## BEFORE

## THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

| In the Matter of the Adoption of Ohio   | ) |                        |
|---|---|------------------------|
| Adm.Code Chapter 4901:1-43 Concerning   | ) |                        |
| Rules Involving Natural Gas Company     | ) | Case No. 15-871-GA-ORD |
| Infrastructure Development to Implement | ) |                        |
| R.C. 4929.16 to 4929.167.               | ) |                        |

## **ENTRY**

## The Commission finds:

- (1) In 2014, the General Assembly enacted Sub.H.B. No. 319 (H.B. 319), which became effective on March 23, 2015, in order to allow natural gas companies to file applications for an infrastructure development rider to recover costs of certain economic development projects. H.B. 319 created new sections in the Revised Code, R.C. 4929.16, 4929.161, 4929.162, 4929.163, 4929.164, 4929.165, 4929.166, and 4929.167. The newly adopted sections in the Revised Code direct the Commission to adopt rules pursuant to R.C. 111.15 to carry out the newly adopted sections. The Commission has opened this docket in order to consider and adopt the required rules in new Ohio Adm.Code Chapter 4901:1-43.
- (2) The Commission notes that, on January 10, 2011, the governor of the state of Ohio issued Executive Order 2011-01K, entitled "Establishing the Common Sense Initiative," which sets forth several factors to be considered in the promulgation of rules and the review of existing rules. Among other things, the Commission must review any proposed rules to determine the impact that a rule has on small businesses; attempt to balance properly the critical objectives of regulation and the cost of compliance by the regulated parties; and amend or rescind rules that are unnecessary, ineffective, contradictory, redundant, inefficient, or needlessly burdensome, or that have had negative unintended consequences, or unnecessarily impede business growth.
- (3) Additionally, in accordance with R.C. 121.82, in the course of developing draft rules, the Commission must conduct a business impact analysis regarding the rules. If there will be an adverse impact on business, as defined in R.C. 107.52, the agency is to

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incorporate features into the draft rules to eliminate or adequately reduce any adverse impact. Furthermore, the Commission is required, pursuant to R.C. 121.82, to provide the Common Sense Initiative (CSI) office the draft rules and the business impact analysis.

- (4) As part of our rule review procedures, the Commission finds that, prior to issuing the proposed rules for comment, it is appropriate to require Commission Staff (Staff) to hold a workshop with interested stakeholders. At the workshop, Staff should provide an overview of the impending rules and elicit feedback. Additionally, Staff may permit stakeholders to propose their own potential rules for Staff's consideration. Interested stakeholders should come to the workshop prepared with necessary technical experts to provide appropriate feedback. After Staff has an opportunity to consider the feedback received at the workshop, Staff will draft proposed rule amendments, and the Commission will issue Staff's proposal for comments and reply comments by interested parties.
- (5)Accordingly, the Commission finds that, at this time, a workshop should be scheduled for June 3, 2015, at 10:00 a.m., 11th Floor, at the offices of the Commission, 180 East Broad Street, Hearing Room B, Columbus, Ohio, to consider the impending rules in Ohio Adm.Code Chapter 4901:1-43. The workshop will be transcribed. To allow broader access to the workshop, it will be webcast. Persons wishing to view the workshop via the web should access the Commission's website at www.puco.ohio.gov and select Webcasts. The workshop is intended as an opportunity for Staff to receive feedback from interested stakeholders before it issues draft rules and opens them up for formal comment. Any interested stakeholder that cannot or does not choose to participate in the workshop may file formal comments with the Commission once the draft rules have been issued.

It is, therefore,

ORDERED, That, in accordance with Finding (5), a workshop be scheduled for June 3, 2015. It is, further,

ORDERED, That notice of this Entry be served via the Gas-Pipeline industry list-serve. It is, further,

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ORDERED, That a copy of this Entry be served upon all regulated natural gas companies, the Ohio Gas Association, the Ohio Oil and Gas Association, the Ohio Petroleum Council, Ohio Energy Group, Ohio Manufacturers Association, Ohio Consumers' Counsel, Ohio Development Services Agency, Columbus 2020, Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission, Industrial Energy Users Ohio, Columbus Chamber, Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce, city of Gahanna, Union County Community Improvement Corporation, Ohio Economic Development Association, Regional Growth Partnership, Zanesville-Muskingham County Port Authority, Local Initiatives Support Corporation, Austin Powder Company, Eastern Ohio Development Alliance, Appalachian Partnership for Economic Growth, Clean Fuels Ohio, Ohio Propane Gas Association, and all other interested persons of record.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

Andre T. Porter, Chairman

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Barcy F. McNeal

Secretary