

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA



OFFICE OF CONSUMER ADVOCATE

555 Walnut Street, 5th Floor, Forum Place
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17101-1923
(717) 783-5048
800-684-6560

FAX (717) 783-7152
consumer@paoca.org

December 28, 2018

Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary
PA Public Utility Commission
Commonwealth Keystone Bldg.
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

Re: Petition of Valley Energy, Inc. for Expansion
Project Surcharge and Waiver of Tariff Rule 4
Docket No. P-2018-3006500

Attached for electronic filing please find the Office of Consumer Advocate's Notice of Intervention and Public Statement in the above-referenced proceeding.

The undersigned certifies that this filing contains no averments or denials of fact subject to verification and penalties under 52 Pa. Code Section 1.36.

Copies have been served per the attached Certificate of Service.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/J.D. Moore
J.D. Moore
Assistant Consumer Advocate
PA Attorney I.D. # 326292
E-Mail: JMoore@paoca.org

Counsel for: Office of Consumer Advocate
555 Walnut Street 5th Floor, Forum Place
Harrisburg, PA 17101-1923
Phone: (717) 783-5048 Fax: (717) 783-7152

Enclosure

cc: Honorable Charles E. Rainey, Jr.
Chief Administrative Law Judge
Certificate of Service

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Petition of Valley Energy, Inc. for :
Expansion Project Surcharge and : Docket No. P-2018-3006500
Waiver of Tariff Rule 4 :

I hereby certify that I have this day served a true copy of the foregoing document, the Office of Consumer Advocate's Answer, Notice of Intervention and Public Statement, upon parties of record in this proceeding in accordance with the requirements of 52 Pa. Code § 1.54 (relating to service by a participant), in the manner and upon the persons listed below:

Dated this 28th day of December 2018.

SERVICE BY E-MAIL & INTER-OFFICE MAIL

The Honorable Charles E. Rainey Jr.
Chief Administrative Law Judge
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
Commonwealth Keystone Building
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Richard Kanaskie, Esquire
Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement
Commonwealth Keystone Building
400 North Street, 2nd Floor West
Harrisburg, PA 17105

Paul Diskin, Director
Bureau of Technical Utility Services
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
Commonwealth Keystone Building
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120

SERVICE BY EMAIL AND FIRST CLASS MAIL, POSTAGE PREPAID

John R. Evans, Esquire
Sharon E. Webb, Esquire
Office of Small Business Advocate
300 North Second Street
Suite 202
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Pamela C. Polacek, Esquire
Matthew L. Garber, Esquire
McNees Wallace & Nurick LLC
100 Pine Street
PO Box 1166
Harrisburg, PA 17101

/s/J.D. Moore
J.D. Moore
Assistant Consumer Advocate
PA Attorney I.D. # 326292
E-Mail: JMoore@paoca.org

Darryl A. Lawrence
Senior Assistant Consumer Advocate
PA Attorney I.D. # 93682
E-Mail: DLawrence@paoca.org

Counsel for Office of Consumer Advocate
555 Walnut Street, 5th Floor, Forum Place
Harrisburg, PA 17101-1923
Phone: (717) 783-5048 Fax: (717) 783-7152

BEFORE THE
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Petition of Valley Energy, Inc. for :
Expansion Project Surcharge and : Docket No. P-2018-3006500
Waiver of Tariff Rule 4 :

NOTICE OF INTERVENTION
OF THE
OFFICE OF CONSUMER ADVOCATE

Pursuant to 52 Pa. Code §§ 5.71-74, the Office of Consumer Advocate hereby gives Notice of Intervention in the above-captioned proceeding. A copy of all correspondence and notices, documents, orders or other communications with respect to the above-captioned proceeding should be addressed to the following:

J.D. Moore
Assistant Consumer Advocate
Darryl A. Lawrence
Senior Assistant Consumer Advocate
Office of Consumer Advocate
555 Walnut Street
5th Floor, Forum Place
Harrisburg, PA 17101-1923
Telephone: (717) 783-5048
Fax: (717) 783-7152

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ J.D. Moore
J.D. Moore
Assistant Consumer Advocate
PA Attorney I.D. # 326292
E-Mail: JMoore@paoca.org

DATED: December 28, 2018
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PUBLIC STATEMENT OF THE OFFICE OF CONSUMER ADVOCATE
PURSUANT TO 71 P.S. SECTION 309-4(e)

Act 161 of the Pennsylvania General Assembly, 71 P.S. § 309-2, as enacted July 9, 1976, authorizes the Consumer Advocate to represent the interests of consumers before the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC or Commission). In accordance with Act 161, and for the following reasons, the Acting Consumer Advocate determined to file a Notice of Intervention and participate in proceedings before the Commission involving the Valley Energy petition filing at Docket No. P-2018-3006500.

On December 11, 2018, Valley Energy filed a Petition for approval of an Expansion Project Surcharge and waiver of Valley Energy's Tariff Rule 4. The Petition would provide Valley Energy with the financial means to expand their existing service area and provide natural gas service to the eastern portion of Athens, Pennsylvania (East Athens). Consumers in East Athens currently do not have access to any natural gas service. The Petition proposes to allow Valley Energy to pay for the expansion project over time by charging only new customers in East Athens with a monthly surcharge to pay for the new infrastructure required by the expansion, which would be automatically removed once the project cost has been recovered. Valley Energy states that current customers in Athens will be unaffected by the expansion project or the expansion surcharge.

The objective of the Acting Consumer Advocate in intervening in this case is to protect the interests of consumers in Valley Energy's service territory and to ensure that the resolution of the proposed Petition is just and reasonable. The OCA will seek to ensure that the treatment of the expansion project's costs are consistent with Commission regulations, and applicable case law, and that the resultant rates are just and reasonable.