

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That the Wicomico Oil and Gas Company, a corporation incorporated under the laws of the State of Delaware and licensed to do business in the State of Maryland, its successors and assigns, be and it is hereby authorized and empowered to make, construct, lay down, equip, operate and maintain pipe lines for the transmission of natural gas from gas wells located within the State of Maryland, for the purpose of lighting, heating, power, or any other purpose for which it may be suitable; and also to authorize and empower the said Company, its successors and assigns, to run and utilize such laterals or branches within the State of Maryland in the counties of Somerset, Worcester, Wicomico, Dorchester, Caroline, Talbot, Kent, Queen Anne's, and Cecil, and Cities Towns and Villages thereof as the respective Commissioners, Mayors, and Councils, or other governing bodies thereof will permit; and said corporation, its successors and assigns, shall have a right to charge such reasonable rates for transmission, sale or delivery of such natural gas on its main line and any of the branches or laterals thereof as the Board of Directors or its authorized agents may, from time to time, determine; and the said corporation, its successors and assigns, shall have power and authority to furnish, buy, sell and use such natural gas for the lighting of streets, alleys, roads, public and private buildings, factories and other things and for whatever purposes the same may be applied or utilized, as well as transmit natural gas for other persons or corporations, from gas wells located within the State of Maryland, but the consent of the owner or owners of the lands under or through which the said main lines, branches or laterals or pipes shall or may pass shall be first obtained, if obtainable, for a reasonable consideration, if not, then the said property or so much thereof as may be necessary, may be condemned according to the provision of Article 23 of the Code of Public General Laws of the State of Maryland, and the said Corporation, its successors and assigns, shall also have power and authority to erect, construct, build and maintain such bridge or bridges over any stream or streams in the State of Maryland in said Counties as the Board of Directors or authorized agents of said Corporation may deem necessary for the use and purpose as aforesaid, subject to the approval of the properly constituted authorities, and to the necessary means to accomplish all the purposes of said corporation; provided, however, permission is first granted by the Board of County Commissioners or of the municipal authorities of the towns and cities intended to be