

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
CASE NO. 2025-0207

Electronically Filed

In the Matter of:

THE PETITION OF LINDSEY ENTERPRISES, LLC TO ABANDON LINES/DISCONTINUE NATURAL GAS SERVICE TO RESIDENTS LOCATED IN FORDS BRANCH, PIKE COUNTY, KENTUCKY

LINDSEY ENTERPRISES, LLC'S PETITION TO ABANDON LINES/DISCONTINUE NATURAL GAS SERVICE TO RESIDENTS LOCATED IN FORD'S BRANCH, PIKE COUNTY, KENTUCKY

Lindsey Enterprises, LLC ("Lindsey"), by counsel, respectfully petitions the Kentucky Public Service Commission ("PSC") for an Order allowing it to abandon lines/discontinue service to residents located in Ford's Branch, Pike County, Kentucky. In support of this Petition, Lindsey states as follows:

INTRODUCTION

For the Fords Branch area, Lindsey maintains that some basic history of natural gas service in the area may aid the PSC's understanding of the request made in Lindsey's Petition.

For decades, dating back to the 1960s, the Fords Branch farm tap consisted of a tap, a regulator device between the tap and the displacement meter, all of which were and are located within a surface building in the area of the tap. All of the lines running from that meter to Fords Branch were installed by residents/owners of that area (or contractors on their behalf) at their own expense, and those residents/owners installed individual meters at their properties. Those same property owners appointed an individual named Edgar Moore (now deceased) as a collective representative with respect to their farm-tap gas.

Until approximately 1992, Lindsey billed Mr. Moore for statutory tap gas on the basis of readings made at the meter on the surface building. If some issue arose or maintenance was required on the lines or other apparatus used by the farm-tap gas recipients, Lindsey would turn off the statutory tap until the Fords Branch recipients would complete their work. Lindsey did not perform any repairs or maintenance on the lines at that time.

Sometime in the early 1990s, vandals damaged the gauges on the displacement meter in the surface building. As a result, for billing purposes, Lindsey began utilizing the meters that the Fords Branch residents/owners had previously installed to determine how much was owed to Mr. Moore for the statutory tap gas. Later in the 1990s, the Fords Branch recipients asked Lindsey to assist them with repairs to their own lines, which Lindsey agreed to do purely on a contract basis. During that time, Lindsey was unaware of any new request for statutory tap gas or installing any new meter on any new structure in the area.

Over the last several years, Lindsey has supplied statutory gas to approximately 12 residents in the Fords Branch area of Pike County. While the Fords Branch residents themselves are solely responsible for their own lines, they have failed to adequately maintain those lines such that they present a safety risk. Thus, because continuing to provide statutory tap gas to the Fords Branch recipients would be unsafe, terminating that service became necessary. As one example, an individual in Fords Branch previously dug up a line multiple times and set fire to said line multiple times by burning garbage on top of it.

Since 20023, Lindsey has been involved in Case Number 2023-00207 before the PSC relating to its delivery of statutory gas to approximately 12 residents in Fords Branch, Pike County, Kentucky. In that proceeding, Lindsey has requested that the PSC grant authority to discontinue service to the Fords Branch residents due to the general lack of maintenance of their gas lines, the

large costs that would need to be incurred to upgrade the lines which would make the delivery of the natural gas uneconomical for the residents and the overall unsafe status of the lines and natural gas delivery system. In that proceeding, Lindsey offered to provide each resident with a propane tank and free use of the propane tank for one year so that the residents would have an alternative means to service their residence. At this time, Case Number 2023-0207 is still pending before the PSC.

PETITION

1. On or about June 25, 2025 at 1:20 PM, an employee from the Pike County Fiscal Court mowing crew contacted Will Lindsey notifying him they had cut into a gas line at Fords Branch while mowing weeds. James Lester, an employee of Lindsey, turned off the gas and met with the county employee. When the county employee showed Lester where they had cut the line, it was discovered that the homeowner had used a ½ inch plastic water line and water line hose clamps to run natural gas into their home. Lester pulled the gas meter going to the home at 152 Fords Branch Road Pikeville, KY and attempted to notify the landowner. The same day, 6/25/25 Lindsey left a message with the KY PSC. The following day, Will Lindsey spoke to Melissa Holbrook and a staff attorney with the PSC to make them aware of the situation, and sent pictures of said plastic water line and water line hose clamps.

2. The lack of maintenance of the natural gas lines which provide statutory gas to the residents of Fords Branch, Pike County, Kentucky currently creates a significant safety hazard that can only be corrected by the abandonment of the lines and discontinuation of the delivery of statutory gas to those residents.

3. As stated earlier, the current delivery lines are mostly exposed, plastic poly pipes

which are not buried and lay directly on top of the ground. Any activity on the surface of the area where the gas lines are located presents a significant safety issue in that the lines can be damaged and/or disconnected such that escaping natural gas presents a significant explosion/fire risk.

4. In order to bring the site into necessary compliance by replacing the lines and burying them to alleviate any significant safety concerns would require an extensive capital outlay that would result in the cost of providing natural gas service to the residents of Fords Branch being uneconomical and would not make monetary sense.

5. It would be in the best interests of the Fords Branch residents, Lindsey and the general public to abandon the lines and discontinued natural gas service to those residents.

6. As stated in Case Number 2023-0207, Lindsey is prepared, in order to assist the residents of Fords Branch, to have a propane tank delivered to the residence of each natural gas user and provide for free propane tank rental for 12 months to help the residents transition from natural gas to propane usage.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Lindsey Enterprises, LLC pray for an appropriate Order from the PSC allowing it to abandon lines/discontinue service to residents located in Ford's Branch, Pike County, Kentucky.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Billy R. Shelton

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VERIFICATION

Dated: 7/23/25

Will Lindsey
Will Lindsey

STATE OF KENTUCKY

COUNTY OF PIKE

On this the 23rd day of July, 2025, before me the undersigned notary public, personally appeared the above referenced individual, proven to me through satisfactory evidence of identification, to be the person whose name is signed above, and who swore or affirmed to me that the facts and statements contained herein are truthful and accurate to the best of his knowledge and belief.

Terri D. Shelton
Notary Public
My Commission Expires:

