

BEFORE

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Uncollectible Expense)
Rider of Orwell Natural Gas Company.) Case No. 14-312-GA-UEx

FINDING AND ORDER

The Commission finds:

- (1) Orwell Natural Gas Company (Orwell) is a public utility as defined in R.C. 4905.02 and, as such, is subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission.
- (2) By Finding and Order issued June 27, 2007, in *In re Orwell Natural Gas Company*, Case No. 07-0163-GA-ATA, the Commission authorized Orwell to establish an uncollectible expense (UEX) rider effective June 29, 2007. Since that time, Orwell has filed updates to adjust its rider rate and the Commission has authorized such subsequent revisions.
- (3) Orwell's current UEX rider rate of (\$0.00834)¹ per thousand cubic feet (Mcf) was approved in *In re Orwell Natural Gas Company*, Case No. 13-312-GA-UEx, Finding and Order (December 18, 2013).
- (4) On June 27, 2014, Orwell filed an application to revise its current UEX rider rate. Orwell included with the application two attachments. Attachment 1 is the annual budget reconciliation (ABR) that illustrates Orwell's actual write-off and revenue collected beginning in January 2013 and ending in May 2014. Attachment 2 provides Orwell's calculation method in determining the proposed UEX rate. In its June 27, 2014 filing, Orwell proposed to increase the UEX rider rate to \$0.00826 per Mcf. Orwell noted that the proposed rate is based on actual experience for the 12 months ended May 2014, as adjusted for estimated uncollectible accruals and projected sales volumes through April 2015.
- (5) On August 8, 2014, Orwell filed a revision to its application, and two attachments. Orwell noted that, since its June 27, 2014 filing, due to an inadvertent data entry error, pointed out by

¹ Throughout this Order, numbers in parenthesis indicate negative numbers.

Staff, the attachments filed with the application filed on June 27, 2014, contained an accounting error. Orwell stated that it agrees with Staff's calculation.

- (6) On August 12, 2014, Staff filed comments on the proposed UEX rider adjustment. Staff notes that Orwell's application, as revised, would result in a change from the existing rate of \$(0.00834) per Mcf to the proposed rate of \$0.00774 per Mcf.

Staff states that it performed a preliminary review of the ABR covering January 2013 through May 2014. As noted in the revised application, Staff detected a minor error in the original filing.

Staff intends to examine the monthly UEX balances, write-offs, and recoveries for both the 2012 and 2013 periods during Orwell's upcoming audit in 2014. Any required adjustments or corrections will be incorporated into the next UEX rider application.

- (7) The Commission reviewed the application, as revised, as well as Staff's comments, and finds that a UEX rider rate of \$0.00774 per Mcf is reasonable and in the public interest, and that it should be approved.

It is, therefore,

ORDERED, That Staff's recommendation, as agreed to by Orwell, to set Orwell's UEX rider rate to \$0.00774 per Mcf be approved. It is, further,


ORDERED, That Orwell be authorized to file two complete copies of tariffs, in final form, consistent with this Finding and Order. Orwell shall file one copy in this case docket and one copy in its TRF docket. 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,

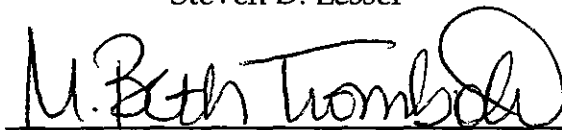
ORDERED, That nothing in this Finding and Order shall be binding upon this Commission in any subsequent investigation or proceeding involving the justness or reasonableness of any rate, charge, rule, or regulation. It is, further,

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

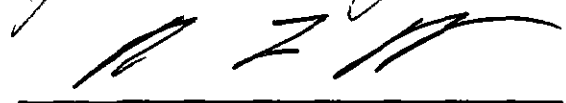
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO


Thomas W. Johnson, Chairman


Steven D. Lesser



M. Beth Trombold


Lynn Slaby


Asim Z. Haque

SEF/dah

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Barcy F. McNeal
Secretary