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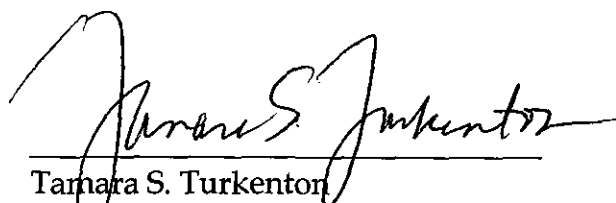
PUCO

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

RE: *In the Matter of the Application of Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. for Approval of an  
Adjustment to its Uncollectible Expense Rider Rate, Case No. 17-321-GA-UEx*

Dear Docketing Division:

Enclosed please find the Staff's Review and Recommendations in regard to the application filed by Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc., to update its Uncollectible Expense Rider, in Case No. 17-321-GA-UEx.



Tamara S. Turkenton  
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

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**Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc.**  
**Case No. 17-321-GA-UEx**

**SUMMARY:**

In Case No. 03-1127-GA-UNC, the Commission authorized the concept of an uncollectible accounts expense recovery mechanism for five natural gas companies. The mechanism approved allows for the recovery of actual uncollectible expense through a rider, rather than through base rates. Subsequently, Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. (Columbia or Company) was authorized in Case No. 03-2572-GA-ATA to establish a rider recovery mechanism consistent with that which was approved in Case No. 03-1127-GA-UNC. On April 7, 2004, the Commission issued its Opinion and Order in that case and authorized an initial uncollectible rider rate of \$0.0493 per Mcf.

Since that time Columbia has filed annual updates to adjust its rider rate and the Commission authorized such subsequent revisions. The recent history of Columbia's rider rate is as follows:

July 2011 – May 2012	(\$0.0064) per McF
June 2012 – May 2013	\$0.00781 per McF
June 2013 – May 2014	(\$0.0176) per McF
June 2014 – May 2015	\$0.1457 per McF
June 2015 – May 2016	\$0.1214 per McF
June 2016 – May 2017	\$0.0555 per McF

On April 14, 2017, Columbia filed the pending application to decrease its current uncollectible expense rider rate from \$0.0555 per Mcf to \$0.0438 per Mcf, an adjustment of (\$0.0117) per Mcf. Staff has reviewed the application and makes its finding and recommendations in this Staff Letter.

**STAFF REVIEW:**

Staff performed a review of Columbia's annual balance of actual uncollectible accounts expense net of recoveries as of January 1, 2016 through March 31, 2017 (Attachment 1 and 2); uncollectable expense rider calculation (Attachment 3 and 4) and proposed tariff sheets (Attachment 5).

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff believes that Columbia's application appropriately calculates the rider and recommends the proposed rate of \$0.0438 per Mcf be approved.