

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF
OHIO GAS COMPANY FOR APPROVAL TO
AMEND ITS NATURAL GAS TARIFF.

CASE NO. 21-583-GA-ATA

FINDING AND ORDER

Entered in the Journal on December 1, 2021

I. SUMMARY

{¶ 1} The Commission approves the application of Ohio Gas Company to revise and amend its natural gas tariff, as modified on November 26, 2021.

II. DISCUSSION

{¶ 2} Ohio Gas Company (Ohio Gas or Company) is a natural gas company and a public utility, as defined in R.C. 4905.03 and 4905.02, respectively. As such, Ohio Gas is subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission.

{¶ 3} R.C. 4909.18 provides, in part, that a public utility may file an application to establish any rate, charge, regulation, or practice. If the Commission determines that the application is not for an increase in any rate and does not appear to be unjust or unreasonable, the Commission may approve the application without the need for a hearing.

{¶ 4} On May 20, 2021, Ohio Gas filed an application to amend the rules and regulations in its tariff to incorporate changes related to its gas quality standards and operational requirements for gas delivered into the Company's system. Ohio Gas states that the tariff changes are a response to the increase in renewable natural gas injected into the Company's distribution system. More specifically, Ohio Gas indicates that the changes to the tariff will ensure that all gas delivered to the Company's system, including renewable natural gas, can be done in a safe and reliable manner. Ohio Gas states that these new rules and regulations would apply standards based on the type of origin of the gas to address the expected constituents of concern, ensuring that all gas is delivered in a safe and reliable manner. Ohio Gas notes that similar standards were recently adopted by the Commission

for Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. *See In re Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc.*, Case No. 20-1556-GA-ATA, Finding and Order (Nov. 18, 2020).

{¶ 5} On September 21, 2021, Staff filed its review and recommendation of Ohio Gas’s application, in which it offered several comments and recommendations. Specifically, Staff states that the Company has included the new tariff provisions within the “Service Quality Rules and Regulations” section; Staff recommends instead placing the new provisions in the Transportation Service section. Further, Staff recommends including additional language concerning indemnification by the local deliverer of gas. Staff also recommends removal of the provision concerning future recovery of costs for periodic testing through a future rider or in base rates. Finally, Staff recommends removal of the Company’s included provision concerning future recovery of costs for metering through a future rider or in base rates. Based on its review of the application, Staff states the application is reasonable and recommends it be approved by the Commission, subject to the recommendations made in Staff’s comments.

{¶ 6} On November 26, 2021, Ohio Gas filed revised tariff pages based on Staff’s recommendations in its review filed on September 21, 2021.

{¶ 7} On November 29, 2021, Staff filed a letter stating that it has no objections to the revisions to Ohio Gas’s amended tariff pages, which address several of Staff’s comments. Staff also notes that Ohio Gas discussed with Staff its reasoning for not incorporating Staff’s remaining comments. Staff, therefore, supports the tariff changes proposed by Ohio Gas in the application, as amended on November 26, 2021.

{¶ 8} Upon review of Ohio Gas’s application, as amended on November 26, 2021, and Staff’s review and recommendation and its November 29, 2021 letter, the Commission finds that the application, as amended, does not appear to be unjust or unreasonable and that it should be approved. Further, the Commission finds that no hearing is necessary in this case.

III. ORDER

{¶ 9} It is, therefore,

{¶ 10} ORDERED, That Ohio Gas's application to revise and amend its natural gas tariff, as modified on November 26, 2021, be approved. It is, further,

{¶ 11} ORDERED, That Ohio Gas be authorized to file tariffs, in final form, consistent with this Finding and Order. Ohio Gas shall file one copy in this case docket and one copy in its TRF docket. It is, further,

{¶ 12} ORDERED, That the effective date of the new tariffs shall be a date not earlier than the date upon which the final tariff pages are filed with the Commission. It is, further,

{¶ 13} ORDERED, That nothing in this Finding and Order shall be binding upon this Commission in any future proceeding or investigation involving the justness or reasonableness of any rate, charge, rule, or regulation. It is, further,

{¶ 14} ORDERED, That a copy of this Finding and Order be served upon all interested persons of record.

COMMISSIONERS:

Approving:

Jenifer French, Chair

M. Beth Trombold

Lawrence K. Friedeman

Daniel R. Conway

JMD/mef

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Case No(s). 21-0583-GA-ATA

Summary: Finding & Order approving the application of Ohio Gas Company to revise and amend its natural gas tariff, as modified on November 26, 2021. electronically filed by Kelli C. King on behalf of The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio