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COMPANY: NATIONAL FUEL GAS DISTRIBUTION CORPORATION REVISION: 0

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GENERAL INFORMATION (Cont*d)

II. 2.c. CONTINUED

(8) Creditworthiness Criteria for Suppliers

Dun & Bradstreet reports will be utilized as the primary source of credit information to determine the creditworthiness of applicants for service under SC 18 and SC 19. The following Dun & Bradstreet standards will be used: a credit risk rating of A, B, C and unrated or "blank", noted on the report (the continuum range is A to unrated). The values for these rating are:

"A" assets, liabilities and payment history indicate little or no risk to creditors.

"B" assets, liabilities and payment history indicate a moderate risk to creditors.

"C" assets, liabilities and payment history indicate a risk to creditors.

"Unrated" indicates that there is insufficient historical credit data available to make a reliable credit assessment of the applicant (such as the applicant being in business less than 14 months, change of ownership, etc.).

Upon receipt of the properly completed Credit Application, the Company*s Credit Administration Department will obtain various Dun & Bradstreet reports for initial review and assessment. The reports will include, but not be limited to: Payment Analysis Report, Business Information Report, Credit Analysis Report and Risk Analysis Report; financial ratings will also be included in the analysis. In addition, other criteria will be taken into consideration in assessing the Company*s potential risk exposure, such as: (1) established payment history of the applicant with the Company and (2) the ratio of anticipated projected end user volumes to the CBA*s unencumbered assets available for payment.

"A" Rating:

In general, if the reports indicate an overall rating of "A" no security deposit will be required at the time of application, subject to changes listed below. However, if anticipated projected end user volumes indicate a substantial risk exposure over and above indicated current assets available for payment, a security deposit may be required.

"B" Rating:

If the reports indicate an overall rating of "B" additional

Issued by <u>P.C. Ackerman, President, 10 Lafayette Square, Buffalo NY 14203</u> (Name of Officer, Title, Address)