

**UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CIRCUIT**

American Public Gas Association,

Petitioner,

v.

United States Department of Energy,

Respondent.

No. 11-1485

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Air Conditioning Contractors of America, et al.,

Intervenors.

**JOINT PROPOSED BRIEFING FORMAT**

The parties jointly submit this proposed format for the briefing of this case in accordance with the Court's order of August 19, 2013, and respectfully request its approval.

1. In accordance with the Court's order, the proposed format provides for the briefing of three issues: (1) the joint motion of petitioner American Public Gas Association (APGA) and respondent U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to vacate and remand the case; (2) the motion of intervenor Heating, Air-Conditioning and Refrigeration Distributors International (HARDI) to substitute as petitioner; and (3) the merits of the case. The proposed format is set forth in the table below.

			<b>Issues Addressed</b>		
<b>Brief</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Word Limit</b>	<b>Joint Motion To Vacate &amp; Remand</b>	<b>HARDI Motion To Substitute as Petitioner</b>	<b>Merits</b>
Brief of Petitioner APGA	40 days after order approving schedule	15,500	Affirmative	N/A	Affirmative
Joint Brief of Intervenors in Support of Petitioner	15 days later	11,000	Response	Affirmative	Affirmative
Brief of Respondent DOE	30 days later	16,250	Affirmative	Response	Response
Joint Brief of Intervenors in Support of Respondent	15 days later	10,250	Response	Response	Response
Reply Brief of APGA	15 days later	8,500	Reply	Response	Reply
Joint Reply Brief of Intervenors in Support of Petitioner	Same date as APGA Reply Brief	5,125	N/A	Reply	Reply

2. The proposed briefing format maintains the format previously ordered by the Court in this case, including the same number of briefs and the same alignment

of the parties, with the following changes: (1) the briefs also will address the pending motions as indicated; (2) the word limits for each brief are increased slightly beyond the standard allotment for such a brief to accommodate the briefing of these additional issues; and (3) the briefs will cite to the pages of the previously filed joint appendix, making a deferred appendix and final briefs unnecessary.

3. The parties respectfully request the additional allotment of words because the merits issues in the case have not been narrowed during the pendency of the case, either by the filing of the pending motions or other intervening events, and the motions present additional complicated and unusual issues. In general, the parties' positions as to the merits issues are unchanged since the prior briefs were filed, and they believe their briefs will require substantially the same number of words as before. While the parties will make every effort to streamline their briefs without compromising their arguments, they believe they will need additional words to address the issues presented by the motions. Accordingly, the proposal allots 1,500 words for argument for a motion; 2,250 words for a combined response to a motion and argument for the other motion; 1,500 words for a response to such combined argument; and 750 words for a final reply, as follows:

- APGA's opening brief is increased by 1,500 words for argument for the joint motion to vacate and remand.

- The joint brief of intervenors in support of petitioner is increased by 2,250 words for argument (1) in response to the joint motion and (2) for HARDI's motion to substitute as petitioner.
- DOE's brief is increased by 2,250 words for argument (1) for the joint motion to vacate and remand and (2) in response to HARDI's motion to substitute as petitioner.
- The joint brief of intervenors in support of DOE is increased by 1,500 words for a response to both motions.
- APGA's reply brief is increased by 1,500 words for a response to HARDI's motion to substitute as petitioner and reply to the responses to the joint motion to vacate and remand.
- The joint reply of intervenors in support of petitioner is increased by 750 words for a reply to the responses to HARDI's motion to substitute as petitioner.

These additional allotments of words proportionally track—but are substantially less than the numbers of words permitted under—the page limits for motions, responses, and replies under Fed. R. App. P. 27(d)(2) and Circuit Rule 27(c).

4. The number of briefs to be filed under the proposal is the same as the number previously filed, and the order of filing continues to reflect the alignment of the parties on the merits. As before, APGA and DOE will continue to file

separate briefs, and all intervenors on each side of the case will join in a single brief. The brief of an amicus curiae would be governed by the standard rules. The parties believe that this proposal is reasonable and logical in that it maintains the traditional briefing order and does not increase the number of briefs to be filed.

5. The parties unfortunately were not able to reach agreement as to the order in which the Court should take up the issues to be briefed. To the extent a party has a position with respect to that issue, it will include its position and any supporting argument in its brief(s).

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Randolph Lee Elliott

William T. Miller  
Randolph Lee Elliott  
Jeffrey K. Janicke  
Miller, Balis & O'Neil, P.C.  
1015 Fifteenth Street, N.W.  
Twelfth Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
(202) 296-2960

Counsel for American Public Gas  
Association

/s/ H. Thomas Byron III

Michael S. Raab  
(202) 514-4053  
H. Thomas Byron III  
(202) 614-5367  
Attorneys, Appellate Staff  
Civil Division, Room 7260  
Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20530

Counsel for Respondents

/s/ Michael D. Pepson

Michael D. Pepson  
Cause of Action  
1919 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Suite 650  
Washington, D.C. 20006  
michael.pepson@causeofaction.org  
(202) 499-2024

Admitted to practice only in Maryland.  
Practice limited to cases in federal  
court.

Counsel for Heating, Air-Conditioning  
& Refrigeration Distributors  
International

/s/ David B. Calabrese

David B. Calabrese  
General Counsel and Sr. Vice President,  
Policy  
Air-Conditioning, Heating, and  
Refrigeration Institute  
2111 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 500  
Arlington, VA 22201  
(703) 524-8800

September 18, 2013

/s/ Monica Derbes Gibson

Douglas H. Green  
Monica Derbes Gibson  
Venable LLP  
575 7th Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20004  
(202) 344-4526

Counsel for Air Conditioning  
Contractors of America

/s/ Benjamin Longstreth

Benjamin Longstreth  
Natural Resources Defense Council  
1152 15th Street N.W.  
Washington, DC 20005  
(202) 513-6256

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

In accordance with Fed. R. App. P. 25(d) Circuit Rule 25(c), and the Court's Administrative Order Regarding Electronic Case Filing (May 15, 2009), I certify that on this date the Joint Proposed Briefing Format was served on all parties or their counsel of record through the CM/ECF system if they are registered CM/ECF users or, if they are not, by serving a true and correct copy by U.S. Mail at the addresses listed below.

Date: September 18, 2013

/s/ Randolph Lee Elliott  
 Randolph Lee Elliott  
 Miller, Balis & O'Neil, P.C.  
 1015 Fifteenth Street, N.W.  
 Twelfth Floor  
 Washington, D.C. 20005  
 (202) 296-2960

Frederick Don Augenstern Office of the Attorney General, Commonwealth of Massachusetts Environmental Protection Division One Ashburton Place 18th Floor Boston, MA 02108 Email: fred.augenstern@state.ma.us	CM/ECF
Jonathan Hughes Blee California Energy Commission MS-14 1516 Ninth Street Sacramento, CA 95814 Email: jblees@energy.state.ca.us	CM/ECF

H. Thomas Byron III U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) Civil Division, Appellate Staff 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530-0001 Email: H.Thomas.Byron@usdoj.gov	CM/ECF
David Brett Calabrese Air-Conditioning, Heating and Refrigeration Institute 2111 Wilson Boulevard Suite 500 Arlington, VA 22201 Email: dcalabrese@ahrinet.org	CM/ECF
Morgan Anna Costello Office of the Attorney General, State of New York The Capitol New York State Department of Law Albany, NY 12224-0341 Email: morgan.costello@ag.ny.gov	CM/ECF
Daniel Zachary Epstein Cause of Action 1919 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Suite 650 Washington, DC 20006 Email: daniel.epstein@causeofaction.org	CM/ECF
Monica Derbes Gibson Venable LLP 575 7th Street, NW Washington, DC 20004 Email: mdgibson@venable.com	CM/ECF

Douglas Haber Green Venable LLP 575 7th Street, NW Washington, DC 20004 Email: dhgreen@venable.com	CM/ECF
Charles Harak National Consumer Law Center 4th Floor 7 Winthrop Square Boston, MA 02110 Email: charak@nclc.org	CM/ECF
Katherine Kennedy Natural Resources Defense Council 40 West 20th Street 11th Floor New York, NY 10011 Email: kkennedy@nrdc.org	CM/ECF
Christopher Gene King New York City Law Department 6-143 100 Church Street New York, NY 10007 Email: cking@law.nyc.gov	CM/ECF
Benjamin Hoyt Longstreth Natural Resources Defense Council 1152 15th Street, NW Suite 300 Washington, DC 20005 Email: blongstreth@nrdc.org	CM/ECF

Joseph McCalmont Mattingly Air-Conditioning, Heating and Refrigeration Institute Suite 500 2111 Wilson Boulevard Suite 500 Arlington, VA 22201 Email: <a href="mailto:jmattingly@ahrinet.org">jmattingly@ahrinet.org</a>	CM/ECF
Michael J. Myers Office of the Attorney General, State of New York The Capitol New York State Department of Law Albany, NY 12224-0341 Email: <a href="mailto:michael.myers@oag.state.ny.us">michael.myers@oag.state.ny.us</a>	CM/ECF
Michael David Pepson Cause of Action 1919 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Suite 650 Washington, DC 20006 Email: <a href="mailto:michael.pepson@causeofaction.org">michael.pepson@causeofaction.org</a>	CM/ECF
Michael S. Raab U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) Civil Division, Appellate Staff 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530-0001 Email: <a href="mailto:michael.raab@usdoj.gov">michael.raab@usdoj.gov</a>	CM/ECF
Reed D. Rubinstein Dinsmore & Shohl LLP 801 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Suite 610 Washington, DC 20001 Email: <a href="mailto:reed.rubinstein@dinsmore.com">reed.rubinstein@dinsmore.com</a>	CM/ECF