

## THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF  
PIKE NATURAL GAS COMPANY FOR  
APPROVAL OF AN ALTERNATIVE RATE  
PLAN PROPOSING A REVENUE  
DECOUPLING MECHANISM.

CASE NO. 08-941-GA-ALT

IN THE MATTER OF THE REVIEW OF THE  
DEMAND-SIDE MANAGEMENT  
PROGRAM AND RIDER MECHANISM OF  
PIKE NATURAL GAS COMPANY.

CASE NO. 19-1456-GA-RDR

### ENTRY

Entered in the Journal on July 15, 2019

{¶ 1} Pike Natural Gas Company (Pike or Company) 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, is subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission.

{¶ 2} On June 16, 2010, in Case No. 08-941-GA-ALT, the Commission modified and approved Pike's amended application, consistent with a joint stipulation and recommendation, to advance the Company's rates toward a straight-fixed variable rate design and to implement an alternative rate plan to include a revenue decoupling mechanism with the adoption of a demand-side management (DSM) program and associated DSM rider. The DSM rider rate for Pike was designed to collect approximately \$80,000 annually from ratepayers, with an additional \$10,000 annually to be provided by shareholders. Pike's DSM rider rate for residential and commercial customers is \$0.95 per bill. The DSM program funds weatherization and weatherization-related home improvement repairs for the Company's highest demand, low-income Percentage of Income Payment Plan customers. *In re Pike Natural Gas Co.*, Case No. 08-941-GA-ALT, Opinion and Order (June 16, 2010).

{¶ 3} On May 31, 2017, in Case No. 08-941-GA-ALT, Pike filed a motion to suspend the collection of its DSM rider, reasoning that, over the last several years, expenditures for

the weatherization program had not kept pace with the revenues collected by the Company through the DSM rider.

{¶ 4} By Entry issued July 26, 2017, the Commission granted Pike's motion to suspend collection of the DSM rider but directed that Pike continue to provide DSM weatherization program services, until the Commission specifically ordered otherwise. Ultimately, by Finding and Order issued October 24, 2018, the Commission adopted the joint recommendation of Pike and Ohio Partners for Affordable Energy to revise certain aspects of Pike's DSM program.

{¶ 5} Further, the Commission also directed, among other things, that Staff conduct an audit of Pike's DSM program and rider mechanism for accuracy, prudence, and compliance for the 12 months ended August 31, 2018, and to file its report of investigation, in a separate docket, by April 1, 2019.

{¶ 6} On June 24, 2019, Staff filed its report of investigation (Staff Report) for the period September 1, 2017 through August 31, 2018, in Case No. 08-941-GA-ALT.

{¶ 7} Consistent with the Commission's Order in Case No. 08-941-GA-ALT, to afford interested stakeholders an opportunity to participate in Pike's DSM audit proceedings, and to avoid a potentially extensive and confusing record, Staff should refile the Staff Report in a separate docket, Case No. 19-1456-GA-RDR, by July 24, 2019.

{¶ 8} In Case No. 19-1456-GA-RDR, to assist the Commission in its review of Pike's DSM program and the associated rider, the following procedural schedule should be established:

- (a) Motions to intervene should be filed by July 30, 2019.
- (b) Comments should be filed by August 15, 2019.

(c) Reply comments should be filed by August 30, 2019.

{¶ 9} It is, therefore,

{¶ 10} ORDERED, That Staff re-file its Staff Report in Case No. 19-1456-GA-RDR by July 24, 2019, as discussed in Paragraph 7. It is, further,

{¶ 11} ORDERED, That the parties comply with the procedural schedule established in Paragraph 8. It is, further,

{¶ 12} ORDERED, That a copy of this Entry be served upon Pike and all interested persons of record in Case No. 08-941-GA-ALT.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

/s/ Greta See

By: Greta See  
Attorney Examiner

JRJ/hac

**This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities**

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**in**

**Case No(s). 08-0941-GA-ALT, 19-1456-GA-RDR**

Summary: Attorney Examiner Entry setting a procedural schedule in accordance with Paragraph 8 and directing Staff to re-file its Staff Report in Case No. 19-1456-GA-RDR by 07/24/2019 as discussed in Paragraph 7 - electronically filed by Sandra Coffey on behalf of Greta See, Attorney Examiner, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio