



**Public Utilities  
Commission**

Asim Z. Haque, Chairman

Commissioners

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2017 MAY 25 PM 1:29

PUCO

May 25, 2017

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 Changes to Revise its Tariffs, Case No. 17-1005-GA-ATA

Dear Docketing Division:

Enclosed please find Staff's review and recommendation regarding Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc's application to amend its tariffs in Case No. 17-1005-GA-ATA.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara Bossart".

Barbara Bossart  
Chief, Reliability and Service Analysis Division  
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio

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 JMM Date Processed MAY 25 2017

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**Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc.**

**Case No. 17-1005-GA-ATA**

**BACKGROUND**

In order to comply with regulations enacted by the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), *Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. (Columbia)* filed an application for authority to revise its tariff on April 13, 2017 so as to make provisions for the installation of Excess Flow Valves (EFV) on natural gas service lines. Specifically, the new regulations require that operators such as Columbia install EFVs on certain customer service lines identified in the regulations upon request of a customer. In addition, the new regulations require that, beginning on April 14, 2017, operators must send notices to customers of their right to request that an EFV be installed.

PHMSA recently promulgated new rules pertaining to the installation of EFVs, which took effect on April 14, 2017.<sup>1</sup> EFVs are safety devices installed on natural gas distribution pipelines to reduce the risk of accidents. PHMSA rules require their installation on new or replaced services lines serving single-family residences. In the instant matter the new regulations require that operators such as DEO install EFVs on certain customer service lines identified in the regulations upon request of a customer. In addition, the new regulations require that, beginning on April 14, 2017, operators must send notices to customers of their right to request that an EFV be installed.

**APPLICATION**

Columbia's application states that beginning April 14, 2017, the Company will commence sending notices to applicable customers of their right to request installation of an EFV and establishes the terms and conditions of associated with such installations. Columbia is proposing a charge equal to the average charge the company incurs to install an EFV to be paid prior to installation.

**STAFF REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION**

Staff has reviewed Columbia's application and PHMSA's new regulations. In Staff's opinion, the proposed tariff language contained in Columbia's application conforms to PHMSA's regulations as well as the Commission's tariff requirements.

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<sup>1</sup> See Docket No. PHMSA–2011–0009; Amdt. No 192–121.