

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF
COLUMBIA GAS OF OHIO, INC. FOR
APPROVAL OF AN ALTERNATIVE FORM OF
REGULATION TO EXTEND AND INCREASE
ITS INFRASTRUCTURE REPLACEMENT
PROGRAM.

CASE NO. 16-2422-GA-ALT

ENTRY ON REHEARING

Entered in the Journal on March 28, 2018

I. SUMMARY

{¶ 1} The Commission grants the application for rehearing of the Commission's January 31, 2018 Opinion and Order filed by 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 natural gas company, as defined in R.C. 4905.03, and a public utility, as defined in R.C. 4905.02, and, as such, Columbia is subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission.

{¶ 3} On February 27, 2017, Columbia filed an alternative rate plan application, pursuant to R.C. 4929.05, 4929.051(B), 4929.11, and 4909.18, to continue its Infrastructure Replacement Program (IRP) and the associated cost recovery mechanism, Rider IRP, until December 31, 2022.

{¶ 4} On January 31, 2018, the Commission issued an Opinion and Order approving, pursuant to a Joint Stipulation and Recommendation, Columbia's alternative rate plan application to continue its IRP, with certain modifications.

{¶ 5} R.C. 4929.07 and Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-19-08 require that, within 30 calendar days after the Commission issues an order granting an alternative rate plan filed under R.C. 4929.05, the applicant shall either file notice with the Commission of the applicant's intention to implement the alternative rate plan as directed by the Commission

and file a final and redline copy of the revised rate schedules or withdraw the alternative rate plan if the Commission modifies or does not approve the application as filed.

{¶ 6} On March 2, 2018, Columbia filed its notice of intent to implement its alternative rate plan as directed by the Commission in the January 31, 2018 Opinion and Order. Further, Columbia stated that the Commission's approval of its alternative rate plan does not affect the rate schedules and, therefore, no revised rate schedules were attached to the notice.

{¶ 7} 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.

{¶ 8} On March 2, 2018, Ohio Consumers' Counsel (OCC) filed an application for rehearing asserting two assignments of error. On March 12, 2018, Columbia filed a memorandum contra the application for rehearing.

{¶ 9} 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

{¶ 10} It is, therefore,

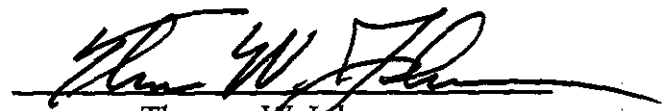
{¶ 11} ORDERED, That OCC's application for rehearing be granted for further consideration of the matters specified therein. It is, further,

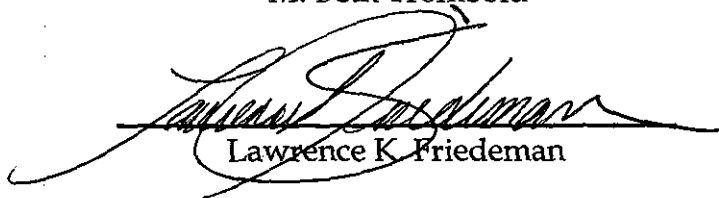
{¶ 12} ORDERED, That a copy of this Entry on Rehearing be served upon all persons of record.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

Asim Z. Haque, Chairman


M. Beth Trombold


Thomas W. Johnson


Lawrence K. Friedeman


Daniel R. Conway

GNS/mef

Entered in the Journal **MAR 28 2018**



Barcy F. McNeal
Secretary