

## THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE REGULATION OF  
THE PURCHASED GAS ADJUSTMENT  
CLAUSES CONTAINED WITHIN THE RATE  
SCHEDULES OF:

EASTERN NATURAL GAS COMPANY  
PIKE NATURAL GAS COMPANY AND  
RELATED MATTERS.

CASE No. 19-207-GA-GCR  
CASE No. 19-214-GA-GCR

IN THE MATTER OF THE UNCOLLECTIBLE  
EXPENSE RIDERS OF:

EASTERN NATURAL GAS COMPANY  
PIKE NATURAL GAS COMPANY AND  
RELATED MATTERS.

CASE No. 19-307-GA-UEX  
CASE No. 19-314-GA-UEX

EASTERN NATURAL GAS COMPANY  
PIKE NATURAL GAS COMPANY AND  
RELATED MATTERS.

CASE No. 19-407-GA-PIP  
CASE No. 19-414-GA-PIP

### ENTRY

Entered in the Journal on August 13, 2019

{¶ 1} Eastern Natural Gas Company and Pike Natural Gas Company (together, the Companies) are natural gas companies as defined in R.C. 4905.03 and public utilities as defined in R.C. 4905.02. As such, the Companies are subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission.

{¶ 2} R.C. 4905.302 and Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-14-07 require that the Commission conduct, or cause to be conducted, periodic financial audits of each natural gas company under the Commission' jurisdiction. The audits shall review each company's compliance with the gas cost recovery (GCR) mechanism as delineated in Ohio Adm.Code Chapter 4901:1-14. Under Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-14-07(C) and 4901:1-14-08(A), each audit shall culminate in the filing of an audit report and, at least 60 days later, a public hearing before the Commission.

{¶ 3} By Entry dated January 30, 2019, the Commission initiated the Companies' GCR financial audits for the period January 1, 2017, through December 31, 2018, as well as audits of the Companies' uncollectible expense (UEX) and percentage of income payment plan (PIPP) riders for the same periods. The January 30, 2019 Entry further directed the Companies to publish required legal notices, established a deadline for filing testimony, and set the evidentiary hearing for August 13, 2019. Subsequently, pursuant to the timeline dictated by Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-14-08, Staff filed the Companies' GCR, UEX, and PIPP audit reports on June 14, 2019.

{¶ 4} On August 12, 2019, the Companies filed a motion for a continuance of the hearing and request for expedited ruling. The Companies represent that, since the filing of Staff's June 14, 2019 audit reports, they have been in discussions with Staff regarding a resolution of all issues and seek additional time to complete discussions. Thus, the Companies request that the hearing be continued to September 12, 2019. The Companies state that a continuance will not prejudice any party, as there are no intervenors and Staff does not oppose the continuance.

{¶ 5} In further support of their motion, the Companies explain that, through inadvertent oversight, the notice to customers required by the January 30, 2019 Entry was not included in customers' July bills. The Companies submit that continuing the hearing will allow them to correct the oversight and ensure customers are aware of the hearing by issuing notice via an insert in customers' August bills. Finally, in the event that the Commission grants their motion, the Companies propose that deadlines for filing testimony be extended.

{¶ 6} The attorney examiner finds that the Companies' motion is supported by good cause and should be granted. Accordingly, the hearing in these proceedings shall be continued to September 12, 2019, at 10:00 a.m., in Hearing Room 11-A at the offices of the Commission, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793. Furthermore, the Companies shall publish notice of the hearing at least 15 days and not more than 30 days

prior to the scheduled hearing date in a manner consistent with the January 30, 2019 Entry. Additionally, as is necessary, the Companies should file testimony 16 days prior to the hearing, and Staff should file testimony, if necessary, seven days prior to the hearing.

{¶ 7} It is, therefore,

{¶ 8} ORDERED, That the Companies' motion for a continuance of the hearing be granted. It is, further,

{¶ 9} ORDERED, That the hearing be continued to September 12, 2019, at 10:00 a.m., as stated in Paragraph 6. It is, further,

{¶ 10} ORDERED, That the Companies publish legal notice in accordance with Paragraph 6. It is, further,

{¶ 11} ORDERED, That the parties file testimony, as is necessary, according to the timeframe set forth in Paragraph 6. 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/Patricia A. Schabo

By: Patricia A. Schabo  
Attorney Examiner

JRJ/hac

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**Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on**

**8/13/2019 4:36:48 PM**

**in**

**Case No(s). 19-0207-GA-GCR, 19-0214-GA-GCR, 19-0307-GA-UEX, 19-0314-GA-UEX, 19-0407-GA-PI**

Summary: Attorney Examiner Entry granting motion for continuance, rescheduling hearing, ordering that the Companies publish legal notice, and setting timeframe for parties to file testimony electronically filed by Heather A Chilcote on behalf of Patricia Schabo, Attorney Examiner, Public Utilities Commission