

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION
OF OHIO GAS COMPANY FOR AN
INCREASE IN GAS DISTRIBUTION
RATES.

CASE No. 17-1139-GA-AIR

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF
OHIO GAS COMPANY FOR TARIFF
APPROVAL.

CASE No. 17-1140-GA-ATA

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION
OF OHIO GAS COMPANY FOR
APPROVAL OF CERTAIN ACCOUNTING
AUTHORITY.

CASE No. 17-1141-GA-AAM

ENTRY

Entered in the Journal on January 3, 2018

{¶ 1} R.C. 4909.18 requires, in part, that any public utility seeking to establish, modify, amend, change, increase, or reduce any rate must file an application with the Commission.

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

{¶ 3} On April 28, 2017, Ohio Gas filed a notice of intent to file an application for an increase in rates.

{¶ 4} On May 31, 2017, Ohio Gas filed an application pursuant to R.C. 4909.18 to increase its rates for natural gas distribution service.

{¶ 5} Pursuant to R.C. 4909.19, Staff conducted an investigation of the facts, exhibits, and matters relating to the application. On November 22, 2017, Staff filed a written report of its investigation (Staff Report).

{¶ 6} By Entry dated December 1, 2017, the attorney examiner issued a procedural schedule. The Entry specified that, pursuant to R.C. 4909.19 and Ohio

Adm.Code 4901-1-28(B), all objections to the Staff Report must be filed within 30 days after the filing of such report. The Entry further specified that direct expert testimony should be filed by December 22, 2017, in accordance with Ohio Adm.Code 4901-1-29.

{¶ 7} On December 13, 2017, Ohio Gas filed a motion to extend the due date for testimony in support of objections to the Staff Report. By Entry dated December 14, 2017, the attorney examiner granted the motion, such that testimony in support of objections to the Staff Report, as well as any other direct expert testimony, was required to be filed by the parties no later than January 5, 2018.

{¶ 8} On January 2, 2018, Ohio Gas filed a motion to vacate the due date for testimony in support of objections to the Staff Report, along with a request for expedited treatment of the motion. In support of its motion, Ohio Gas states that it has reached a settlement agreement with Staff and that a stipulation and recommendation (stipulation) is expected to be filed that would resolve the issues in this case. Ohio Gas notes that, because a stipulation will be filed for the Commission's consideration in this matter, testimony in support of the stipulation will be filed and, therefore, testimony in support of the objections to the Staff Report would be superfluous. Ohio Gas also requests an immediate ruling on its motion, although Ohio Gas notes that the Ohio Consumers' Counsel does not agree to the request for expedited resolution.

{¶ 9} In light of the fact that Ohio Gas and Staff intend to file a stipulation that would resolve the issues in this case, the attorney examiner finds, pursuant to Ohio Adm.Code 4901-1-12(F), that the motion filed by Ohio Gas is reasonable and should be granted to the extent set forth in this Entry. Specifically, the attorney examiner finds that the deadline for filing testimony in support of objections to the Staff Report and any other direct expert testimony should be suspended until otherwise ordered by the Commission. The parties should be prepared, at the prehearing conference scheduled for January 4, 2018, to discuss a procedural schedule to facilitate the Commission's consideration of the stipulation.

{¶ 10} It is, therefore,

{¶ 11} ORDERED, That the motion filed by Ohio Gas on January 2, 2018, be granted to the extent set forth in Paragraph 9. It is, further,

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

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

s/Sarah Parrot

By: Sarah J. Parrot
Attorney Examiner

JRJ/sc

This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on

1/3/2018 12:16:22 PM

in

Case No(s). 17-1139-GA-AIR, 17-1140-GA-ATA, 17-1141-GA-AAM

Summary: Attorney Examiner Entry granting motion filed by Ohio Gas on 01/02/2018 to the extent set forth in Paragraph 9. - electronically filed by Sandra Coffey on behalf of Sarah Parrot, Attorney Examiner, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio