EXHIBIT
C
OUTSIDE LEGAL COUNSEL PLC
www.olcplc.com

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

GARY MCDOWELL
DIRECTOR

February 8, 2021

Dear Michigan Retail Propane Marketers:

Governor Whitmer signed Senate Bill 1133 into law, and it is now Public Act 332 of 2020. The Act creates the framework for a Michigan Propane Commission (Commission) and requires the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) to conduct a referendum to determine whether the initial assessment on propane at the rate of 1/10 of 1 cent per gallon is levied upon odorized propane sold and placed into commerce in this state will be levied.

If passed, the Michigan Propane Commission would use the funds to educate residents, business owners and other users of propane on the safe use of propane and promote the use of high efficiency appliances and equipment through rebate and incentive programs for Michigan residents. The Commission could develop procedures and carry out any other activity necessary to accomplish the Propane Commission Act. A copy of the Act is available online at https://www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/2019-2020/publicact/pdf/2020-PA-0332.pdf or by contacting MDARD at 800-292-3939.

The Act requires that MDARD conduct this referendum within 60 days after the effective date of this Act. I have determined that the Michigan Propane Commission referendum shall be conducted from February 15, 2021 through February 26, 2021. This Commission is an industry led effort, and this referendum determines whether the Commission fully comes into being and the assessments are levied to accomplish the goals outlined in the Act. All funds will be managed by the Commission and audited annually.

I have directed that the referendum be conducted according to MDARD practices and procedures, similar to those used to conduct similar referenda for the legislatively established agricultural programs. Your individual vote will be kept strictly confidential. A copy of the procedures may be obtained by writing the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, P.O. Box 30017, Lansing, MI 48909 or by contacting MDARD at 800-292-3939.

A ballot and return envelope are enclosed for your use. The ballot must be postmarked no later than February 26, 2021. For the purpose of the referendum, each retail propane marketer with customers in this state is entitled to 1 vote representing a single firm, individual proprietorship, corporation, company, association, partnership, or spouse- or family-owned business, regardless of the number of bulk plants or retail sales outlets owned. A retail propane marketer is defined as a person engaged in the business of selling odorized propane to consumers in containers larger than 240 pounds water capacity or selling odorized propane to retail propane dispensers.

Passage of the referendum requires more than 50% of the votes of all of the retail propane marketers with customers in this state.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Jamie Guardiola at 517-284-5730 or guardiolaj1@michigan.gov.

Sincerely,



Gary McDowell
Director

Enclosures: ballot & return envelope

OFFICIAL BALLOT

For the authorization to fund the Michigan Propane Commission

(See reverse side for instructions.)

1. Please provide the following information. (PLEASE PRINT – USE INK)

Name of Retail Propane Marketer (Last Name, First Name)			
Name of Partnership, Corporation, Association, Limited Liability Company, and/ or any other business entity			
Address (P.O. Box Number and Street)		County	
City	State	Zip Code	Telephone

2. I certify that I am a retail propane marketer, engaged in the business of selling odorized propane to consumers in containers larger than 240 pounds water capacity or selling odorized propane to retail propane dispensers.

YES ☐ NO ☐

3. Shall the Michigan Propane Marketers approve the initial assessment on propane at the rate of 1/10 of 1 cent per gallon of odorized propane sold and placed into commerce in this state?

YES ☐ NO ☐

4. THIS BALLOT MUST BE SIGNED IN ORDER FOR YOUR VOTE TO BE COUNTED.

Signature

ALL BALLOTS MUST BE POSTMARKED OR OTHERWISE DELIVERED TO THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & RURAL DEVELOPMENT LANSING OFFICE ON OR BEFORE FEBRUARY 26, 2021.

Return ballot in the enclosed ballot envelope.

MICHIGAN PROPANE COMMISSION

BALLOT INSTRUCTIONS

(Submitted pursuant to Propane Commission Act, and
Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development procedures)

The Act creates the framework for a Michigan Propane Commission (Commission) and requires the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) to conduct a referendum within 60 days of the effective date of this act, to determine whether the initial assessment upon odorized propane sold and placed into commerce in this state will be levied at the rate of 1/10 of 1 cent per gallon. The Director has determined that the Michigan Propane Commission referendum shall be conducted from February 15, 2021 through February 26, 2021.

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY BEFORE VOTING: To be eligible to vote, as a retail propane marketer, you must have been engaged in the business of selling odorized propane to consumers in containers larger than 240 pounds water capacity or selling odorized propane to retail propane dispensers.

A retail propane marketer with customers in this state is entitled to one vote representing a single firm, individual proprietorship, corporation, company, association, partnership, or spouse- or family-owned business, regardless of the number of bulk plants or retail sales outlets owned.

IN ORDER FOR YOUR BALLOT TO BE COUNTED, YOU MUST DO ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

1. Fill in your complete mailing address.
2. Mark an “X” or a “check” in either the Yes or No box for item 2.
3. Mark an “X” or a “check” in either the Yes or No box for item 3.
4. Sign the ballot in the space provided.
5. Return ballot in the enclosed ballot return envelope with a postmark no later than February 26, 2021.

For the passage of this referendum, more than 50 percent of all the retail propane marketers with customers in this state, must approve the proposal.

You may be asked to verify the information listed on the ballot.

This ballot is kept strictly confidential.