

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

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In the Matter of the Regulation: Case Nos.  
of the Purchased Gas Adjustment: 16-206-GA-GCR  
Clauses Contained within the : 16-209-GA-GCR  
Rate Schedules of: : 16-212-GA-GCR

:

Brainard Gas Corporation, :  
Northeast Ohio Natural Gas :  
Corporation, Orwell Natural :  
Gas Company and Related Matters:

:

In the Matter of the :  
Uncollectible Expense Riders :  
of: :

Northeast Ohio Natural Gas : Case Nos.  
Corporation, Orwell Natural : 16-309-GA-UEx  
Gas Company and Related : 16-312-GA-UEx  
Matters. :

In the Matter of The :  
Percentage of Income Payment : Case No.  
Plan Rider of Northeast Ohio : 16-409-GA-PIP  
Natural Gas Corporation and :  
Related Matters. :

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PROCEEDINGS

Before Nick Walstra and Patricia A. Schabo,  
Attorney Examiners, held at the Public Utilities  
Commission of Ohio, 180 East Broad Street,  
Hearing Room No. 11-C, Columbus, Ohio, on  
Monday, June 19, 2017, at 10:00 A.M.

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Armstrong & Okey, Inc.  
222 East Town Street, 2nd Floor  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
(614) 224-9481 - (800) 223-9481

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APPEARANCES:

Bricker & Eckler  
By Mr. Devin D. Parram  
100 South Third Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

On behalf of the Companies.

Mr. Ajay Kumar  
Assistant Consumers' Counsel  
10 West Broad Street, Suite 1800  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

On behalf of the Residential Utility  
Customers of the Companies.

Mr. Werner L. Margard  
Assistant Attorney General  
30 East Broad Street, 16th Floor  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

On behalf of the Staff of the  
Public Utilities Commission  
of Ohio.

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INDEX TO EXHIBITS

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COMPANY EXHIBITS

MARKED ADMT

1	Stipulation and Recommendation	7	9
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COMMISSION ORDERED EXHIBITS

1	Staff Report for Brainard Gas Corporation, Northeast Ohio Natural Gas Corporation and Orwell Natural Gas Company.	6	9
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OCC EXHIBITS

1	Letter dated June 12, 2017 from OCC	10	10
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1 Monday Morning,  
2 June 19, 2017.

3 - - -

4 ATTORNEY EXAMINER WALSTRA: The  
5 Public Utilities Commission of Ohio has called  
6 for hearing at this time and place Case Nos.  
7 16-206-GA-GCR, 16-209-GA-GCR, 16-212-GA-GCR,  
8 16-309-GA-UEX, 16-312-GA-UEX, 16-409-GA-PIP,  
9 being in the Matter of the Regulation of the  
10 Purchased Gas Adjustment Clauses Contained  
11 within the Rate Schedules of Brainard Gas  
12 Corporation, Northeast Ohio Natural Gas  
13 Corporation, Orwell Natural Gas company, and  
14 Related Matters.

15 I am Nick Walstra and with me is  
16 Trish Schabo, we are the Attorney Examiners  
17 assigned by the Commission to hear this case.

18 I will begin by taking appearances  
19 of the parties. The Company.

20 MR. PARRAM: Good morning your  
21 Honors. On behalf of Brainard Gas Corporation,  
22 Northeast Ohio Natural Gas Corporation, Orwell  
23 Natural Gas Company, my name is Devin Parram  
24 with the law firm of Bricker & Eckler, 100 South  
25 Third Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

1                   ATTORNEY EXAMINER:    Thank you.  
2   OCC.

3                   MR. KUMAR:   Thank you, your Honor.  
4   On behalf of the residential customers of  
5   Orwell, Northeast and Brainard, the Office of  
6   the Ohio Consumers' Counsel, by Bruce Weston,  
7   and me, Ajay Kumar, 10 West Broad Street, Suite  
8   1800, Columbus, Ohio.

9                   ATTORNEY EXAMINER WALSTRA:   Thank  
10   you.

11                  MR. MARGARD:   On behalf of the Staff  
12   of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, Mike  
13   DeWine, Ohio Attorney General; William Wright,  
14   Section Chief of the Public Utilities Section,  
15   by Assistant Attorney General Werner L. Margard,  
16   30 East Broad Street, 16th Floor, Columbus,  
17   Ohio.

18                  ATTORNEY EXAMINER:   Thank you.   I  
19   understand there has been a stipulation filed in  
20   this case.

21                  MR. MARGARD:   There has, your Honor,  
22   but as a preliminary matter I would like to mark  
23   and offer for admission exhibits.   Specifically  
24   I would like to mark as Commission Ordered  
25   Exhibit No. 1 the financial audit of the three

1 companies that was filed on February 24, 2017.

2 As Commission Ordered Exhibit No. 2  
3 the audit of the uncollectible expense mechanism  
4 for Orwell Natural Gas Company, filed in the  
5 docket on February 24th, 2017.

6 As Commission Ordered Exhibit No. 3,  
7 the audit of the uncollectible expense mechanism  
8 for Northeast Ohio Natural Gas Company, filed on  
9 February 24, of 2017.

10 And as Commission Order Exhibit No.  
11 4 the audit of the Percentage Income Payment  
12 Plan for Northeast Ohio Natural Gas filed on  
13 February 24th, 2017.

14 Your Honor, although I don't have  
15 copies with me today because they are  
16 voluminous, for purposes of economy and  
17 efficiency, I would like to have marked as  
18 Commission ordered Exhibit No. 5 the Management  
19 Performance Audit of the companies performed by  
20 Raymond that was filed in this case on the 27th  
21 of February, 2017.

22 In addition, your Honor, as  
23 Commission Ordered Exhibit I will call it 5-A  
24 the confidential version of that document that  
25 was filed on March 1st of 2017.

1 ATTORNEY EXAMINER WALSTRA: So  
2 marked.

3 (EXHIBITS MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION)

4 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: Mr. Parram.

5 MR. PARRAM: Yes. Thank you, your  
6 Honor. As you indicated the companies and  
7 the staff have entered into a stipulation which  
8 was filed on May 12th, 2017 in this case.

9 I would like to have that marked as  
10 Company Exhibit 1.

11 ATTORNEY EXAMINER WALSTRA: So  
12 marked.

13 (EXHIBIT HEREBY MARKED FOR  
14 IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES)

15 MR. PARRAM: And we have a witness,  
16 Martin K. Whelan, who filed pre-filed direct  
17 testimony on June 2nd. I would like to have  
18 that marked as Company Exhibit 2.

19 Mr. Whelan's testimony is in support  
20 of the stipulation.

21 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: So marked.

22 (EXHIBIT HEREBY MARKED FOR  
23 IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES)

24 MR. PARRAM: And also we filed on  
25 June 14th, last week, 2017, the notice of

publication that I would like to have marked as  
Company Exhibit 3.

ATTORNEY EXAMINER WALSTRA: So  
marked.

(EXHIBIT HEREBY MARKED FOR  
IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES)

MR. PARRAM: And, Your Honors, it's  
my understanding, conferred with counsel for  
Staff and OCC, it's my understanding that they  
have no questions for Mr. Whelan, and are  
agreeable to stipulate the admission of Company  
Exhibit 2, Mr. Whelan's pre-filed direct  
testimony. But, Mr. Whelan is here available if  
the Bench has any questions for Mr. Whelan.

ATTORNEY EXAMINER WALSTRA: Okay.  
Is that everybody's understanding?

MR. MARGARD: It is.

MR. KUMAR: It is.

ATTORNEY EXAMINER WALSTRA: Okay.  
Mr. Margard, would you like to move your  
exhibits?

MR. MARGARD: If you have no need of  
Mr. Whelan's testimony, your Honor, I will  
proceed to move for the admission of Commission  
Ordered Exhibit --



1                   ATTORNEY EXAMINER WALSTRA: I do not  
2 have any questions.

3                   MR. MARGARD: Thank you. 1 through  
4 5 and 5-A.

5                   ATTORNEY EXAMINER WALSTRA: Okay.  
6 Any objections?

7                   MR. PARRAM: No, your Honor.

8                   ATTORNEY EXAMINER WALSTRA: Okay.  
9 They will be admitted.

10                   (EXHIBITS ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE)

11                   MR. PARRAM: Your Honor, I would  
12 also move the admission of Company Exhibits 1, 2  
13 and 3, your Honor.

14                   ATTORNEY EXAMINER WALSTRA: Okay.  
15 Any objections?

16                   MR. MARGARD: None.

17                   ATTORNEY EXAMINER WALSTRA: Okay.  
18 They will be admitted.

19                   (EXHIBITS ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE)

20                   MR. KUMAR: Your Honor, I also have  
21 an exhibit I would like marked.

22                   ATTORNEY EXAMINER WALSTRA: Okay.

23                   MR. KUMAR: I do have a letter from  
24 June 12th that we filled in the docket. Would  
25 you like a copy?

1                   ATTORNEY EXAMINER WALSTRA: No, I  
2 should be okay.

3                   MR. KUMAR: I would like that marked  
4 as OCC Exhibit 1.

5                   ATTORNEY EXAMINER WALSTRA: So  
6 marked.

7                   (EXHIBIT MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION  
8 PURPOSES)

9                   MR. KUMAR: And I move for the  
10 admission of that letter.

11                  ATTORNEY EXAMINER WALSTRA: Any  
12 objections?

13                  MR. PARRAM: No, your Honor.

14                  MR. MARGARD: No, your Honor.

15                  ATTORNEY EXAMINER WALSTRA: It will  
16 be admitted.

17                  (EXHIBIT HEREBY ADMITTED INTO  
18 EVIDENCE)

19                  ATTORNEY EXAMINER WALSTRA: Anything  
20 further to come before the Bench?

21                  MR. PARRAM: No, your Honor.

22                  ATTORNEY EXAMINER WALSTRA: Okay.  
23 The Commission will take it under advisement.  
24 And we are adjourned. Thank you.

25                                 - - -

1 (At 10:10 A.M. the hearing was  
2 concluded)

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4  
5 CERTIFICATE

6 I do hereby certify that the foregoing  
7 is a true and correct transcript of the  
8 proceedings taken by me in this matter on June  
9 19, 2017, and carefully compared with my  
10 original stenographic notes.

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Michael O. Spencer,  
Registered Professional  
Reporter.

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**This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities**

**Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on**

**6/29/2017 2:26:20 PM**

**in**

**Case No(s). 16-0206-GA-GCR, 16-0209-GA-GCR, 16-0212-GA-GCR, 16-0309-GA-UEX, 16-0312-GA-U**

Summary: Transcript In the Matter of the Regulation of the Purchased Gas Adjustment  
Clauses Contained with the Rate Schedules of: Brainard Gas Corporation, Northeast Ohio  
Natural Gas Corporation, Orwell Natural Gas Company and Related Matters and In the Matter  
of Uncollectible Expense Riders of: Northeast Ohio Natural Gas Corporation, Orwell Natural  
Gas Company and Related Matters and In the Matter of the Percentage of Income Payment  
Plan Rider of Northeast Ohio Natural Gas Corporation and Related Matters, hearing held on  
June 19, 2017. electronically filed by Mr. Ken Spencer on behalf of Armstrong & Okey, Inc.  
and Spencer, Michael O. Mr.