**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE PIEDMONT NATURAL GAS ON CAPTURING FIRST PLACE AT THE 2013 NATIONAL GAS RODEO, A FEAT THAT EARNED THE COMPANY THE UNOFFICIAL TITLE OF “PREMIER TEAM IN THE NATURAL GAS BUSINESS.”

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that Piedmont Natural Gas captured the top prize at the 2013 National Gas Rodeo; and

Whereas, held annually in Fairview Heights, Illinois, the competition brings together close to fifty teams from across the country to compete for bragging rights as the premier team in the natural gas business. Five timed events reveal the knowledge and skills of each team, and teams are penalized for not performing them to rodeo standards. These events mimic everyday activities performed by crews in the natural gas industry; and

Whereas, events include meter set, service installation, pipe cut, hand dig, and a relay event featuring six stations (truck and tractor, back hoe, pipe squeeze, miniexcavator, regulator bypass, and water cooler), all tackled with aplomb by Piedmont Natural Gas “Insane Methane” team members Terry Marcum, Wayne Ledbetter, Andy Stansell, Tom Pressley, and Nick Tate; and

Whereas, Piedmont Natural Gas has competed in the National Gas Rodeo since 2008. The company believes that participation in the event benefits both employees and customers in several ways, not the least of which is the competition’s stress on safety as being of utmost importance. Also, both employees and management hold that taking learned and reinforced practices back home and applying them improves quality of work and enables the company to serve its customers better; and

Whereas, since the company began competing in the event, Piedmont Natural Gas teams have set five national records at the National Gas Rodeo and won the championship in 2009, 2010, 2011, and 2013. The House of Representatives takes great pleasure in commending the company on this outstanding record, and the members wish the team all the best as it readies for the upcoming 2014 competition. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, congratulate Piedmont Natural Gas on capturing first place at the 2013 National Gas Rodeo, a feat that earned the company the unofficial title of “Premier Team in the Natural Gas Business.”

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Piedmont Natural Gas.

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