

BEFORE

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Uncollectible Expense)
Rider of Suburban Natural Gas Company) Case No. 14-316-GA-UEx
and Related Matters.)
)

FINDING AND ORDER

The Commission finds:

- (1) Suburban Natural Gas Company (Suburban) is a public utility as defined in R.C. 4905.02 and, as such, is subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission.
- (2) By Finding and Order issued on March 19, 2008, in *In re Application of Suburban Natural Gas Company*, Case No. 07-689-GA-AIR, the Commission authorized Suburban to establish a rider recovery mechanism to recover its actual bad/uncollected debt. 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.
- (3) Suburban's current UEX rider rate of (\$0.0256)¹ per Mcf was approved by Finding and Order issued on July 2, 2013, in *In re Suburban Natural Gas Company*, Case No. 13-316-GA-UEx.
- (4) On May 30, 2014, Suburban filed an application to revise its current UEX rider rate. Suburban proposes to increase its UEX rider rate to \$.00133105, an increase of \$0.0270 per Mcf. The increase is based on the company's balance of deferred uncollectible accounts expense net of recoveries as of December 31, 2013, and actual bad debt write-offs for 2013.
- (5) On June 17, 2014, Staff filed comments on the proposed UEX rider adjustment. Staff concluded that Suburban accurately calculated its proposed rider rate and, therefore, recommends approval of the proposal to increase the rider rate \$0.00133. Staff conducted a preliminary review of Suburban's annual

¹ Throughout this Order, numbers in parenthesis indicate negative numbers.

balance reconciliation for the calendar year 2013. Staff believes the proposed rate reflects the anticipated bad debt write-offs through December 2014. In its report, Staff notes that it discovered a minor discrepancy concerning the bad debt tracker used in Suburban's filing. Staff recommends that, in the 2014 audit of Suburban's rider, Staff examine the monthly UEX balances and write-offs and recoveries for 2012-2013 and that any required adjustments or corrections be incorporated into subsequent UEX rider applications.

- (6) The Commission has reviewed the application, as well as Staff's comments, and finds that the proposed increase in the UEX rider rate is reasonable and in the public interest, and should be approved. In addition, Staff's recommendation for subsequent applications is reasonable and should be adopted.

It is, therefore,

ORDERED, That Suburban's application to increase its UEX rider rate to \$0.00133 per Mcf be approved and Staff's recommendation be adopted. It is, further,

ORDERED, That Suburban be authorized to file two complete copies of 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,

ORDERED, That the effective date of the new tariffs shall be a date not earlier than the date upon which final tariffs are filed with the Commission. It is, further,

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,

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


THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO


Thomas W. Johnson, Chairman


Steven D. Lesser

Lynn Slaby

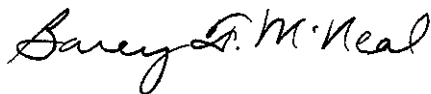

M. Beth Trombold


Asim Z. Haque

LDJ/vrm

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Barcy F. McNeal
Secretary