

BEFORE

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Application of)
Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. for Approval of) Case No. 10-578-GA-UEx
an Adjustment to Its Uncollectible Expense)
Rider Rate.)

FINDING AND ORDER

The Commission finds:

- (1) By Finding and Order dated December 17, 2003, in Case No. 03-1127-GA-UNC (Order), the Commission approved, in concept, an application brought jointly by five natural gas companies, including Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. (Columbia), that proposed to alter the method by which the five recover uncollectible accounts expenses. The Order also provided discussion on several tangential issues and guidance as to implementation and reporting.
- (2) Columbia's current uncollectible expense (UEX) rider rate of \$0.1866 per thousand cubic feet (Mcf) was approved by Opinion and Order dated July 1, 2009, in Case No. 09-372-GA-UEx.
- (3) On April 27, 2010, Columbia filed the instant application to revise its existing UEX rider rate. The proposed rate decreases to \$0.1512 per Mcf. Staff reviewed the application and, on May 6, 2010, filed its comments recommending approval.
- (4) The Commission has reviewed the application and Staff's filed comments and finds that Columbia's application is reasonable and in the public interest, and should be approved.
- (5) Staff also recommends that, in the next gas cost recovery financial audit for Columbia, Columbia's independent financial auditor should examine the monthly UEX balances and write-offs and recoveries for 2009 and that any required adjustments or corrections be considered in the next UEX rider application. Additionally, Staff recommends that the auditor randomly sample customers whose balances have been written off to determine if write-offs were timely and how subsequent

payments were accounted for. The Commission finds that these recommendations are reasonable and should be adopted.

It is, therefore,

ORDERED, That Columbia be authorized to decrease the rate for its UEX rider to \$0.1512 per Mcf. It is, further,

ORDERED, That Columbia is authorized to file four complete copies of tariffs in final form consistent with this Finding and Order. Columbia shall file one copy in this case docket and one copy in its TRF docket (or may make such filing electronically as directed in Case No. 06-900-AU-WVR). The remaining two copies shall be designated for distribution to the Rates and Tariffs, Energy and Water Division of the Commission's Utilities Department. It is, further,


ORDERED, That the effective date of the new tariffs shall be a date not earlier than the date upon which final tariffs are filed with the Commission. It is, further,

ORDERED, That, in Columbia's next gas cost recovery audit and next UEX rider application, Columbia's independent financial auditor shall perform the reviews described in this order. It is, further,

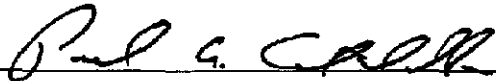
ORDERED, That nothing in this Finding and Order shall be binding upon this Commission in any further proceeding or investigation involving the justness or reasonableness of any rate, charge, rule, or regulation. It is, further,

ORDERED, That a copy of this Finding and Order be served upon all parties of record in this proceeding.

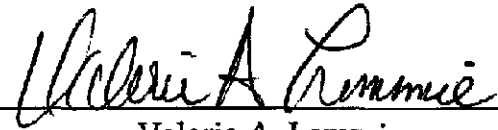
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO



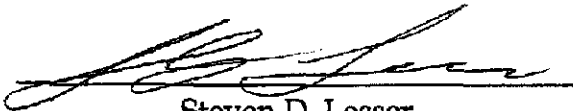
Alan R. Schriber, Chairman



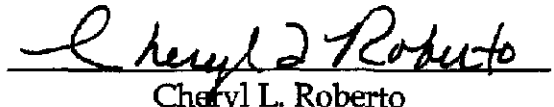
Paul A. Centolella



Valerie A. Lemmie



Steven D. Lesser



Cheryl L. Roberto

JN:js

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MAY 19 2010



Renee J. Jenkins
Secretary