BEFORE

**THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| In the Matter of the Annual Report of  Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. for Approval  of an Adjustment to its Infrastructure  Development Rider Rate. | )  )  )  ) | Case No. 17-0521-GA-IDR |

**MOTION TO INTERVENE AND MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF INTERSTATE GAS SUPPLY, INC.**

Joseph Oliker (0086088)

Counsel of Record

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IGS Energy

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**April 13, 2017**

BEFORE

**THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO**

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| In the Matter of the Annual Report of  Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. for Approval  of an Adjustment to its Infrastructure  Development Rider Rate. | )  )  )  ) | Case No. 17-0521-GA-IDR |

**MOTION TO INTERVENE**

Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code (“ORC”) 4903.221 and Ohio Administrative Code (“OAC”) 4901-1-11, Interstate Gas Supply, Inc. (“IGS”) moves for leave to intervene in the above captioned proceeding in which Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. (“Columbia”) seeks Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (“Commission”) approval for an increase of $0.14 per account of the Infrastructure Development Rider (“IDR”). IGS has real and substantial interest in these proceedings that will not be protected in the absence of IGS intervention. The interests of IGS are not represented by any other party in the proceedings.

IGS respectfully request the Commission grant its Motion. The reasons for IGS’s motion are more fully set forth in the attached Memorandum in Support.

Respectfully submitted,

**/s/ *Joseph Oliker***

Joseph Oliker (0086088)

Counsel of Record

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**MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT**

For purposes of considering requests for leave to intervene in a Commission proceeding, OAC 4901-1-11(A) provides that:

Upon timely motion, any person shall be permitted to intervene in a proceeding upon a showing that: … (2) The person has a real and substantial interest in the proceeding, and the person is so situated that the disposition of the proceeding may, as a practical matter, impair or impede his or her ability to protect that interest, unless the person's interest is adequately represented by existing parties.

Further, RC 4903.221(B) and Rule 4901-1-11(B), OAC, provide that the Commission, in ruling upon applications to intervene in its proceedings, shall consider the following criteria:

1. The nature and extent of the prospective intervener’s interest; (2) The legal position advanced by the prospective intervener and its probable relation to the merits of the case; (3) Whether the intervention by the prospective intervener will unduly prolong or delay the proceedings; (4) Whether the prospective intervener will significantly contribute to full development and equitable resolution of the factual issues.

IGS is a certified competitive retail electric service (“CRES”) provider and a certified competitive retail natural gas (“CRNG”) provider serving customers in the State of Ohio for over 27 years. IGS and its family of companies provide its customers with a diverse range of retail products and services, including natural gas supply for residential, commercial, and industrial customers within the Columbia service territory. The IGS family of companies also construct combined heat and power facilities, compressed natural gas fueling stations, and other natural gas related products.

In this proceeding, Columbia Gas of Ohio Inc. (“Columbia”) is filing the Infrastructure Development Rider Annual Report though which Columbia is seeking to justify an increase in the Infrastructure Development Rider (“IDR”) rate. Columbia proposes an effective date of May 31, 2017. The proposed IDR may enable Columbia to make natural gas service available to new customers, but the IDR would also impose additional costs on customers including IGS’ customers in the Columbia Service territory. Existing IGS customers and potential new customers would be directly impacted by a change in Columbia’s riders.

IGS has a direct interest in these proceedings. Without the ability to fully participate in these proceedings IGS’s direct interest will be substantially prejudiced. Inasmuch as others participating in these proceedings cannot adequately protect IGS’s interests, it would be inappropriate to determine these proceedings without IGS’s participation.

Finally, IGS’s participation will not unduly delay these proceedings. Moreover, IGS will contribute to full development and equitable resolution of the factual issues in these proceedings.

The Supreme Court of Ohio has held that intervention should be liberally allowed for those with an interest in the proceeding.[[1]](#footnote-1) In light of the liberal interpretation of the intervention rules, and for the reasons stated above, IGS meets the standards for intervention in this proceeding.

For the reasons set forth above, IGS respectfully requests the Commission grant this Motion to Intervene.

Respectfully submitted,

**/s/ *Joseph Oliker***

Joseph Oliker (0086088)

Counsel of Record

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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned hereby certifies that a copy of the foregoing *Motion to Intervene and Memorandum in Support of Interstate Gas Supply, Inc.* was served this 13th day of April, 2017 via electronic mail upon the following:

[sseiple@nisource.com](mailto:sseiple@nisource.com)

josephclark@nisource.com

william.wright@ohioattorneygeneral.gov

***/s/Joseph Oliker***

Joseph Oliker

1. *Ohio Consumers' Counsel v. Pub. Util. Comm.,* (2006) 111 OhioSt.3d 384, 388. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)