Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc.
Bidder Registration Form

For Participation in the Columbia Standard CHOICE Offer ("SCO") Auction to be held on January 26, 2027 for the SCO period of April 1, 2027 through March 31, 2028

The Deadline for Submitting the Bidder Registration Form and Associated Financial Security is 5:00 pm EST Friday, January 4, 2027

Complete Name of Company:
Mailing Address:
Name and Title of Primary Contact:
Telephone Number for Primary Contact:
E-Mail Address of Primary Contact:
PUCO Certification Number:
Date Certified:

General Instructions: In order to participate in Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc.'s ("Columbia") Standard CHOICE Offer ("SCO") Auction ("Auction"), a party must have completed both a Retail Natural Gas Suppliers Registration Application and a Bidder Registration Form. The Retail Natural Gas Suppliers Registration Application that was submitted by Applicant was a non-binding expression of interest in participating in the Auction, whereas a party submitting a Bidder Registration Form is required to make certifications regarding its participation in the Auction and must submit the initial financial security required for the number of tranches that it intends to bid upon during the Auction. A party submitting a Bidder Registration Form must also disclose any material changes to the Retail Natural Gas Suppliers Registration Application it previously submitted.

When completed, the Bidder Registration Form should be sent to the attention of the Choice Team emailed to Transportevaluations@nisource.com. The deadline for submitting this Form is 5:00 pm EST **Friday, January 4, 2027**. If security is required, it also must be delivered to the Choice Team by the same deadline as the Bidder Registration Form.

Incomplete Bidder Registration Forms, those forms submitted without the required financial security documentation, and those Suppliers not certified by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio ("PUCO") will be rejected. Columbia will treat all information provided in the Bidder Registration Form as confidential. Columbia may share the information on a confidential basis with the staff of the PUCO and the Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel if requested to do so by the PUCO.

Below, please note any changes to the information previously provided in the Retail Natural Gas Suppliers Registration Application by your company:

Statements, Elections, and Certifications:

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1. We have received and reviewed the information provided by Columbia on its website or otherwise concerning the Auction rules, SCO Customer supply requirement data, Auction processes and SCO Supplier requirements. We will abide by and be bound by the rules and other processes established for the Auction as reflected in the SCO Supplier Agreement, Columbia's Tariff and PUCO Orders.

2. We understand that the information presented in the Program Outline, the supplier education presentation, or in any other Columbia communication regarding the Auction process is for the sole purpose of providing general information about the Auction process in order to help potential participants determine whether they will participate in the Auction. The information is subject to change, and it is not intended to be, and does not purport to constitute, a sufficient basis on which to determine whether to participate or how to structure potential bids. While Columbia has used reasonable efforts to ensure the accuracy of the information presented, it does not warrant the accuracy of that information for use by any party in assessing potential participation or structuring potential bidding approaches or actual bids.

3. We are aware that the initial financial security required for each tranche to be bid upon is $_____. We acknowledge receipt of a notice from Columbia sent on _____, regarding the amount of unsecured credit extended to our company by Columbia. We understand that any required security must be provided to Columbia on the same day as this Bidder Registration Form, such security being determined by multiplying the initial financial security required per tranche found above, by the number of tranches selected below, and then subtracting the amount of unsecured credit extended by Columbia as communicated in the notice from Columbia described above. We are also aware that, should we be awarded one or more tranches in the Auction, we may be obligated to provide additional financial information and security from time to time as part of Columbia's ongoing credit review process.

Select the Maximum Number of Tranches on which you want the ability to Bid
1 ☐ **2** ☐ **3** ☐ **4** ☐

Amount and Description of Financial Security Provided:

4. We are aware that bidders that are awarded one or more tranches as a result of PUCO approval of the Auction results, must execute an SCO Supplier Agreement ("Agreement") within one week following said PUCO approval as presented by Columbia and that furthermore, winning bidders will operate under the fee structure and operational aspects of such Agreement and Columbia's Tariff.
5. We understand and agree to provide to Columbia a letter of credit in the form specified by Columbia in the amount of fifty cents per Mcf multiplied by the initial estimated annual delivery requirements for the SCO Period of the tranches awarded to our company as a

result of the Auction ("SCO Default Fee Letter of Credit"). Such SCO Default Fee Letter of Credit shall be held by Columbia during the SCO Period. In the event of a default by our company that results in an allocation of our supply obligations to other parties as further described in Columbia's tariff, Columbia shall exercise the SCO Default Fee Letter of Credit and allocate the funds therefrom to the replacement suppliers on a proportionate basis. We further understand that this SCO Default Fee Letter of Credit is in addition to all financial security requirements described in paragraph 3 above. This SCO Default Fee Letter of Credit shall be provided to Columbia by **February 26, 2027**.

6. Furthermore, we understand and agree to provide Columbia with a cash deposit in the amount of six cents per Mcf multiplied by the initial estimated annual delivery requirements for the SCO Period of the tranches awarded to our company as a result of the Auction ("Cash Collateral"). Such Cash Collateral will provide a liquid account to meet supply default expenses incurred by Columbia other than compensation to the non-defaulting SCO Suppliers and any funds at the end of the Program Year will be transferred to the CSRR. This Cash Collateral shall be provided to Columbia by **February 26, 2027**.

7. We certify that we will maintain the confidentiality of our bidding strategy and bids submitted during the Auction and will not retain any bidding advisors or consultants providing similar service to another party that submitted a Bidder Registration Form. We do not have any knowledge or information related to the confidential bidding strategy of another party that submitted a Bidder Registration Form. Furthermore, should we be awarded one or more tranches in the Auction, we agree not to divulge our winning status until such information has been made publicly known by the PUCO and Columbia.

8. We certify that we will participate in the Auction process in the following manner (place a check in the appropriate box and describe as applicable):

☐ We will participate in the Auction on a stand-alone basis.

OR

☐ We will participate in the Auction as part of a bidding partnership, joint venture, or other arrangement related to the Auction, or we have a 10% or greater interest in another registered bidder or have a relationship that would provide financial or other incentives based on the outcome of the bidding efforts.

The other parties involved in the arrangement(s) are as follows:

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The nature of the arrangement(s) is as follows:

9. We are not presently aware of any events or transactions that would alter the manner in which we will participate in the Auction process as set forth above. We will disclose any such events or transactions to Columbia as soon as practical. Columbia will treat such information as confidential. Columbia may share the information on a confidential basis with the staff of the PUCO and the Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel if requested to do so by the PUCO.

10. We are aware that any bid that is submitted during the descending clock Auction process is a binding obligation to accept responsibility to supply the specified number of tranches at the offered price in the Auction round pursuant to the terms and conditions of the SCO Supplier Agreement.

11. Should we be awarded one or more tranches in the Auction process and have not previously been a CHOICE or SCO Supplier on Columbia, we hereby agree to participate in any Columbia sponsored training prior to **April 1, 2027**.

12. We have been certified as a Retail Natural Gas Supplier by the PUCO and have provided the certification information above. Should we be awarded one or more tranches in the Auction process, we agree to maintain this certification during the entire term of the SCO program year.

13. We agree to provide Columbia with any additional documents and to take any additional steps that Columbia may request to perfect Columbia's interest in the Accounts Receivable being sold and assigned to Columbia pursuant to the SCO Supplier Agreement, and we hereby authorize the filing of UCC-1 financing statements to perfect Columbia's interest. We understand that if Columbia determines, in the exercise of its reasonable judgement, that there are circumstances (such as outstanding conflicting liens) that interfere with Columbia's ability to secure a first secured interest in the Accounts Receivable, Columbia may bar us from participating in the Auction if such circumstances are not resolved to Columbia's satisfaction, in the exercise of its reasonable judgment, prior to the day of the Auction.

14. We are aware that sanctions may be imposed on a registered bidder for failing to abide by any of the preceding certifications. Such sanctions may include, but are not limited to, the loss of any rights awarded in the Auction, immediate termination of any other arrangements with Columbia, forfeiture of any monies owed to us by Columbia, liability for attorneys' fees and court costs incurred in any litigation that arises from failure to abide by the certifications, and being subject to any other legal actions, including prosecution, as Columbia in its sole discretion deems appropriate under the circumstances.

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I hereby certify that I have read and that I understand the preceding statements, elections, and certifications and that _____ (Company name) will abide by each of them.

Signature: _____ Title: _____

Name (Printed or Typed): _____ Date: _______

This Box to be Completed by Columbia
Form Received on: _____/ _____/ _____ at _____ AM / PM
Name: _____