

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF
SUBURBAN NATURAL GAS COMPANY
FOR APPROVAL OF AN ALTERNATIVE
FORM OF REGULATION TO INITIATE A
REVENUE DECOUPLING MECHANISM.

CASE NO. 17-594-GA-ALT

ENTRY

Entered in the Journal on July 26, 2017

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

{¶ 2} On April 25, 2017, as supplemented on May 15, 2017, Suburban filed an application for approval of an alternative rate plan with supporting exhibits and testimony pursuant to R.C. 4929.05, 4929.051, and 4909.18. In its application, Suburban seeks to initiate a revenue decoupling mechanism that provides for a Straight Fixed Variable rate design to be phased in over a two-year period. Citing R.C. 4929.051(A), Suburban additionally requests approval of an Energy Efficiency Program (EEP) pilot and the establishment of a corresponding EEP Rider with the initial rate set at zero. Suburban suggests designing the EEP Rider in collaboration with Staff and other interested parties and submitting the same for Commission approval within four months after approval of the instant application.

{¶ 3} On May 19, 2017, Staff filed a letter indicating that Suburban's supplemented application is in compliance with Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-19-06.

{¶ 4} By Entry issued May 23, 2017, the attorney examiner established the procedural schedule that set June 6, 2017, as the filing deadline for any motions to intervene; July 31, 2017, as the filing deadline for the Staff Report; and August 31, 2017, as the filing deadline for objections to the Staff Report or to Suburban's application.

{¶ 5} By Entry issued June 21, 2017, the attorney examiner granted a motion to intervene filed by Ohio Consumers' Counsel (OCC) on May 11, 2017.

{¶ 6} On July 25, 2017, Staff filed a motion for extension of time for the filing of the Staff Report of Investigation. Staff represents that, due to the press of business, it does not expect to meet the given deadline and requests that Staff be permitted an additional 30 days, or until August 30, 2017, to file its Report. Staff further requests expedited consideration of its motion; Staff represents that neither Suburban nor OCC objects to the requested extension or to the request for expedited consideration.

{¶ 7} The attorney examiner finds that Staff's motion for an extension is reasonable and should be granted. The attorney examiner further finds that the deadline for filing objections to the Staff Report or to Suburban's application should also be extended. Accordingly, the attorney examiner finds that the procedural schedule should be extended as follows:

- (a) August 30, 2017 – Deadline for the filing of the Staff Report.
- (b) September 15, 2017 – Deadline for the filing of objections to the Staff Report or objections to the application.

{¶ 8} As previously noted, after the Commission considers the objections filed, if any, the Commission will determine whether a hearing on Suburban's alternative rate plan application to initiate a revenue decoupling mechanism is necessary.

{¶ 9} It is, therefore,

{¶ 10} ORDERED, That Staff's motion for an extension of time to file the Staff Report be granted. It is, further,

{¶ 11} ORDERED, That the procedural schedule as revised and set forth in Paragraph 7 be observed. It is, further,

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

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

s/Patricia Schabo

By: Patricia A. Schabo
Attorney Examiner

SJP/sc

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in

Case No(s). 17-0594-GA-ALT

Summary: Attorney Examiner Entry granting Staff's motion for an extension of time to file the Staff Report and setting forth the revised procedural schedule indicated in Paragraph 7. - electronically filed by Sandra Coffey on behalf of Patricia Schabo, Attorney Examiner, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio