

STEP Resources Consulting, LLC

Application for Licensure of
Agents, Brokers, and Consultants
under Section 16-115C
of the Public Utilities Act.

Docket No.

15-0066

CHIEF CLERK'S OFFICE
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ILLINOIS COMMERCE
COMMISSION

APPLICATION

STEP Resources Consulting, LLC ("Applicant"), hereby requests that the Illinois Commerce Commission ("Commission") grant it a license pursuant to Section 16-115C of the Public Utilities Act ("Act"). In support of its application, Applicant states as follows:

GENERAL [454.40, 454.50, 454.100]

1. Applicant's name and street address.

**STEP Resources Consulting, LLC
8366 Princeton-Glendale Road, Suite B1
West Chester, Ohio 45069**

2. Related Information:

- Type of business entity: **LLC**
- Jurisdiction in which and under whose laws business entity was created: **OH**
- Other names under which Applicant does business (D/B/A): **N/A**

3. Contact Persons for the following:

- a) Issues related to processing this application [454.130]

**Greg Elam
Chief Executive Officer
8366 Princeton-Glendale Road, Suite B1
West Chester, OH 45069
(513) 792-0146
gelam@stepresources.com**

- b) Issues related to complaint resolution [454.130]

Greg Elam
Chief Executive Officer
8366 Princeton-Glendale Road, Suite B1
West Chester, OH 45069
(513) 792-0146
gelam@stepresources.com

4. Description of Applicant's business. [454.40(c)(1)]

STEP Resources Consulting, LLC ("STEP") is in the business of providing consulting and advisory services to commercial and industrial clients in the areas of electricity and natural gas procurement, and other energy related services.

STEP has procured energy for well over 100 clients, ranging from small commercial to large industrial users (communications, consumer goods, government, healthcare, industrial goods, real estate, services and technology to name a few). Such accounts comprise over 1 billion kWh in electricity usage in Ohio, California, Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

In addition to procurement, STEP provides clients with consulting when considering future sites for their operations, helping them determine location and infrastructure; utility line extensions; lighting implementaitons and retrofits; metering and sub-metering; and contract negotiations on a variety of levels with our clients and energy suppliers.

5. A statement in support of application (including supporting documents and schedules if necessary) certifying the applicant meets the requirements of Section 16-115C of the Act. [454.40(d)(1)]

STEP Resources Consulting, LLC certifies that it meets the requirements of Section 16-115C of the Act.

6. The name, address, telephone number, any facsimile number and any e-mail address of the agent registered with the Illinois Secretary of State. This information shall be kept current and any change regarding the licensee shall be reported within 15 days after the change occurs. The required information shall be filed with the Chief Clerk of the Commission at its Springfield office. [454.40(c)(3)]

**Business Filings Inc.
600 South 2nd Street Suite 103
Springfield, IL 62704
1-800-981-7183
info@bizfilings.com**

7. A statement to disclose whether the Applicant operates as an agent, broker, or consultant in any other jurisdictions in a manner similar to that contemplated under Section 16-115C of the Act. Additionally, regardless of whether Applicant operates as an agent, broker, or consultant in Illinois or any other jurisdiction, the Applicant is directed to disclose whether it has had any complaints filed against it for its provision of any services in the electric or gas industry in this or any other jurisdiction. If any such complaints exist, the Applicant is directed to include in its response the nature of the complaint, the jurisdiction, and the ultimate resolution.

STEP Resources Consulting, LLC is certified in the states of Ohio and Massachusetts. We are in the process of or providing energy procurement services (natural gas and electricity) in various deregulated states including Ohio, Massachusetts, California, Oregon, Texas, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey.

STEP Resources Consulting, LLC has no known complaints in any jurisdictions it has or does business.

8. Applicant certifies that it:
- a) is licensed to do business in the State of Illinois and is in compliance with all other applicable laws, regulations and Commission rules and orders; [454.40(c)(2)] Reference attached Certificate of Good Standing from the IL Secretary of State. **Reference Attachment #1**
 - b) shall comply with all terms and conditions required by Section 16-115C of the Act; [454.40(d)(2)]
 - c) shall ensure any person who acts on behalf of the entity will comply with all sections of Part 454 applicable to the function or functions to be performed; [454.40(d)(3)]
 - d) shall remain in compliance with the provisions of the Act and Part 454; [454.50]
 - e) shall ensure that authorizations received from customers, and all other applicable records are retained for a period of not less than three calendar years after the calendar year in which they were created; and [454.100(a)]
 - f) shall preserve the confidentiality of its customers' data. [454.100(b)]

MANAGERIAL LICENSING QUALIFICATIONS [Section 454.60]

9. Applicant meets the managerial qualifications set forth in Part 454.60, as demonstrated in Attachment 3. Attachment 4 includes an exhibit containing a corporate organizational chart and identifying the persons who are being used to meet the requirements of Part 454.60(a). Attachment 3 includes an exhibit containing occupational background information on the person or persons who are being used to meet the requirements of Part 454.60(a).

TECHNICAL LICENSING QUALIFICATIONS [Section 454.70]

10. Applicant meets the technical qualifications set forth in Part 454.70, as demonstrated in Attachment 3. Attachment 3 includes an exhibit containing occupational background information on the person or persons who are being used to meet the requirements of Part 454.70(a).

FINANCIAL LICENSING REQUIREMENTS [SECTION 454.80]

11. Applicant is required to execute and maintain a license or permit bond in the name of the People of the State of Illinois issued by a qualifying surety or insurance company authorized to transact business in the State of Illinois. The amount of the bond shall equal \$5,000. **Reference Attachment # 2**

CODE OF CONDUCT [SECTION 454.90]

12. Applicant certifies that it shall:
 - a) Disclose in plain language in writing the nature of the services offered by the ABC;

STEP Resources Consulting, LLC is in the business of providing consulting and advisory services to commercial and industrial clients in the areas of electricity and natural gas procurement, and other energy related services.
 - b) Prior to the customer signing a contract, disclose that they are not employed by the electric utility operating in the applicable service territory;

STEP Resources Consulting, LLC and its employees and agents certify that they are not employed by the electric utility operating in the applicable service territory.
 - c) Disclose in plain language in writing to all persons it solicits the total price per kilowatt-hour, and the total anticipated cost, inclusive of all fees or commissions received by the licensee, to be paid by the customer over

the period of the proposed underlying customer contract. In the event a person or entity required to be licensed pursuant to this Part uses an electric supply usage estimate for a particular customer, the person or entity required to be licensed pursuant to this Part must use the same electric supply usage estimate for all service offers it presents to that particular customer;

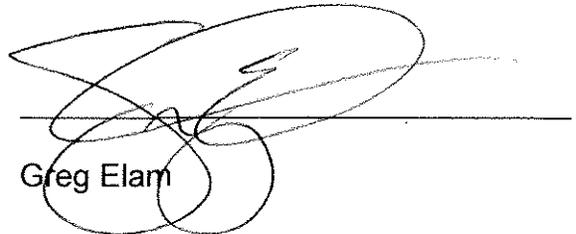
- d) Any disclosure required by subsection (c) must be made prior to entering into the contract and signed by the customer;
- e) Disclose if applicable, to all customers, prior to the customer signing a contract the fact that they will be receiving compensation from the supplier;
- f) Not hold itself out as independent or unaffiliated with any RES, or both, or use words calculated to give that impression, unless the person or entity offering service under Section 16-115C of the Act has no contractual relationship with any RES or its affiliates regarding retail electric service in Illinois;
- g) Not utilize false, misleading, materially inaccurate, defamatory or otherwise deceptive language or materials in the soliciting or providing of its services;
- h) Maintain copies of all marketing materials disseminated to third parties for a period of not less than three years;
- i) Maintain copies of all disclosure statements required in subsections (a) and (b) for a period of not less than three years;
- j) Not present electricity pricing information in a manner that favors one supplier over another, unless a valid pricing comparison is made utilizing all relevant costs and terms; and
- k) Comply with the requirements of Sections 2EE, 2FF, 2GG and 2HH of the Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act [815 ILCS 505/2EE, 2FF, 2GG and 2HH].

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS [SECTION 454.110]

13. Applicant agrees to submit reports in accordance with annual reporting requirements. [454.110]

WHEREFORE, Applicant requests that the Commission grant its application for licensure as an agent, broker, or consultant to engage in the procurement or sale of retail electricity supply for third parties.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg Elam", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and somewhat illegible due to overlapping loops.

Greg Elam

By: Chief Executive Officer

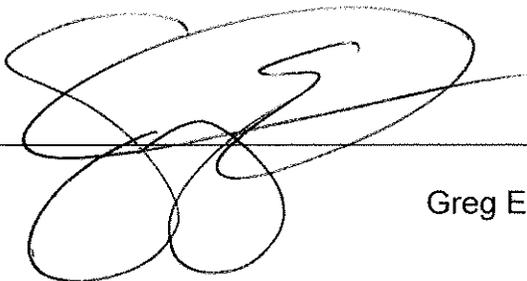
James J. McGraw
Keating, Meuthing, Klekamp
One East Fourth Street
Suite 1400
Cincinnati, OH 45202-3752
P. (513) 579-6400
jmcgraw@kmklaw.com

VERIFICATION

STATE OF OHIO

COUNTY OF BUTLER

Greg Elam being first duly sworn, deposes and says that he is the Chief Executive Officer of STEP Resources Consulting, LLC; that he has read the foregoing Application of STEP Resources Consulting, LLC and all of the attachments accompanying and referred to within the Application; and that the statements contained in the Application and the attachments are true, correct and complete to the best of his knowledge, information and belief.



Greg Elam

To be completed by a Notary Public

Subscribed and sworn to before me

this 17 day of December, 2014



Notary Public



JESSICA BRIGHT
Notary Public, State of Ohio
My Commission Expires
August 3, 2016