

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

Public Meeting held May 22, 2025

Commissioners Present:

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

Pennsylvania Public Utility
Commission
v.
Valley Energy, Inc.

Docket Number:
R-2025-3054393

ORDER

BY THE COMMISSION:

On April 30, 2025, Valley Energy, Inc. (Valley Energy), Utility Code 125100, filed proposed Supplement No. 69 to Tarriff Gas Pa. P.U.C. No. 2, containing proposed changes in rates, rules, and regulations calculated to produce \$1.6 million (19%) in additional annual revenues, an increase in residential customer's bills using 76 Ccf/month from \$66.81 to \$78.84/month (18%), to become effective June 29, 2025.

On May 12, 2025 and May 14, 2025, the Office of Consumer Advocate and the Office of Small Business Advocate, respectively, filed Formal Complaints.

Valley Energy stated that the requested increase in its base rates is necessary to: systemically replace its aging infrastructure, reduce the risk of over-pressurization by installing additional relief stations in areas served by low-pressure systems, remove cast iron and bare steel mains from its system, meet the increases in operational expenses and components driven by inflation, and earn a fair and reasonable return on its investments.

Pursuant to 66 Pa. C.S. §1308(d), the filing will be suspended by operation of law until January 29, 2026, 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 Valley Energy'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. 69 to Tarriff Gas Pa. P.U.C. No. 2.

2. That the proposed Supplement No. 69 to Tarriff Gas Pa. P.U.C. No. 2 is suspended by operation of law until January 29, 2026, 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 Valley Energy, 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 Valley Energy, 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,



Matthew L. Homsher
Secretary

(SEAL)

ORDER ADOPTED: May 22, 2025

ORDER ENTERED: May 22, 2025

ATTACHMENT

Supplement No. _____ to

Pa. P.U.C. No. _____

(COMPANY'S NAME)

(TERRITORY SERVED BY COMPANY)

Issued:

NOTICE

The rates and regulations proposed in Supplement No. _____ to Tariff _____ Pa. P.U.C. No. _____ filed to become effective _____ are hereby suspended to become effective _____, at Docket No. _____. Presently effective rates contained in Tariff _____ Pa. P.U.C. No. _____ and supplements thereto, will continue in effect until otherwise amended.