

## **Project Narrative**

Tazewell County, Virginia is the third largest producer of natural gas in the Commonwealth of Virginia. One of the largest natural gas pipelines on the East Coast traverses the County carrying hundreds of millions of cubic feet of natural gas out of the County daily. Yet natural gas service remains unavailable to most of the County. County leaders see the lack of natural gas service availability as a tragic loss of the County's natural resources and a hindrance to economic growth and development. The private sector alone has failed to produce natural gas service for the residents and businesses in the County.

The County's leaders intend to remedy these shortcomings. To that end the Tazewell County Industrial Development Authority (IDA) has been working to develop natural gas service for businesses and residences in Tazewell County for ten years. The IDA is prepared to make a substantial investment in a system to make natural gas service available to businesses already in the county and those that may chose to locate in the County.

The IDA and Board of Supervisors would prefer to make a capital contribution to the private certificated provider who would operate the system. However, before doing so the Board needs to understand the likely total project cost and potential revenues. Alternatively, the Board may consider operating a publicly owned system. For these reasons the Board needs a better understanding of potential revenues and costs.