

BEFORE

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Regulation of the)
Purchased Gas Adjustment Clauses)
Contained Within the Rate Schedules of) Case No. 14-206-GA-GCR
Brainard Gas Corporation, Northeast Ohio) Case No. 14-209-GA-GCR
Natural Gas Corporation, and Orwell) Case No. 14-212-GA-GCR
Natural Gas Company and Related)
Matters.)

In the Matter of the Uncollectible Expense)
Riders of Northeast Ohio Natural Gas) Case No. 14-309-GA-UEx
Corporation and Orwell Natural Gas) Case No. 14-312-GA-UEx
Company.)

In the Matter of the Percentage of Income)
Payment Plan Rider of Northeast Ohio) Case No. 14-409-GA-PIP
Natural Gas Corporation.)

ENTRY

The attorney examiner finds:

- (1) Brainard Gas Corporation (Brainard), Northeast Ohio Natural Gas Corporation (NEO), and Orwell Natural Gas Company (Orwell), (together companies) are gas or natural gas companies as defined by R.C. 4905.03 and public utilities by reason of R.C. 4905.02. As such, these companies are subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission in accordance with R.C. 4905.04 and 4905.05.
- (2) R.C. 4905.302 and Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-14-07 provide that the Commission shall conduct, or cause to be conducted, periodic audits of each gas or natural gas company under the Commission's jurisdiction. Such audits shall review each company's compliance with the gas cost recovery (GCR) mechanism as delineated in Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-14. Furthermore, the Commission has authorized NEO and Orwell to recover uncollectible expenses (UEx) through riders. In approving the UEx riders for these companies, the Commission required that these riders would be audited in the course of each company's GCR audit. Further, the Commission authorized NEO to recover percentage of income payment plan (PIPP) arrearages through a rider that is audited in the course of NEO's GCR audit.

- (3) By Entry of February 13, 2014, the Commission directed that a hearing in the above-captioned GCR cases be held on January 20, 2015, and directed Staff to initiate GCR financial audits, and the UEX and PIPP audits for the companies and file the audit reports for each company by November 21, 2014.
- (4) By Entry of November 25, 2014, the attorney examiner granted Staff's motion for a continuance of the hearing to March 24, 2015, and directed that Staff file its GCR audit reports, UEX audit reports and PIPP audit report by January 22, 2015. The Entry also directed that direct testimony of any witnesses testifying on behalf of each company should be filed at least 16 days prior to the hearing and that all direct testimony to be presented by any other party should be filed at least seven days prior to the hearing. The companies were also directed to publish notice of the hearing.
- (5) On January 22, 2015, Staff filed a motion for a continuance of the date for filing its audit reports and a continuance of the hearing and a request for an expedited ruling. Staff indicated that, due to circumstances beyond its control, it would not be able to complete the audit review in time for Staff to file its reports as ordered and that a short delay would be needed for Staff to complete its work. Staff requested that it be granted an extension until January 27, 2015, in which to file the audit reports and it requested that the hearing be continued. Staff indicated that it contacted all parties to these proceedings and no party objected to the motion for a continuance or the request for an expedited ruling.
- (6) The attorney examiner finds good cause to grant Staff's motion. Accordingly, the date for Staff to file the audit reports should be continued to January 27, 2015. As a result of granting Staff's motion, the hearing in these cases should be continued to April 7, 2015, at 10:00 a.m. in Hearing Room 11-C, on the 11th Floor, at the offices of the Commission, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215. In addition, the companies should file legal notice of the hearing as previously set forth in the November 25, 2014 Entry in these cases. Further, the direct testimony of any witnesses testifying on behalf of each company should be filed at least 16 days prior to the hearing. All direct testimony to be presented by any other party should be filed at least seven days prior to the hearing.

It is, therefore,

ORDERED, That Staff's January 22, 2014 motion for continuance be granted, in accordance with Finding (6). It is, further,

ORDERED, That Staff file its GCR audit reports, UEX audit reports, and PIPP audit report by January 27, 2015. It is, further,

ORDERED, That the date for the public hearing be continued to April 7, 2015, at 10:00 a.m., in Hearing Room 11-C, on the 11th Floor, at the offices of the Commission, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215. It is, further,

ORDERED, That Brainard, NEO, and Orwell publish legal notice in accordance with Finding (6). It is, further,

ORDERED, That all direct testimony be filed consistent with Finding (6). It is, further,

ORDERED, That a copy of this Entry be served upon all parties of record.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

s/ Scott E. Farkas

By: Scott E. Farkas
Attorney Examiner

JRJ/dah

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in

Case No(s). 14-0206-GA-GCR, 14-0209-GA-GCR, 14-0212-GA-GCR, 14-0309-GA-UEx, 14-0312-GA-UEx

Summary: Attorney Examiner Entry that Staff's January 22, 2014 motion for continuance be granted, in accordance with Finding 6; that Staff file its GCR audit reports, UEX audit reports, and PIPP audit report by January 27, 2015; that the date for the public hearing be continued to April 7, 2015, at 10:00 a.m., in Hearing Room 11-C, on the 11th Floor, at the offices of the Commission, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215; that Brainard, NEO, and Orwell publish legal notice in accordance with Finding (6); and that all direct testimony be filed consistent with Finding (6); electronically filed by Debra Hight on behalf of Scott E. Farkas, Attorney Examiner.