

**PENNSYLVANIA  
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
HARRISBURG, PA 17120**

Public Meeting held December 8, 2022

Commissioners Present:

Gladys Brown Dutrieuille, Chairman  
Stephen M. DeFrank, Vice Chairman  
Ralph V. Yanora  
Kathryn L. Zerfuss  
John F. Coleman, Jr.

Pennsylvania Public Utility  
Commission

Docket Number:  
R-2022-3035730

v.

National Fuel Gas Distribution  
Corporation

**ORDER**

**BY THE COMMISSION:**

On October 28, 2022, National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation (NFG), Utility Code 121850, filed Supplement No. 248 to Gas Tariff - Pa. P.U.C. No. 9 to become effective December 27, 2022, containing proposed changes in rates, rules, and regulations calculated to produce \$28.1 million (9.2%) in additional annual revenues. NFG is also proposing an Energy Efficiency pilot program which would recover an additional \$1.2 million from residential customers annually. NFG's proposals would result in the total bill for a residential customer, using 84 ccf per month, increasing from \$99.93 to \$109.67 per month or about 9.7%. Formal complaints were filed by the Office of Small

Business Advocate and the Office of Consumer Advocate on November 8, 2022, and November 9, 2022, respectively. Various oppositions were also filed.

NFG stated that the requested increase in its base rates is necessary to: allow it to earn a fair return on its used and useful investments; support its infrastructure replacement programs to ensure safe and reliable service; recover higher levels of certain operating expenses, including increased employee compensation costs; implement a Weather Normalization Adjustment tariff rider; and implement an Energy Efficiency pilot program, the cost of which is recovered from residential customers.

Pursuant to 66 Pa. C.S. §1308(d), the filing will be suspended by operation of law until July 27, 2023, 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 NFG'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. 248 to Gas Tariff - Pa. P.U.C. No. 9.

2. That the proposed Supplement No. 248 to Gas Tariff - Pa. P.U.C. No. 9 is suspended by operation of law until July 27, 2023, 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.

4. That this investigation shall include consideration of the lawfulness, justness, and reasonableness of the National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation'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 National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation, 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,**



Rosemary Chiavetta  
Secretary

(SEAL)

ORDER ADOPTED: December 8, 2022

ORDER ENTERED: December 8, 2022

ATTACHMENT

Supplement No. \_\_\_\_\_ to

Pa. P.U.C. No. \_\_\_\_\_

(COMPANY'S NAME)

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(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. \_\_\_\_\_). Presently effective rates contained in Tariff \_\_\_\_\_ Pa. P.U.C. No. \_\_\_\_\_ and supplements thereto, will continue in effect until otherwise amended.

Issued:

66 PA C.S.

Issued in compliance with  
Title