

## THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE REGULATION OF  
THE PURCHASED GAS ADJUSTMENT  
CLAUSE CONTAINED WITHIN THE RATE  
SCHEDULES OF SUBURBAN NATURAL  
GAS COMPANY AND RELATED MATTERS.

CASE NO. 20-216-GA-GCR

IN THE MATTER OF THE UNCOLLECTIBLE  
EXPENSE RIDER OF SUBURBAN NATURAL  
GAS COMPANY AND RELATED MATTERS.

CASE NO. 20-316-GA-UEx

IN THE MATTER OF THE PERCENTAGE OF  
INCOME PAYMENT PLAN RIDER OF  
SUBURBAN NATURAL GAS COMPANY  
AND RELATED MATTERS.

CASE NO. 20-416-GA-PIP

### ENTRY

Entered in the Journal on January 29, 2021

{¶ 1} Suburban Natural Gas Company (Suburban) is a natural gas company, as defined by R.C. 4905.03, and a public utility, as defined by R.C. 4905.02, and, as such, is subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission.

{¶ 2} R.C. 4905.302 and Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-14-07 provide that the Commission shall conduct, or cause to be conducted, periodic audits of each gas or natural gas company under the Commission's jurisdiction. Such audits shall review each company's compliance with the gas cost recovery (GCR) mechanism as delineated in Ohio Adm.Code Chapter 4901:1-14.

{¶ 3} Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-14-08 provides that the Commission shall hold a public hearing at least 60 days after the filing of each GCR audit report required under Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-14-07. Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-14-08(C) specifies the requirement for notice of a GCR hearing, which each company should cause to be published between 15 and 30 days prior to the date set for its hearing. The notice may be provided by publication of a display ad in a newspaper (in a section other than the legal notice section), bill message, bill

insert, or direct mailing to the customers.

{¶ 4} By Entry issued January 29, 2020, the Commission initiated these proceedings; established the financial audit periods for the GCR mechanism and the uncollectible expense and percentage of income payment plan riders; set the due date by which the financial audit reports must be filed; and directed that Staff conduct the required audits. The January 29, 2020 Entry also scheduled this matter for a public hearing to be held on September 29, 2020, and directed Suburban to publish notice of the hearing pursuant to Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-14-08(C).

{¶ 5} On March 9, 2020, the governor signed Executive Order 2020-01D (Executive Order), declaring a state of emergency in Ohio to protect the well-being of Ohioans from the dangerous effects of COVID-19. As described in the Executive Order, state agencies are required to implement procedures consistent with recommendations from the Department of Health to prevent or alleviate the public health threat associated with COVID-19. Additionally, all citizens are urged to heed the advice of the Department of Health regarding this public health emergency in order to protect their health and safety. The Executive Order was effective immediately and will remain in effect until the COVID-19 emergency no longer exists. The Department of Health is making COVID-19 information, including information on preventative measures, available via the internet at [coronavirus.ohio.gov/](https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/).

{¶ 6} On August 27, 2020, Suburban and Staff filed a joint stipulation and recommendation for the Commission's consideration.

{¶ 7} By Entry dated September 16, 2020, the attorney examiner rescheduled the public hearing to a date to be established by future entry, due to the continued COVID-19 state of emergency declared by the governor.

{¶ 8} At this time, the attorney examiner finds that the public hearing should be held on March 16, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. Due to the continued state of emergency, and given

the passage of Sub. H.B. 404, the hearing will be held using remote access technology, as follows:

- (a) The hearing will be conducted through Webex, which will enable the parties and interested persons to participate by telephone and/or video on the internet.
- (b) Access information for the hearing will be provided to the parties at their electronic mail address of record.
- (c) Interested persons that wish to provide testimony must register with the Commission before 12:00 p.m., on March 15, 2021, at <https://puco.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/puco/events/case-no-20-216-EVH> or by calling the Commission at 1-800-686-7826. Interested individuals will be required to provide their full name, home address, telephone number, and electronic mail address, if available; state that they wish to register for the public hearing in Case No. 20-216-GA-GCR; specify whether they plan to join the Webex event by internet or by telephone; and indicate whether they intend to offer testimony. Individuals that plan to attend the Webex event through internet access must have a computer or smart device with a microphone and speakers, an electronic mail address, and reliable internet service. Interested individuals who wish to attend the public hearing remotely and not offer testimony can do so by registering and indicating they do not intend to provide testimony or by calling 1-408-418-9388 and entering access code 179 885 6969.
- (d) On the day of the hearing, individuals who have registered to testify will be asked to speak beginning shortly after 10:00 a.m., so all those who have registered to testify should be prepared to speak at that time. For individuals who are speaking by telephone, the Commission's staff

will contact those individuals by telephone when it is time for their testimony and connect them to the hearing. If access or other issues are experienced during the hearing, individuals should immediately use the chat function within Webex or contact the Commission's legal department at 1-614-466-6843 for assistance.

- (e) If individuals wish to supplement their testimony with an exhibit for the Commission's consideration, a copy of the document, along with a reference to the case number, must be provided to the Commission by March 15, 2021, by electronic mail to [contactPUCO@puco.ohio.gov](mailto:contactPUCO@puco.ohio.gov) or by mail to Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215.
- (f) Public comments can be provided in writing on the Commission's web site <https://puco.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/puco/helpcenter/contact-us>, by electronic mail to [contactPUCO@puco.ohio.gov](mailto:contactPUCO@puco.ohio.gov), or by mail to Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215. Written comments should reference the case number for this matter.

{¶ 9} Additionally, the attorney examiner directs Suburban to modify the notice of its GCR hearing set forth in the January 29, 2020 Entry. Suburban shall publish notice of the hearing at least 15 days and not more than 30 days prior to the scheduled hearing date. The revised notice should be in substantially the following form:

#### LEGAL NOTICE

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio has set for public hearing Case No. 20-216-GA-GCR to review the gas cost recovery rates of Suburban Natural Gas Company and the operation of its purchased gas adjustment clause, and

related matters. The hearing is scheduled to begin at 10:00 a.m., on March 16, 2021, using remote access technology that facilitates participation by telephone or live video on the internet. Interested members of the public that wish to provide testimony must register with the Commission before 12:00 p.m. on March 15, 2021, at <https://puco.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/puco/events/case-no-20-216-EVH> or by calling the Commission at 1-800-686-7826. Interested individuals who wish to attend the public hearing remotely and not offer testimony can do so by registering and indicating they do not intend to provide testimony or by calling 1-408-418-9388 and entering access code 179 885 6969. Further information may be obtained by viewing the Commission's web page at [www.puco.ohio.gov](http://www.puco.ohio.gov) or contacting the Commission's hotline at 1-800-686-7826 or, for speech and hearing impaired customers, 7-1-1.

{¶ 10} It is, therefore,

{¶ 11} ORDERED, That the hearing in these matters be held on March 16, 2021, and conducted in accordance with Paragraph 8. It is, further,

{¶ 12} ORDERED, That Suburban publish notice of the hearing, in accordance with Paragraph 9. It is, further,

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

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

/s/ Sarah J. Parrot

By: Sarah J. Parrot  
Attorney Examiner

MJA/mef

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

**Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on**

**1/29/2021 9:35:56 AM**

**in**

**Case No(s). 20-0216-GA-GCR, 20-0316-GA-UEX, 20-0416-GA-PIP**

Summary: Attorney Examiner Entry setting a hearing for March 16, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. and directing Suburban Natural Gas Company to publish notice. electronically filed by Ms. Mary E Fischer on behalf of Sarah J. Parrot, Attorney Examiner, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio