

**BEFORE
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO**

In the Matter of the Application of	:	
Suburban Natural Gas Company for	:	Case No. 18-1205-GA-AIR
an Increase in Gas Distribution	:	
Rates.	:	
	:	
In the Matter of the Application of	:	
Suburban Natural Gas Company for	:	Case No. 18-1206-GA-ATA
Tariff Approval.	:	
	:	
In the Matter of the Application of	:	
Suburban Natural Gas Company for	:	Case No. 18-1207-GA-AAM
Approval of Certain Accounting	:	
Authority.	:	

PREFILED TESTIMONY
IN RESPONSE TO OBJECTIONS TO THE STAFF REPORT
OF
STEPHANIE GONYA
SUBMITTED ON BEHALF OF THE STAFF OF
REGULATORY SERVICES DIVISION
RATES & ANALYSIS DEPARTMENT
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

Staff Exhibit ____

June 7, 2019

1 1. Q. Please state your name and business address.

2 A. My name is Stephanie Gonya and my business address is 180 East Broad
3 Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793.

4

5 2. Q. By whom are you employed and in what capacity?

6 A. I am employed by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (Commission or
7 PUCO) as a Utility Specialist 2 in the Regulatory Services Division of the
8 Rates and Analysis Department. In that capacity, I participate on
9 Commission Staff (Staff) teams that review utility applications in base rate
10 proceedings. In addition, I serve on Staff teams that review natural gas,
11 electric, and water utilities' applications for recovery of certain costs asso-
12 ciated with infrastructure replacement and capital improvement programs
13 and perform other related duties as assigned.

14

15 3. Q. Please briefly describe your educational background and work experience.

16 A. I received a Bachelor of Arts degree from The Ohio State University. I
17 began my employment with the PUCO in 2002 in what was then the
18 Utilities Department. Since that time, I have held either a Utility Auditor or
19 Utility Specialist position at the Commission. I was assigned to my present
20 position in July 2014.

21

22

1 4. Q. What is the purpose of your testimony in this proceeding?

2 A. I am responding to Ohio Consumers' Counsel's (OCC) Objections 11 and
3 12 regarding the Del-Mar Pipeline Lease Agreement.

4
5 5. Q. In Objection 11, OCC objects to Staff's inclusion of the original Del-Mar
6 pipeline lease as part of plant-in-service. How do you respond?

7 A. Staff disagrees with OCC's objection. Per the lease agreement, Suburban
8 had the option to purchase the pipeline. Staff has obtained a copy of the
9 purchase agreement and the date of purchase is February 23, 2019.

10 Therefore, the Del-Mar pipeline is considered to have been acquired by
11 Suburban prior to the date certain, thereby making it eligible to be included
12 in plant-in-service.

13
14 6. Q. In Objection 12, OCC contends that Staff's failure to exclude the original
15 Del-Mar pipeline lease from distribution plant would result in customers
16 paying twice for the Del-Mar pipeline. How do you respond?

17 A. Customers had been paying for the Del-Mar lease through Suburban's Gas
18 Cost Recovery (GCR) mechanism. Since the Del-Mar is now considered to
19 be plant-in-service and no longer leased, the cost of the lease has been
20 removed from the GCR, effective March 1, 2019.¹ As a result, customers

¹ See Case No. 19-216-GA-GCR, GCR Report (Feb. 28, 2019).

1 will only be paying for the return of and on the pipeline through base rates,
2 and not through the GCR.

3

4 7. Q. Does this conclude your testimony?

5 A. Yes it does. However, I reserve the right to submit supplemental testimony
6 as new information subsequently becomes available or in response to
7 positions taken by other parties.

PROOF OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true copy of the foregoing Testimony of Stephanie Gonya submitted on behalf of the Staff of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, was served via electronic mail, upon the parties listed below, this 7th day of June, 2019.

/s/Robert A. Eubanks

Robert A. Eubanks
Assistant Attorney General

Parties of Record:

dressel@carpenterlipps.com
cmooney@ohiopartners.org
jamie.williams@occ.ohio.gov
jonathan.borer@puco.ohio.gov
bojko@carpenterlipps.com
angela.obrien@occ.ohio.gov
mary.fischer@puco.ohio.gov
heather.chilcote@puco.ohio.gov
christopher.healey@occ.ohio.gov

This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on

6/7/2019 2:00:27 PM

in

Case No(s). 18-1205-GA-AIR, 18-1206-GA-ATA, 18-1207-GA-AAM

Summary: Testimony of Stephanie Gonya electronically filed by Ms. Tonnetta Scott on behalf of PUC