THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF COLUMBIA GAS OF OHIO, INC. FOR A WAIVER OF OHIO ADM. CODE 4901:1-13-11(B)(9).

CASE NO. 16-653-GA-WVR

ENTRY ON REHEARING

Entered in the Journal on September 14, 2016

I. SUMMARY

{¶ 1} The Commission grants the application for rehearing of the July 20, 2016 Entry filed by the Ohio Consumers' Counsel for the purpose of further consideration of the matters specified in the application for rehearing.

II. DISCUSSION

- {¶ 2} Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. (Columbia) is a public utility and natural gas company as defined in R.C. 4905.02 and 4905.03, respectively. Therefore, Columbia is subject to the Commission's jurisdiction.
- {¶ 3} R.C. 4909.18 provides, in part, that a public utility may file an application to establish any rate, charge, regulation, or practice. If the Commission determines that the application is not for an increase in any rate and does not appear to be unjust or unreasonable, the Commission may approve the application without the need for a hearing.
- {¶ 4} On March 25, 2016, Columbia filed an application for a waiver from Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-13-11(B)(9), which requires that bills issued by or for the gas or natural gas company display the rate for purchase for the gas or natural gas commodity, expressed in dollars and cents per thousand cubic feet or hundred cubic feet, reflecting either the gas cost recovery rate or the rate for the commodity service, if the company has been granted an exemption under R.C. 4929.04.

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{¶ 5} On April 20, 2016, the Ohio Consumers' Counsel (OCC) filed a motion to intervene, followed on May 6, 2016, by comments opposing Columbia's waiver request.

- **{¶ 6}** Columbia responded to OCC's comments on May 23, 2016.
- {¶ 7} In an Entry issued on July 20, 2016, the Commission granted OCC's motion to intervene. In addition, the Commission granted Columbia's request for a waiver of Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-13-11(B)(9). The Commission directed that the waiver from the rule's requirements to display the rate for purchase of the gas or natural gas commodity, as set forth in Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-13-11(B)(9), for Bill Ready and CHOICE Prepay customers will end after a temporary, two-year period or sooner, if possible, upon completion of implementing billing system changes.
- **{¶8}** R.C. 4903.10 states that any party to a Commission proceeding may apply for rehearing with respect to any matters determined by the Commission, within 30 days of the entry of the order upon the Commission's journal.
- $\{\P$ 9} On August 19, 2016, OCC filed an application for rehearing of the July 20, 2016 Entry.
- **{¶ 10}** On August 29, 2016, Columbia filed a memorandum contra OCC's application for rehearing.
- {¶ 11} The Commission believes that sufficient reason has been set forth by OCC to warrant further consideration of the matters specified in the application for rehearing. Accordingly, the application for rehearing filed by OCC should be granted.

III. **ORDER**

{¶ 12} It is, therefore,

{¶ 13} ORDERED, That the application for rehearing filed by OCC be granted for further consideration of the matters specified in the application for rehearing. It is, further,

[¶ 14] ORDERED, That a copy of this Entry on Rehearing be served upon all parties of record.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

Asim Z. Haque, Chairman

Lynn Slaby

M. Beth Trombold

Thomas W. Johnson

M. Howard Petricoff

JML/sc

Entered in the Journal

Barcy F. McNeal

Secretary