

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF
SUBURBAN NATURAL GAS COMPANY FOR
APPROVAL OF AN ADJUSTMENT TO ITS
UNCOLLECTIBLE EXPENSE RIDER RATE.

CASE NO. 17-316-GA-UEx

FINDING AND ORDER

Entered in the Journal on July 26, 2017

I. SUMMARY

{¶ 1} The Commission approves the amended application of Suburban Natural Gas Company to decrease its uncollectible expense rider rate.

II. DISCUSSION

{¶ 2} Suburban Natural Gas Company (Suburban) is a natural gas company as defined in R.C. 4905.03 and a public utility as defined in R.C. 4905.02 and, as such, is subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission.

{¶ 3} In Case No. 07-689-GA-AIR, the Commission authorized Suburban to establish a rider recovery mechanism to recover its actual bad/uncollected debt. *In re Suburban Natural Gas Co.*, Case No. 07-689-GA-AIR, Opinion and Order (Mar. 19, 2008). Suburban's initial uncollectible expense (UEX) rider rate was \$0.07012727 per thousand cubic feet (Mcf). Since then, the Commission has approved subsequent applications to adjust Suburban's UEX rider rate.

{¶ 4} On August 17, 2016, the Commission approved Suburban's current UEX rider rate of \$0.05817118 per Mcf. *In re Suburban Natural Gas Co.*, Case No. 16-316-GA-UEx, Finding and Order (Aug. 17, 2016).

{¶ 5} On May 26, 2017, as amended on June 14, 2017, and June 21, 2017, Suburban filed, in the above-captioned case, an application to decrease its UEX rider rate to \$0.00363985 per Mcf, as summarized below:

Current Rate	Proposed Rate	Proposed Decrease
\$0.05817118 per Mcf	\$0.00363985 per Mcf	\$0.05453133 per Mcf

The proposed rate is comprised of two components: the balance of deferred uncollectible accounts expense net of recoveries as of December 31, 2016, and the actual bad debt write-offs for the year 2016.

{¶ 6} On June 27, 2017, Staff filed comments on Suburban's amended application, recommending approval of the proposed UEX rider rate. Staff reviewed Suburban's annual balance of actual uncollectible accounts expense net of recoveries as of January 1, 2016, through December 31, 2016, and the proposed tariff sheets. Staff concluded that Suburban calculated its UEX rider rate correctly and recommended that its proposed rate of \$0.00363985 per Mcf be approved.

{¶ 7} The Commission has reviewed the amended application, as well as Staff's comments, and finds that the proposed adjustment to Suburban's UEX rider is reasonable, is in the public interest, and should be approved. Accordingly, the Commission finds that Suburban should be authorized to include the revised UEX rider rate in its tariff, which contains the terms, conditions, and rates Suburban applies to the gas service it provides to customers.

III. ORDER

{¶ 8} It is, therefore,

{¶ 9} ORDERED, That Suburban's application, as amended, be approved and Suburban be authorized to decrease the rate of its UEX rider to \$0.00363985 per Mcf. It is, further,

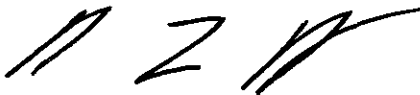
{¶ 10} ORDERED, That Suburban is authorized to file tariffs, in final form, consistent with this Finding and Order. Suburban shall file one copy in this case docket and one copy in its TRF docket. It is, further,

{¶ 11} ORDERED, That the effective date of the new tariff shall be a date not earlier than the date upon which the final tariff pages are filed with the Commission. It is, further,

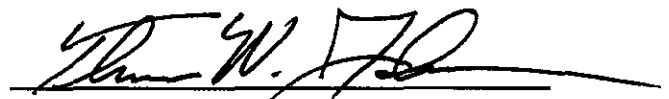
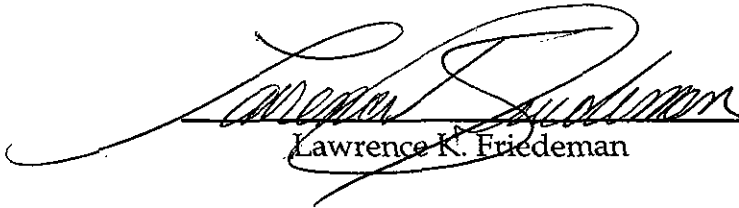
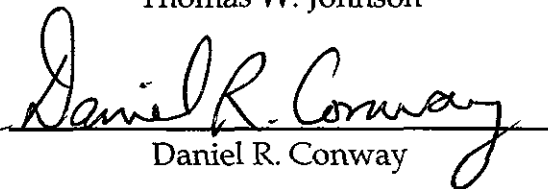
{¶ 12} ORDERED, That nothing in this Finding and Order shall be binding upon this Commission in any future proceeding or investigation involving the justness or reasonableness of any rate, charge, rule, or regulation. It is, further,

{¶ 13} ORDERED, That a copy of this Finding and Order be served upon all parties and interested persons of record.

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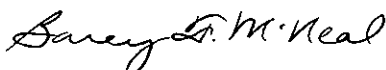


Asim Z. Haque, Chairman


M. Beth Trombold
Thomas W. Johnson
Lawrence K. Friedeman
Daniel R. Conway

LDJ/vrm

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Barcy F. McNeal
Secretary