

Section 73, 99, and 102A

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1988 Replacement Volume and 1990 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article 78 – Public Service Commission Law

2.

(PP) (1) “GAS MASTER METER OPERATOR” MEANS A PERSON WHO OWNS OR OPERATES A PIPELINE SYSTEM:

(4) (I) THAT DISTRIBUTES GAS WITHIN, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, A DEFINABLE AREA, SUCH AS A MOBILE HOME PARK, HOUSING PROJECT, OR APARTMENT COMPLEX;

(2) (II) FOR WHICH THE OPERATOR PURCHASES METERED, ARTIFICIAL, OR NATURAL GAS FROM AN OUTSIDE SOURCE FOR RESALE THROUGH A GAS DISTRIBUTION PIPELINE SYSTEM; AND

(3) (III) WHICH SUPPLIES THE ULTIMATE CONSUMER, WHO EITHER PURCHASES THE GAS DIRECTLY THROUGH A METER OR BY OTHER MEANS, SUCH AS BY RENTS.

(2) IN THIS SUBSECTION, “PIPELINE SYSTEM” DOES NOT INCLUDE PIPING WITHIN A BUILDING.

73.

(a) The Commission may by regulation passed after due notice and opportunity for interested parties to be heard prescribe standards of safe, adequate, reasonable, and proper service for any class of public service company OR GAS MASTER METER OPERATOR, which in the Commission’s opinion will best promote the security or convenience of the public, of those employed in furnishing service, and of those to whom service is rendered; and to these ends, the Commission may enforce the standards set by it, and may by order require changes and additions in the service of any public service company OR GAS MASTER METER OPERATOR as the Commission deems necessary, including but not limited to repairs or improvements in plant, increase in motive power, and change in schedule or manner of operations.

(b) The Commission shall examine alternatives to transmission line construction in any service area, including the use of existing lines of any company whether or not franchised in that service area, if (1) the existing lines are convenient to that service area, or (2) the use of the lines will best promote the economy and efficiency of service to the public.

99.

When the Commission is of the opinion that any public service company OR GAS