

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF
OHIO GAS COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF
AN ALTERNATIVE RATE PLAN.

CASE NO. 19-1354-GA-ALT

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF
OHIO GAS COMPANY FOR TARIFF
APPROVAL.

CASE NO. 19-1355-GA-ATA

ENTRY

Entered in the Journal on January 15, 2020

I. SUMMARY

{¶ 1} The Commission approves the revised tariff of Ohio Gas Company to implement its approved alternative rate plan and to initiate the Geographic Information System Cost Recovery Rider.

II. DISCUSSION

{¶ 2} Ohio Gas Company (Ohio Gas 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, Ohio Gas is subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission.

{¶ 3} Pursuant to R.C. 4929.05, a natural gas company may seek approval of an alternative rate plan by filing an application under R.C. 4909.18, regardless of whether the application is for an increase in rates. After an investigation, the Commission shall approve the plan if the natural gas company demonstrates, and the Commission finds, that the company is in compliance with R.C. 4905.35, is in substantial compliance with the policy of the state as set forth in R.C. 4929.02, and is expected to continue to be in substantial compliance with state policy after implementation of the alternative rate plan. The Commission must also find that the alternative rate plan is just and reasonable.

{¶ 4} Pursuant to R.C. 4929.07, within 30 days of the Commission's issuance of a decision approving an alternative rate plan under R.C. 4929.05, or within 20 days of the Commission's issuance of a decision on rehearing pursuant to R.C. 4903.10, whichever is

later, the natural gas company shall either: (1) file notice with the Commission of its intent to implement the alternative rate plan consistent with the Commission's order and file a copy of its revised rate schedules; or (2) withdraw its alternative rate plan if the Commission modifies or does not approve the alternative rate plan. Within 30 days of the natural gas company's filing of notice of its intent to implement the alternative rate plan, the Commission shall either approve the revised schedules, if there is no material difference between the approved alternative rate plan and the filed schedules or disapprove the revised schedules.

{¶ 5} By Finding and Order issued December 18, 2019, the Commission approved Ohio Gas's alternative rate plan application to implement the geographic information system (GIS) Rider (GIS Rider) to recover deferred GIS phase I expenditures, accrued carrying costs at four percent, and the associated carrying costs going forward on the remaining unamortized GIS deferral balance, subject to certain modifications. As approved, the GIS Rider will be effective for a 25-month period, including a one-month rider reconciliation period and rate. The GIS Rider rate is \$0.79 per bill, excluding gross receipts tax, applicable to General Service and Transportation Service rate schedules. As part of the order, the Commission directed Ohio Gas to notify affected customers via bill message or bill insert within 30 days of the effective date of the tariff.

{¶ 6} On December 19, 2019, Ohio Gas filed its notice of intent to implement the alternative rate plan, consistent with the directives of the Commission's order, along with copies of the Company's revised tariff schedules. On the same day, Ohio Gas also provided Staff a copy of its proposed customer notice.

{¶ 7} On January 8, 2020, Staff filed its review and recommendation of the revised tariff and the customer bill insert. Staff finds the revised tariff and customer notice to be reasonable and recommends that they be approved by the Commission, as filed.

{¶ 8} The Commission finds that the Company's revised tariff, as filed on December 19, 2019, is consistent with the Commission's Finding and Order approving the alternative rate plan and, therefore, the revised tariff should be approved to be effective January 1, 2020.

III. ORDER

{¶ 9} It is, therefore,

{¶ 10} ORDERED, That the revised tariff filed December 19, 2019, be approved. It is, further,

{¶ 11} ORDERED, That a copy of this Entry be served upon all parties and interested persons of record.

COMMISSIONERS:

Approving:

Sam Randazzo, Chairman
M. Beth Trombold
Lawrence K. Friedeman
Daniel R. Conway
Dennis P. Deters

GNS/hac

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Case No(s). 19-1354-GA-ALT, 19-1355-GA-ATA

Summary: Entry that the Commission approves the revised tariff of Ohio Gas Company to implement its approved alternative rate plan and to initiate the Geographic Information System Cost Recovery Rider electronically filed by Docketing Staff on behalf of Docketing