

BEFORE

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Joint Application of )  
Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. and Suburban )  
Natural Gas Company for Approval of a ) Case No. 15-1931-GA-AEC  
Pipeline Lease to Provide Natural Gas )  
Service. )

FINDING AND ORDER

The Commission finds:

- (1) Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. (Columbia) and Suburban Natural Gas Company (Suburban) (jointly, Companies) are natural gas companies as defined in R.C. 4905.03 and public utilities as defined in R.C. 4905.02, and, as such, are subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission.
- (2) R.C. 4905.31 authorizes the Commission to approve schedules or reasonable arrangements between one public utility and another public utility. The statute provides that every such schedule or reasonable arrangement shall be under the supervision and regulation of the Commission, and is subject to change, alteration, or modification by the Commission. Further, R.C. 4905.48 provides that any public utility, with Commission authorization, may lease or purchase the property of another public utility.
- (3) On November 24, 2015, the Companies filed an application seeking approval of a pipeline lease to provide natural gas service in a portion of Delaware County, Ohio. The Companies note that, in January 1996, the Commission authorized Suburban to lease Columbia a pipeline to serve 548 customers in the Oak Creek subdivision. That lease is set to expire on January 23, 2016. The Companies seek to authorize a new lease of the pipeline that would become effective January 24, 2016. The new lease would have an initial term of three years, and would continue month-to-month thereafter.
- (4) On December 23, 2015, Staff filed its review and recommendation in response to the Companies' application. Staff reviewed the application and found that it is reasonable and in the public

interest. Accordingly, Staff recommends that the Commission approve the application filed by the Companies for a pipeline lease agreement.

- (5) Upon review of the application, as well as Staff's review and recommendation, the Commission finds that the application does *not appear to be unjust or unreasonable and should be approved*. Accordingly, we find that the pipeline lease agreement between the Companies should be approved pursuant to R.C. 4905.31 and R.C. 4905.48.

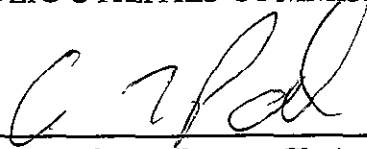
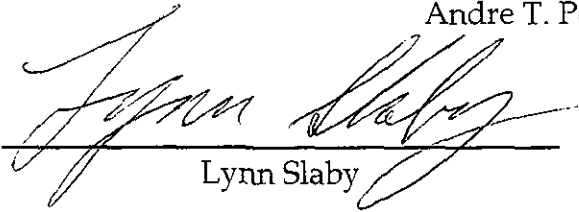

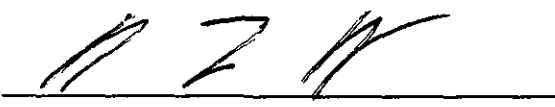
It is, therefore,

ORDERED, That the Companies' application for a pipeline lease agreement be approved. 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 of record.

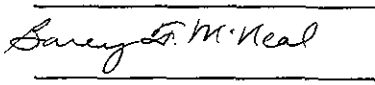
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

  
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Andre T. Porter, Chairman  
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Lynn Slaby  
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M. Beth Trombold  
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Asim Z. Haque  
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Thomas W. Johnson

NW/vrm

Entered in the Journal

**JAN 20 2016**

  
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Barcy F. McNeal

Barcy F. McNeal  
Secretary