PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION HARRISBURG, PA 17120

Public Meeting held April 4, 2024

Commissioners Present:

Stephen M. DeFrank, Chairman Kimberly Barrow, Vice Chair Ralph V. Yanora Kathryn L. Zerfuss John F. Coleman, Jr.

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission v. Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc. Docket Number: R-2024-3046519

ORDER

BY THE COMMISSION:

On March 15, 2024, Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc. (Columbia Gas), Utility Code 120700, filed Supplement No. 374 to Tariff Gas Pa. P.U.C. No. 9 to become effective May 14, 2024, containing proposed changes in rates, rules, and regulations calculated to produce \$124.1 million (15.79%) in operating revenue. As proposed, the total bill for a residential customer using 70 therms/month of gas will increase from \$118.16 to \$136.92 (15.88 %).

On March 20, 2024, the Office of Consumer Advocate filed a Formal Complaint.

Columbia Gas stated that it is seeking approval to increase its base rates to allow for the continued replacement and upgrade of its natural gas distribution system.

Pursuant to 66 Pa. C.S. §1308(d), the filing will be suspended by operation of law until December 14, 2024, unless permitted by Commission Order to become effective at an earlier date.

Investigation and analysis of this proposed tariff filing, and the supporting data indicate that the proposed changes in rates, rules, and regulations may be unlawful, unjust, unreasonable, and contrary to the public interest. It also appears that consideration should be given to the reasonableness of Columbia Gas's existing rates, rules, and regulations; **THEREFORE**,

IT IS ORDERED:

1. That an investigation on Commission motion be, and hereby is, instituted to determine the lawfulness, justness, and reasonableness of the rates, rules, and regulations contained in the proposed Supplement No. 374 to Tariff Gas Pa. P.U.C. No. 9.

2. That the proposed Supplement No. 374 to Tariff Gas Pa. P.U.C. No. 9 is suspended by operation of law until December 14, 2024, unless otherwise directed by Order of the Commission.

3. That pursuant to 52 Pa. Code §53.71 tariff supplements shall be filed with the Commission and posted at the company to announce that the aforementioned Original Tariff is suspended until the date stated in the Commission Order. Attached is a sample copy of a suspension supplement which shall be filed in triplicate or, if applicable, e-filed with the Commission within 10 days following the Order entry date.

2

4. That this investigation shall include consideration of the lawfulness, justness, and reasonableness of the Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc.'s existing rates, rules, and regulations.

5. That the case be assigned to the Office of Administrative Law Judge for the prompt scheduling of such hearings as may be necessary culminating in the issuance of a Recommended Decision.

6. That a copy of this Order shall be served upon Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc., the Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement, the Office of Consumer Advocate, the Office of Small Business Advocate, and any persons who have filed Formal Complaints against the proposed tariff supplement.

BY THE COMMISSION,

Corenny

Rosemary Chiavetta Secretary

(SEAL)

ORDER ADOPTED: April 4, 2024 ORDER ENTERED: April 4, 2024

ATTACHMENT

Supplement No. _____ to

Pa. P.U.C. No.

(COMPANY'S NAME)

(TERRITORY SERVED BY COMPANY)

 The application of rates proposed in Supplement No. ______ to Tariff ______ Pa. P.U.C. No. _____ filed to become effective ________ (and voluntarily postponed to become effective ________, is hereby suspended until _______, at Docket No. _______, at Docket No. ________. Presently effective rates contained in Tariff _______ Pa. P.U.C. No. ______ and supplements thereto, will continue in effect until otherwise amended.

Issued:

Issued in compliance with

Title 66 PA C.S.