

# SECRETARY'S RECORD, PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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## BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Application	)	Application No. NG-108
of HealthTrust Purchasing Group,	)	
L.P., Nashville, Tennessee,	)	
seeking a Competitive Natural	)	ORDER GRANTING AUTHORITY
Gas Provider certificate to	)	
operate as an aggregator in the	)	
State of Nebraska.	)	
	)	Entered: June 2, 2020

BY THE COMMISSION:

By application filed April 28, 2020, HealthTrust Purchasing Group, L.P., of Nashville, Tennessee ("Applicant") seeks a competitive natural gas provider ("CNGP") certificate of authority in order to operate as an aggregator in the State of Nebraska. Notice of the application was published in the *Daily Record*, Omaha, Nebraska, on April 30, 2020. No protests were filed; therefore, this application is processed pursuant to the Commission's Rule of Modified Procedure.

## O P I N I O N   A N D   F I N D I N G S

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 66-1848 and 66-1849. Section 66-1849(1) provides in part:

The commission shall certify all competitive natural gas providers and aggregators providing natural gas services. In an application for certification, a competitive natural gas provider or aggregator shall reasonably demonstrate managerial, technical, and financial capability sufficient to obtain and deliver the services such provider or aggregator proposes to offer. The Commission may establish reasonable conditions or restrictions on the certificate at the time of issuance.

In addition, Commission Rules and Regulations specify requirements for an application for authority as a CNGP. See 291 Neb. Admin. Code § 9-011.

Applicant is a limited partnership, holding its principal office in Nashville, Tennessee. Applicant submitted this CNGP

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application for the purpose of operating as an aggregator under Neb. Rev. Stat. § 66-1848(1). Applicant states that it intends to negotiate for the purchase of natural gas on behalf of member hospitals and other healthcare providers in the State of Nebraska from third-party competitive suppliers. Applicant states that it will not take title to the natural gas, and would be serving the commercial and/or industrial customer classes.

In support of its application, Applicant submitted an organizational chart, a certificate of good standing to conduct business in Nebraska, its 2017 and 2018 balance sheets accompanied by auditors' reports, and information regarding its directors' backgrounds and operational ability. There have not been any legal actions or formal complaints pertaining to the provision of competitive natural gas services filed against Applicant within the twelve months prior to filing this application, nor has Applicant had a license or certificate to supply competitive natural gas service revoked, denied or withdrawn.

Commission Staff Accountant, Steve Stovall, submitted his Direct Testimony and a Report on Regulatory Compliance, indicating that the financial statements submitted by Applicant provide evidence of adequate financial resources necessary to obtain and deliver the services that Applicant proposes to offer.

Based upon the information provided in the application and verified by affidavit, the Commission finds that the provisions of Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 66-1848 and 66-1849 and applicable Commission Rules and Regulations are met. Applicant's application for authority should be granted, and Applicant should be issued a certificate of authority as a competitive natural gas provider consistent with the conditions set forth in this order. Applicant shall have authority to operate as an aggregator within the State of Nebraska pursuant to this certificate of authority.

### O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that Application No. NG-108 is hereby granted, and

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HealthTrust Purchasing Group, L.P. is authorized to operate as an aggregator within the State of Nebraska.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this order be made the Commission's official certificate of authority as a competitive natural gas provider for HealthTrust Purchasing Group, L.P.

ENTERED AND MADE EFFECTIVE at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of June, 2020.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

*Rock Johnson*  
*Crystal Hender*  
*Tim Schram*  
*Don Watson*

*Mary Kadden*

Chair

ATTEST:

*Michael S. Hyatt*

Executive Director