael J. Schmitt Chairman

> Robert Cicero Vice Chairman

Daniel E. Logsdon Jr. Commissioner

May 26, 2017

PARTIES OF RECORD

Re:

Case No. 2017-00120

Pollitt Enterprises, Inc., Whitney Clark Pollitt, Individually, Amanda Deeann Pollitt, Individually, and Basil C. Pollitt, Individually, d/b/a The Gas Group, Inc. a/k/a The Gas Group Alleged Violations of KRS 278.020, KRS 278.160, KRS 278.140, and 807 KAR 5:006, Section 4(2)

The attached electronic mail has been filed in the record of the above-referenced case. Any comments regarding the content should be submitted to the Commission within five days of receipt of this letter. Any questions regarding the electronic mail should be directed to Nancy Vinsel, Staff Attorney, at (502) 782-2582.

Sincerely,

Talina R. Mathews Executive Director

NJV/ph

Attachment



Matheus

From:

Kirk Hoskins

To:

Vinsel, Nancy (PSC)
PSC v. Gas Group

Subject: Date:

Tuesday, May 23, 2017 12:19:49 PM

Attachments:

response to 3-15-17 order-signed.pdf

Nancy,

Please find the Response of the Respondents in this matter. Hard copies were sent via fed ex to the 211 Sower Blvd address..

Kirk (502-821-9001)

W. Kirk Hoskins Attorney at Law 1387 S. Fourth Street Louisville, Kentucky 40208 502-821-9001 502-634-9119 fax

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION CASE #: 2017-00120

IN RE:

POLLITT ENTERPRISES, INC.
WHITNEY CLARK POLLITT, INDIVIDUALLY
AMANDA DEEANN POLLITT, INDIVIDUALLY
BASIL C. POLLITT, INDIVIDUALLY
D/B/A THE GAS GROUP, INC.
A/K/A THE GAS GROUP.

RESPONSE TO COMMISSION ORDER

Come the Respondents, Clark Pollitt, Amanda Pollitt, Basil Pollitt and The Gas Group and do hereby tender their response to Appendix A, attached to the Order of 3-25-17.

INTRODUCTION

The numerical order of this response is intended to promote the most orderly means of proceeding.

Question 2: Pollitt Enterprises was the idea of Basil Pollitt. Formal incorporation occurred in January of 2006 however Pollitt used the name Pollitt Enterprises prior to that time. Pollitt Enterprises was formed for the purpose of exploring opportunities in the production of oil and natural gas for the benefit of Basil's children, Clark and Amanda Pollitt. That is to say Basil Pollitt had hoped that Pollitt Enterprises, if successful, would serve as a legacy for his children. It was but a hope, a dream, that never came to fruition. In 2006 Pollitt Enterprises purchased rights to an oil well in Warren County. This was a minimally producing well. Because costs greatly exceeded revenue Pollitt Enterprises discontinued production in short order. Pollitt Enterprises further purchased the rights to two gas wells also in Warren County. The market would not support those

wells either and production was likewise discontinued. These operations lasted less than a year and were never resumed. This was the extent of the corporate life of Pollitt Enterprises. Because Clark Pollitt and Amanda Pollitt ultimately were the intended beneficiaries of Pollitt Enterprises they were listed as its officers and incorporators in the filings with the Secretary of State. They did not however have any ownership interest in it. Basil Pollitt managed all affairs of Pollitt Enterprises and absorbed all losses associated with the failed efforts set forth above. Pollitt Enterprises died on the vine as it were and was administratively dissolved by the Secretary of State in 2010. During its existence neither Clark Pollitt nor Amanda Pollitt performed any services for Pollitt Enterprises nor did they realize any financial gain from it. Again, Pollitt Enterprises was but an idea for creating a legacy for the children of Basil Pollitt. At no time was Pollitt Enterprises engaged in the transport of oil or natural gas. At no time did Pollitt Enterprises have any interest in the gas lines at issue per PSC case # 99-130. At no time was there a transfer of interest from the Gas Group to Pollitt Enterprises. The confusion concerning transfer of ownerships appears to emanate from highway markers indicating: "Before Excavating or in Emergency call Pollitt Enterprises, 1-270-303-9236". In the course of Basil Pollitt's dealings with the PSC (Case # 99-130) he worked with safety inspector David Kinman. Toward that end there was not a single safety issue raised by Kinman that Pollitt failed to address immediately and to Kinman's satisfaction. Kinman testified to this per a hearing in the Franklin Circuit Court on 9-18-02. At any rate at some point Kinman observed that the "warning" markers utilized by Pollitt contained an "800" phone number. Kinman indicated a preference for a local number. Pollitt Enterprises had a local number that goes directly to Basil Pollitt. Accordingly, when replacing the markers Pollitt utilized the local number. "Pollitt Enterprises" appeared on the marker because the name "Pollitt" is recognized by the utilities that

operate in the area, excavators, the local authorities (fire and police) as well as the farm tap customers. It was not intended to deceive anyone nor was it intended to reflect a transfer of ownership. The highway markers indicating the name and local number of Pollitt Enterprises have been in existence for more than 10 years. In summary the gas line at issue per PSC case # 99-130 at all times relevant herein was owned and operated by The Gas Group.

Question 3. Respondents are confused by the term "Pollitt System". As indicated in Response to Question 2, supra, neither Clark Pollitt nor Amanda Pollitt had an ownership interest in either company. Indeed they had no meaningful role in either company. No interest was transferred from the Gas Group to Pollitt Enterprises. Regarding the gas lines at issue in PSC case # 99-130 neither Clark Pollit nor Amanda Pollitt have any interest therein.

Question 4. See Response to Question 2, supra.

Question 5. See Response to Question 2, supra.

Question 6. See Response to Question 2, supra. Basil Pollitt negotiated the oil and gas wells referenced in the response to Question # 2, obtained all applicable permits, advanced all costs and absorbed all losses.

Question 1. Upon filing a notice of appeal in case # 01-CI-581 (Franklin Circuit Court)

Pollitt moved the Court to stay enforcement of the Order pending appeal. To the best of Pollitt's knowledge the Circuit Court never ruled on this motion. At this time the undersigned counsel spoke with counsel for PSC, the honorable Dale Wright, regarding: a) staying the order pending appeal; and b) Pollitt's ability to comply with the Order in the event the appeal was lost. Regarding the former Wright took no enforcement action. Pollitt interpreted this as an acquiescence in a stay. The Court of Appeals affirmed the Circuit Court per an Opinion entered 8-31-06. Unlike the Order of

the Circuit Court the Opinion addressed the jurisdictional issue holding that "the character of a natural gas line is not static, but rather changes with the needs of its owner and the public". Pollitt sought discretionary review but same was denied 8-17-06. At no time in the course of the appeal did Wright take any action to enforce the Circuit Court Order. Indeed prior to service of the 3-15-17 Order of this honorable Commission there was no communication of any type or character concerning enforcement. Conversely, in the course of the appeal the undersigned advised Wright in no uncertain terms of his belief that the Order was such that it was impossible for Pollitt to comply. The undersigned actively sought Wright's suggestion/guidance/assistance regarding compliance. Toward that end the undersigned made Wright aware that the nearly 50 farm tap customers served by Pollitt obtained natural gas service in 1993 precisely because the PSC mandated that Pollitt provide them with service. All farm tap customers had long ago abandoned the propane tanks used for heating and other purposes. Compliance with the Order would result in the farm tap customers having no means to heat their homes, no hot water, etc . . . Wright acknowledged this difficulty and had no practical solution, guidance, suggestion or advice. Moreover, the undersigned at all times made Wright aware that the farm tap customers had a property interest in the natural gas service but were never made a party to the litigation. Pollitt was and remains of the belief that irrespective of the Order he lacks the lawful authority to enter the property of the farm tap customers and discontinue their gas service. The farm tap customers paid for part of the installation of the service inclusive of the risers, regulators and piping. Pollitt has no lawful authority to enter onto the property of the farm tap customers nor does he have the lawful right to remove the meters, risers, regulators, piping, etc . . . Pollitt verily believes that anyone attempting to discontinue the natural gas service is placing themselves in considerable danger. It was because of these dangers that the

undersigned inquired of Wright if he or some member(s) of the PSC would accompany him to the farm tap customers while Pollitt discontinued the service. Wright would have none of it. The undersigned at all times was of the belief that the PSC took no action because it was aware the compliance by Pollitt was unlawful, dangerous and perhaps impossible. In the meantime Pollitt continues to have his natural gas line permitted by the Department of Mines and Minerals (OP# 184556).

Kirk Hoskins, Counsel for Respondents

The Landward House

1387 S. Fourth Street

Louisville, KY 40208

502-821-9001-Office

502-634-9119-Fax

Hoskins@Kirk.win.net (E-mail)

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

It is hereby certified that a copy of this document was sent via Fed Ex to the Public Service Commission, P.O. Box 615, 211 Sower Blvd. Frankfort, KY 40602-0615 this 22nd day of May, 2017.

CERTIFICATION

I, Basil Pollitt, do hereby affirm that the factual assertions set forth in this Response are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

| 9 | Basil Pollitt |
|-------------------------------|---|
| County of Jefferson |); · |
| Commonwealth of Kentucky |)) |
| Acknowledged, subscribe 2017. | ed and sworn to before me by Basil Pollitt this 20th day of May |
| * | Notary Public, State at Large |
| v | Commission Expiration |

CERTIFICATION

I, Basil Pollitt, do hereby affirm that the factual assertions set forth in this Response are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Basil Pollitt

County of Jefferson

Commonwealth of Kentucky

Acknowledged, subscribed and sworn to before me by Basil Pollitt this 20th day of May,

2017.

GARY P VOLK
Notary Public
Kentucky, State at Large
COMP DESERBED AN EXPRESSABLE 22, 2020

AFFIDAVIT OF AMANDA POLLITT (NOW SPRIGGS)

Comes the Affiant, Amanda Pollitt, by counsel, and after having first been duly sworn states as follows:

- 1. Affiant has personal knowledge of the matters set forth herein.
- 2. Pollitt Enterprises was the idea of my father, Basil Pollitt. Formal incorporation occurred in January of 2006. Pollitt Enterprises was formed for the purpose of exploring opportunities in the production of oil and natural gas. It was my understanding that my father was attempting to create a legacy for me and my brother, Clark Pollitt. Pollitt Enterprises was not successful in the production of oil and natural gas and ceased doing business within a year or two after it was formed. At no time did Pollitt Enterprises transport oil or natural gas. Because my brother and I were the intended beneficiaries of Pollitt Enterprises we were listed as its officers and incorporators in the fillings with the Secretary of State. We did not however any ownership interest in it. Pollitt Enterprises was administratively dissolved by the Secretary of State in 2010. During its existence neither myself nor Clark Pollitt performed any meaningful services for Pollitt Enterprises nor did we realize any financial gain from it.
- 3. Affiant has no interest in the gas lines at issue in PSC case # 99-130 nor has she ever had such an interest. Accordingly, Affiant respectfully asserts that this honorable Commission has no jurisdiction over her and moves that he be dismissed from this action.

| | , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , | , | Amanda Polli | DA. | Seu | 665 |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|------------|--------------------------|------------|-------|---------------------------------|
| County of Commony | Jefferson wealth of Kentucky | .) | | 8 | | |
| 2017. Ac | knowledged, subscrib | ed and swo | Notary Public Commission | State at 1 | Large | is 20 th day of May, |

AFFIDAVIT OF CLARK POLLITT

Comes the Affiant, Clark Politit, by counsel, and after having first been duly swom states as follows:

- 1. Affiant has personal knowledge of the matters set forth herein.
- 2. Pollist Enterprises was the idea of my father, Basil Pollist. Formal incorporation occurred in January of 2006. Pollist Enterprises was formed for the purpose of exploring opportunities in the production of oil and natural gas. It was my understanding that my father was attempting to create a legacy for me and my sister. Amanda Pollist. Pollist Enterprises was not successful in the production of oil and natural gas and ceased doing business within a year or two after it was formed. At no time did Pollist Enterprises transport oil or natural gas. Because my sister and I were the intended beneficiaries of Pollist Enterprises we were listed as its officers and incorporators in the fillings with the Secretary of State. We did not however any ownership interest in it. Pollist Enterprises was administratively dissolved by the Secretary of State in 2010. During its existence as other myself nor Amanda Pollist performed any meaningful services for Pollist Enterprises nor did we realize any financial gain from it.
- 3. Affiant has no interest in the gas lines at issue in PSC case # 99-130 nor has he ever had such an interest. Accordingly, Affiant respectfully asserts that this honorable Commission has no jurisdiction over him and moves that he be dismissed from this action.

W. Carh Gally

| County | of Jefferson | |
|--------|--------------|-----|
| | | |
| | 8 | |
| | | - 1 |

Commonwealth of Kentucky

Acknowledged, subscribed and swom to before me by Clark Polity this 20th day of May,

2017.

Notary Public, State at Large

Commission Expiration

ROBERT CRAWFORD NOTARY PUBLIC STATE AT LARGE, KENTUCKY MY COMMISSION EXPIRES SEPTEMBER 22, 2018 *Amanda Deeann Pollitt 24418 Mistwood Court Lutz, FLORIDA 33559

*Pollitt Enterprises, Inc. Reg. Agent Whitney Clark Pollitt 12004 Ridge Road Louisville, KENTUCKY 40245

*Kirk Hoskins The Landward House 1387 S. Fourth St. Louisville, KENTUCKY 40208

*Basil Pollitt d/b/a The Gas Group, Inc., a/k/a The Gas Group 13517 Saddlecreek Drive Louisville, KENTUCKY 40245

*Whitney Clark Pollitt 12004 Ridge Road Louisville, KENTUCKY 40223