

Public Service Commission

From: [REDACTED]
To: <ocs@utah.gov>
Date: 2/2/2011 10:25 AM
CC: <psc@utah.gov>

Re:
 Docket 10-057-15

Application for Approval of the 2011 Year Budget for Energy Efficiency Programs and Market Transformation Initiative

To: Office of Consumer Protection
 Date: 2/1/2011

My company has been following the above docket recorded with the Public Service Commission. I was delighted to see that, according to Questar's December 1, 2010 Motion for Substitution of Section 2.17 of Exhibit 1.8 that, and I quote: "Questar Gas believes that the broader language attached hereto will allow for the inclusion of contractor licenses the State of Utah's Department of Professional Licensing (DOPL) deem appropriate for the weatherization work, and will allow Questar Gas' program to remain consistent with any changes DOPL may make to its licensing requirements in the future without necessitating a Tariff change."

One of those registrations which allows weatherization work--particularly attic insulation--is the Handyman Exemption Registration, as administered by DOPL, wherein the application states (directly copied from the application): "Applicable Laws: A contractor performing work which has a total value of materials and labor under \$3,000 is exempt from contractor licensing requirements except that an exempt contractor cannot perform any electrical, plumbing, or mechanical work or alarm system installations. If, however, the contractor is performing work which has a total value of materials and labor of over \$1,000 the contractor must file an affirmation of exemption which includes verification that the contractor has liability insurance and workers compensation insurance."

The governing law is UCA Section 58-55-305(h)(i)(H).

Therefore, we immediately contacted Questar Gas to apply for their authorized contractor list for attic insulation. All of our installs fall well within the Handyman Exemption Registration and we are registered for the exemption and have in our possession DOPL's issued number and registration. Further, we have confirmed with DOPL on several occasions that yes, our work is within the registration. Also, we have all of Questar's requested insurances, etc.--we're ready to go forward with their program.

Thus, we were totally taken aback when we were told by Questar's representative that no, the Handyman Exemption Registration does NOT qualify for the authorized contractor list. We explained that their own letter states that if DOPL allows it, then it should be also allowed for Questar. We were again told "no". We went to a supervisor who again said, "no". We again explained Questar's own letter and the statute. We received the same answer.

I don't know what's going on, but in one breath Questar is saying we'll follow what DOPL deems appropriate, but in the next denying acceptance of our registration with DOPL. And I believe the Public Service Commission accepted their proposal, in part, based on their letter and exhibits.

This is my livelihood. If we are denied acceptance to their program, then we will be forced to shut down. We are not a fly-by-night company. We take pride in what we do, resolve customer complaints and respond to Questar requests. We have done hundreds of installs and know what we are doing.

What can we do? Thank you. Victor

