

# **NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION**

## **MINUTES OF REGULAR COMMISSION STAFF CONFERENCE**

**November 28, 2022**

The Regular Commission Staff Conference of the North Carolina Utilities Commission was held on Monday, November 28, 2022, at 10:00 a.m., with Commissioner Duffley presiding.

The following were present:

### **COMMISSIONERS:**

Commissioner Clodfelter  
Commissioner Hughes  
Commissioner McKissick  
Commissioner Kemerait

**COMMISSION STAFF:** Mr. Watson, Ms. Fennell, Ms. Duffy, Mr. Mertz, Ms. Webb-Shackleford, Ms. Hilburn, Mr. Rhodes, Mr. Barber, Ms. Forrest, Mr. Gajda, Mr. Warren, Mr. McCoy

**PUBLIC STAFF:** Mr. Ayers, Ms. Holt, Ms. Jost, Mr. Creech, Ms. Johnson, Mr. McLawhorn, Ms. Patel, Mr. Michna

### **ATTORNEY GENERAL:**

**COURT REPORTER:** Ms. Mitchell

## **NATURAL GAS**

### *INTEGRITY MANAGEMENT RIDER RATES (Michna/Patel/Johnson/Culpepper)*

#### **Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc.**

1. G-9, Sub 818: PNG annual IMR Report and request to change IMR rider rates effective 12/1/2022 (*Michna/Patel/Johnson/Culpepper*)

On November 15, 2022, Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc. (Piedmont), filed an application requesting authority to: (1) implement its proposed Integrity Management (IM) rate adjustments, including a true-up adjustment to collect the October 31, 2022, balance in the IM Deferred Account in Schedule B; and (2) remove the existing IM adjustments.

The Public Staff stated it had reviewed the proposed IM rate adjustments reflected on Piedmont's Schedule B, as well as the rate changes reflected on Schedule A.

The Public Staff recommended approval as filed.

It was moved and passed that the Public Staff's recommendation be adopted.

### *CHANGES IN COST OF GAS*

#### **Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc.**

2. G-9, Sub 819: Application for an Adjustment of its Rates and Charges to Track Changes in its Wholesale Costs of Gas effective 12/1/2022 (*Michna/Patel/Johnson/Culpepper*)

On November 15, 2022, Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc. (Piedmont or Company) filed a petition, pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-133.4, Commission Rule R1-17(k)(3), and Appendix A of Piedmont's North Carolina Service Regulations, seeking authority to decrease its Benchmark Cost of Gas from the current rate of \$8.25 per dekatherm (dt) to a rate of \$7.00 per dt.

The Public Staff stated it had reviewed the proposed rate changes.

The Public Staff recommended approval as filed.

It was moved and passed that the Public Staff's recommendation be adopted.

## **Public Service Company of North Carolina, Inc.**

3. G-5, Sub 654: Application for an Adjustment of its Rates and Charges to Track Changes in its Wholesale Costs of Gas under Rider D effective 12/1/2022 (Patel/Michna/Johnson/Holt)

On November 16, 2022, Public Service Company of North Carolina, Inc. (PSNC or Company) filed an application, pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-133.4 and Commission Rule R1-17(k)(3) and (5)(d), requesting authority to decrease its sales rates by \$1.0098 per dekatherm (dt) and its transportation rates by \$0.0098 per dt effective December 1, 2022. The decrease is a result of a change in PSNC's Benchmark Commodity Gas Cost from \$8.00 per dt to \$7.00 per dt, as well as the change in the company use and unaccounted for gas as described in PSNC's Rider D.

The Public Staff stated that it had reviewed the proposed rate changes.

The Public Staff recommended approval as filed.

It was moved and passed that the Public Staff's recommendation be adopted.

The Minutes of the Regular Commission Staff Conference of November 21, 2022, were approved.

The Commission recognized the retirement of Bruce Barkley, Vice President - Regulatory & Community Relations, Piedmont Natural Gas.

Minutes prepared by Le Anne Ackerman.