

FILE

Ohio

Public Utilities  
Commission

Asim Z. Haque, Chairman

Commissioners

Lynn Slaby  
M. Beth Trombold  
Thomas W. Johnson  
M. Howard Petricoff

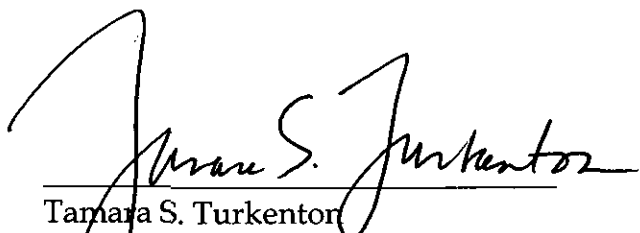
August 18, 2016

Docketing Division  
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio  
180 East Broad Street  
Columbus OH 43215

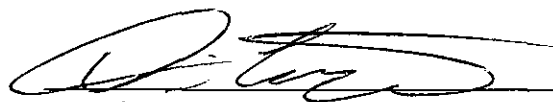
RE: *In the Matter of the Applications of Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. for Approval to Change Accounting Methods, Case No. 14-1615-GA-AAM*

Dear Docketing Division:

Enclosed please find the Staff's Review and Recommendation regarding the compliance filing made by Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc., Case No. 14-1615-GA-AAM.



Tamara S. Turkentor  
Chief, Regulatory Services Division  
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio



David Lipthrott  
Chief, Research and Policy Division  
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio

Enclosure  
Cc: Parties of Record

This is to certify that the images appearing are an accurate and complete reproduction of a case file document delivered in the regular course of business.  
Technician SMO Date Processed AUG 18 2016

180 East Broad Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793

(614) 466-3016  
www.PUCO.ohio.gov

An equal opportunity employer and service provider

RECEIVED-DOCKETING DIV  
2016 AUG 18 AM 9:12  
PUCO

**Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc.**  
**Case No. 14-1615-GA-AAM**

**SUMMARY:**

By Opinion and Order (Order) dated December 17, 2016, the Commission approved Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc.'s (Columbia or Company) application in the above reference case to establish a regulatory asset to defer to up to \$15 million annually to increase customer safety through the Pipeline Safety Program (PSP). The Commission's Order required Columbia to file an annual report for its PSP by June 1 each year. The report was to include annual and cumulative PSP expenses, monthly expenditures for each PSP component on an annual basis, and an audit report prepared by the Company's external auditor regarding the accuracy of Columbia's accounting for PSP expenditures. The report was to also include items such as the PSP's progress toward reducing risks to Columbia's system, the result of ongoing and future investigations, any mid-term adjustments to PSP projects or programs, and the Company's effort towards identifying inefficiencies and implementing cost saving measures.

On June 1, 2016, Columbia filed its annual report for the PSP detailing expenses deferred for calendar year 2015.

**STAFF REVIEW:**

Pursuant to the Commission's Order, Staff has 90 days to file a report regarding the proposed PSP deferrals. Staff has reviewed Columbia's annual report and accompanying attachments that were filed in this case, and has no objection to the information contained in the report. However, as noted in Staff Comments filed in this case and as acknowledged by the Commission's Order, Staff's lack of objection to Columbia's Annual Report should not be construed as support for future recovery of the PSP deferrals.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the Commission accept Columbia's annual report as filed.