

GUARANTY

This Guaranty, dated January 30, 2007, is made by CONSOLIDATED NATURAL GAS COMPANY ("Guarantor") in favor of Central Maine Power Company ("Beneficiary").

WHEREAS, Dominion Retail, Inc. has been designated by the Maine Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") to provide standard offer service to certain customers of Beneficiary;

WHEREAS, Guarantor is a corporate affiliate of Dominion Retail, Inc. and will receive benefits from Dominion Retail, Inc. undertaking the obligation to provide standard offer service; and

WHEREAS, the execution and delivery of this Guaranty is a condition to the selection of Dominion Retail, Inc. as a standard offer provider by the Commission.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the Guarantor hereby agrees as follows:

1. **Guaranty.** This Guaranty unconditionally obligates the Guarantor to pay all obligations of Dominion Retail, Inc. for the payment of the additional costs of replacement standard offer service as long as such amounts do not exceed the total amount of this Guaranty. This Guaranty is written in accordance with Chapter 301 of the rules of the Commission to ensure compliance with applicable provisions of that Chapter and of Maine statutes by Dominion Retail, Inc., and to ensure the provision of standard offer service in accordance with Maine rules and statutes. This Guaranty is of payment and not of collection.

2. **Amount.** The total payment obligation of the Guarantor under this Guaranty shall be \$2,640,000.00. This amount is exclusive of expenses and costs incurred by the Commission or the Beneficiary in enforcing Guarantor's payment obligations under this Guaranty as specified in paragraph 8 of this Guaranty.

3. **Payment Obligation.** The Guarantor's obligations and liability under this Guaranty shall be limited to payment obligations only and the Guarantor shall have no obligation to perform the obligations of the Dominion Retail, Inc. to provide standard offer service.

4. **Term.** This Guaranty shall continue in full force and effect until October 1, 2007. Such termination shall not release Guarantor from any payment obligation hereunder relating to events, acts or omissions occurring prior to the effective date of the termination.

5. **Guaranty Absolute.** The payment obligation of the Guarantor under this Guaranty shall be absolute, unconditional and irrevocable, irrespective of: a) any lack of validity or enforceability applicable to Dominion Retail, Inc. in connection with the obligation to provide standard offer service; b) any modification to the terms of the

obligation to provide standard offer service; c) any failure, omission, delay, waiver or refusal by the Commission or the Beneficiary to assert any claim or demand or exercise, in whole or in part, any right or remedy against Dominion Retail, Inc.; d) any change in the existence, structure or ownership of Guarantor or Dominion Retail, Inc.; e) any bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization of, or other similar proceedings involving Dominion Retail, Inc.; or any other circumstance which might otherwise constitute a legal or equitable discharge of a surety or guarantor. It shall not be necessary for the Commission or Beneficiary, in order to enforce payment by the Guarantor under this Guaranty, to show any proof of Dominion Retail, Inc.'s default of its obligation to provide standard offer service other than a Commission finding of default. Guarantor's performance of its payment obligation hereunder shall not be affected by or conditioned upon any indemnity, contribution or reimbursement by any other party directly or indirectly liable for obligations of Dominion Retail, Inc.

6. **Repaid Amounts.** Notwithstanding Article 4, if at any time, pursuant to court order or applicable law, payment of any amounts arising from or on account of the obligation to provide standard offer service are annulled, set aside, invalidated, declared to be fraudulent or preferential, rescinded or must otherwise be returned, refunded or repaid by Beneficiary upon the insolvency, bankruptcy or reorganization of Dominion Retail, Inc. or otherwise, then the Guarantor shall be liable for the amounts so repaid to the same extent as if such amounts were never received by the Beneficiary.

7. **Waiver.** Guarantor, hereby irrevocably, unconditionally and expressly waives promptness, diligence, presentment, demand, notice of acceptance and any other notice of any kind with respect to the obligation to provide standard offer service and this Guaranty, suretyship defenses generally, and any requirement that suit be brought against, or any other action by the Commission or Beneficiary be taken against Dominion Retail, Inc. or any other person, or that remedies be exhausted against Dominion Retail, Inc. or any other person, or that any other action be taken or not taken as a condition to Guarantor's payment obligation under this Guaranty or as a condition to the enforcement of this Guaranty against Guarantor.

8. **Collection Costs.** Guarantor agrees to pay on demand all collection costs, including reasonable legal fees and expenses, incurred by the Commission or the Beneficiary in enforcing Guarantor's payment obligations under this Guaranty. The payment of such costs shall not be subject to the liability amount in this Guaranty. The Guarantor shall not be liable for any costs of the Commission or Beneficiary pursuant to this provision if a court determines that Dominion Retail, Inc. did not have an obligation to pay the additional costs of replacement standard offer service.

9. **Reservation of Defenses.** Guarantor agrees that except as expressly set forth herein, it will remain bound upon this Guaranty notwithstanding any defenses which, pursuant to the laws of suretyship, would otherwise relieve a guarantor of its obligations under a guaranty. Guarantor does reserve the right to assert defenses, rights of setoff and counterclaims that Dominion Retail, Inc. may have to payment arising out of the obligation to provide standard offer service other than defenses arising from the bankruptcy or insolvency of Dominion Retail, Inc. and other defenses expressly waived herein.

10. **Demands and Payment.** All demands on Guarantor by Beneficiary for payment under this Guaranty shall be in writing, signed by a duly authorized representative of Beneficiary and delivered to the Guarantor by mail or facsimile to:

Consolidated Natural Gas Company
120 Tredegar Street
Richmond, VA 23219
Attn: Treasurer
(804) 819-2113

All such demands shall reference this Guaranty, the guaranteed obligations to be paid and payment instructions. There are no other requirements of notice, presentment or demand. Guarantor shall pay, or cause to be paid, such guaranteed obligations within ten (10) business days of receipt of such demand.

11. **Assignment.** This Guaranty may not be assigned without the prior written consent of the Commission, except for an assignment to a creditworthy partnership, corporation, or trust, or other organization in whatever form that succeeds to all or substantially all of Guarantor's assets and business and that assumes such obligations by contract, operation of law, or otherwise. Upon any such assignment and assumption of obligations that include all prior and future obligations of the Guarantor under this Guaranty, Guarantor shall be relieved of and fully discharged from all obligations hereunder, whether such obligations arose before or after such assignment and assumption. For purposes of this provision, creditworthy means the satisfaction of the credit and financial requirements for guarantors under Chapter 301 of the Commission's rules and the applicable request for proposals to provide standard offer service.

12. **Amendment.** This Guaranty may not be amended unless the amendment is in writing and signed by the Guarantor and the Beneficiary, and approved by the Commission.

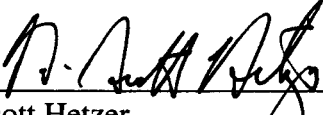

13. **Representation and Warranties.** The Guarantor represents and warrants as follows:

- (a) The Guarantor is duly organized, validly existing and in good standing under the laws of the jurisdiction of its incorporation and has full corporate power and legal right to execute, deliver and perform this Guaranty.
- (b) The execution, delivery and performance of this Guaranty have been and remain duly authorized by all necessary corporate action and do not contravene the Guarantor's constitutional documents or any contractual restriction binding on the Guarantor or its assets.

14. **GOVERNING LAW. THIS GUARANTY SHALL BE GOVERNED BY AND CONSTRUED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF MAINE.**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Guarantor has duly executed this Guaranty on this 5th day of February, 2007.

Guarantor: CONSOLIDATED NATURAL GAS COMPANY

By:  _____ 
Name: G. Scott Hetzer
Title: Senior Vice President and Treasurer