BEFORE THE

PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission :

:

v. : R-2022-3032300

:

Valley Energy, Inc. :

# **PREHEARING CONFERENCE ORDER**

History

On April 29, 2022, Valley Energy, Inc. (Valley Energy), Utility Code 125100, filed Supplement No. 59 to Tariff Gas Pa. P.U.C. No. 2 (Supplement No. 59). Supplement No. 59 contains proposed changes in rates, rules, and regulations calculated to produce an overall rate increase of $999,631 (11.8%) in approximate additional annual total revenues, resulting in a total bill for a typical residential customer using 76 Ccf increasing from $65.35 to $72.57 per month or about 11%. Valley Energy proposes Supplement No. 59 to become effective on June 28, 2022. Valley Energy also filed Supplement No. 2 to Tariff Gas Pa. P.U.C. No. 1S (Supplement No. 2) to make modifications to its Supplier Tariff.

On May 12, 2022, the Office of Small Business Advocate (OSBA) filed a Formal Complaint and entered the appearance of Sharon Webb, Esquire. The Complaint was docketed at Docket No. C-2022-3032452.

On May 13, 2022, the Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement filed a Notice of Appearance for Scott Granger, Esquire on its behalf.

On May 19, 2022, the Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA) filed a Formal Complaint. It also entered the appearances of Harrison Breitman, Esquire and Aron Beatty, Esquire on its behalf. The Complaint was docketed at Docket No. C-2022-3032533.

On May 23, 2022, Larry E. Cole filed a Formal Complaint with the Commission. The Complaint was docketed at Docket No. C-2022-3032688.

Pursuant to the Public Utility Code, 66 Pa. C.S. § 1308(b), by Order dated

June 16, 2022, the Commission suspended the proceedings until January 28, 2023 and sent the matter to the Office of Administrative Law Judge for evidentiary hearings and a Recommended Decision. The matter was assigned to Administrative Law Judge Marta Guhl.

A telephonic prehearing conference in this matter is scheduled to be held on Thursday, June 30, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. To participate in the prehearing conference, the parties must contact the Toll-free Bridge Number **866-675-3641** and then enter the Passcode Participant Number **37082098** to join the conference.

**Discussion**

The Commission's regulation concerning prehearing conferences in rate proceedings is located at 52 Pa.Code §5.224. We will discuss the following:

1) A proposed plan and schedule of discovery;

2) Possibility of settlement;

3) Issues;

4) Amount of hearing time needed;

5) Witnesses;

6) Schedule for submission of testimony, hearings and briefs; and

7) Any other appropriate matter.

Counsel should submit a prehearing memorandum addressing the agenda items on or before noon on Wednesday, June 29, 2022. Counsel can e-mail the memoranda to the presiding officer and the other counsel.

The following is a proposed schedule for hearings and briefs:

Hearings for cross-examination of all Week Ending September 9, 2022

witnesses, oral Rebuttal/Surrebuttal

Main Briefs Due September 29, 2022

Reply Briefs Due October 11, 2022

Public Meeting January 12, 2023

End of Suspension Period January 28, 2023

Any documents filed in this proceeding should be served on the presiding officer, via email, and the active participants. 52 Pa.Code § 1.54(a) and (d).

Since documents can be submitted to the presiding officer and the participants by e-mail, available e-mail addresses will be included on the counsel service list. Please check the list for omissions and errors and contact our office to make corrections. My e-mail address is [mguhl@pa.gov](mailto:mguhl@pa.gov).

# ORDER

THEREFORE,

IT IS ORDERED:

1. That the parties shall comply with the procedural rules and regulations discussed herein.

Date: June 17, 2022 /s/

Marta Guhl

Administrative Law Judge

**R-2022-3032300 - PA PUC v. VALLEY ENERGY INC**

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