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FPSC - Records Reporting

MEMORANDUM

FEBRUARY 9, 1998

TO: DIVISION OF RECORDS AND REPORTING

FROM: DIVISION OF LEGAL SERVICES (JAYE) *DRUE*

RE: DOCKET NO. 971520-GU - PETITION BY CITY GAS COMPANY OF FLORIDA FOR APPROVAL OF REVISIONS TO NATURAL GAS TARIFF, FIRST REVISED SHEETS 12 AND 15, TO PROVIDE FOR LATE PAYMENT CHARGE.

98-0261-FOF-GU

Attached is an ORDER GRANTING CITY GAS COMPANY'S PETITION FOR APPROVAL OF REVISIONS TO NATURAL GAS TARIFF, FIRST REVISED SHEETS 12 AND 15, TO PROVIDE FOR LATE PAYMENT CHARGE, with attachments, to be issued in the above referenced docket. (Number of pages in order - 4)

GAJ/js

Attachment

cc: Division of Electric and Gas (Lowery, Bulecza-Banks, Makin)

I:971520or.gaj

See IV

*Joined
w/10-11*

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Petition by City Gas Company of Florida for approval of revisions to Natural Gas Tariff, First Revised Sheets 12 and 15, to provide for late payment charge.

DOCKET NO. 971520-GU
ORDER NO. PSC-98-0261-FOF-GU
ISSUED: February 9, 1998

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

JULIA L. JOHNSON, Chairman
J. TERRY DEASON
SUSAN F. CLARK
JOE GARCIA
E. LEON JACOBS, JR.

ORDER GRANTING CITY GAS COMPANY'S PETITION FOR APPROVAL OF REVISIONS TO NATURAL GAS TARIFF, FIRST REVISED SHEETS 12 AND 15, TO PROVIDE FOR LATE PAYMENT CHARGE

BY THE COMMISSION:

On November 18, 1997, City Gas filed a petition to provide for a late payment charge. City Gas believes that the provision for a late payment charge will allow City Gas to collect the costs associated with unpaid balances from those same customers who do not pay their bills in a timely manner.

This proposed modification will allow City Gas to assess a late charge equal to 1.5 percent (1.5%) of the unpaid balance to all delinquent accounts other than federal, state, and local government entities. These government entities are subject to imposition of a late payment charge in accordance with Sections 21.422, Florida Statutes (state agencies), Section 218.70 - 79, Florida Statutes (local government agencies), and Sections 31 U.S.C. 3901 - 3907 (federal government agencies).

We have previously approved late payment charges similar to the charge proposed by City Gas. Approval was granted by Order No. PSC-96-0371-FOF-GU issued March 18, 1996, in Docket No. 960024-GU for Peoples Gas System. The Commission granted approval to Florida Power Corporation by Order No. PSC-95-1087-FOF-EI issued August 31,

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1995, in Docket No. 950753-EI. The Commission also approved a similar charge for St. Joe Natural Gas by Order No. PSC-96-1000-FOF-GU, issued August 5, 1996, in Docket No. 960657-GU.

Accordingly, we approve this petition. Prior to implementation, City Gas shall provide a thirty day advance notice to its customers. A sample of the notice will be submitted to the Bureau of Electric and Gas for approval prior to implementation. The tariff will become effective February 19, 1998.

Based on the foregoing, it is

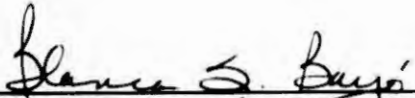
ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that City Gas Company of Florida's petition for approval of late payment charge is approved, effective February 19, 1998. It is further

ORDERED that prior to implementation, City Gas should provide a thirty day advance notice to its customers. A sample of the notice will be submitted to the Commission's Division of Electric and Gas for approval prior to implementation. It is further

ORDERED that if a protest is filed in accordance with the requirement set forth below, the tariff shall remain in effect with any increase in revenues held subject to refund pending resolution of the protest. It is further

ORDERED that if no protest is filed in accordance with the requirements set forth below, this docket shall be closed.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission this 9th day of February, 1998.



BLANCA S. BAYÓ, Director
Division of Records and Reporting

(S E A L)

GAJ

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NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS OR JUDICIAL REVIEW

The Florida Public Service Commission is required by Section 120.569(1), Florida Statutes, to notify parties of any administrative hearing or judicial review of Commission orders that is available under Sections 120.57 or 120.68, Florida Statutes, as well as the procedures and time limits that apply. This notice should not be construed to mean all requests for an administrative hearing or judicial review will be granted or result in the relief sought.

Mediation may be available on a case-by-case basis. If mediation is conducted, it does not affect a substantially interested person's right to a hearing.

The Commission's decision on this tariff is interim in nature and will become final, unless a person whose substantial interests are affected by the action proposed files a petition for a formal proceeding, as provided by Rule 25-22.036(4), Florida Administrative Code, in the form provided by Rule 25-22.036(7)(a)(d) and (e), Florida Administrative Code. This petition must be received by the Director, Division of Records and Reporting, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, by the close of business on March 2, 1998.

In the absence of such a petition, this Order shall become final on the day subsequent to the above date.

Any objection or protest filed in this docket before the issuance date of this order is considered abandoned unless it satisfies the foregoing conditions and is renewed within the specified protest period.

If this Order becomes final on the date described above, any party adversely affected may request judicial review by the Florida Supreme Court in the case of an electric, gas or telephone utility or by the First District Court of Appeal in the case of a water or wastewater utility by filing a notice of appeal with the Director, Division of Records and Reporting and filing a copy of the notice of appeal and the filing fee with the appropriate court. This filing must be completed within thirty (30) days of the date this Order becomes final, pursuant to Rule 9.110, Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure. The notice of appeal must be in the form specified in Rule 9.900(a), Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure.