STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. G-40, SUB 171

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of		
Application of Frontier Natural Gas Company)	ORDER EXCUSING EXPERT
for Annual Review of Gas Costs Pursuant to)	WITNESSES, CANCELING
N.C.G.S. § 62-133.4(c) and Commission)	EXPERT WITNESS HEARING,
Rule R1-17(k)(6))	REQUIRING ADDITIONAL
)	TESTIMONY, AND REQUIRING
)	PROPOSED ORDERS

BY THE PRESIDING COMMISSIONER: On December 1, 2022, Frontier Natural Gas Company (Frontier), filed the testimony and exhibits (testimony), of Taylor B. Younger and Nathan Bell in the above-captioned docket relating to an annual review proceeding pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 62-133.4(c) and Commission Rule R1-17(k)(6).

On February 20, 2023, the Public Staff filed the direct testimony of Blaise C. Michna, and the joint direct testimony of Hemanth Meda and Sonja R. Johnson.

No other person intervened or filed testimony in this proceeding.

The expert witness hearing in this docket is presently scheduled to be held on Tuesday, March 14, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.

On February 24, 2023, Frontier and the Public Staff (Movants), filed a joint motion requesting that Frontier's and the Public Staff's expert witnesses be excused from attending the expert witness hearing on March 14, 2023. Movants stated that there do not appear to be issues of dispute between Movants, they have agreed to waive cross-examination of each other's witnesses, and they have no objection to the introduction of the witnesses' prefiled testimony into evidence.

Based on the foregoing and the record, the Presiding Commissioner finds good cause to excuse all Frontier and Public Staff witnesses from testifying at the expert witness hearing, to receive the witnesses' prefiled testimony and exhibits into evidence, and to cancel the expert witness hearing.

Further, the Presiding Commissioner finds good cause to require that Frontier and the Public Staff file proposed orders, or a joint proposed order, on or before April 14, 2023, and that the parties file briefs by the same date, if they desire to file briefs.

In addition, the public hearing scheduled for Tuesday, March 7, 2023, at 10:00 a.m., in Commission Hearing Room 2115, Dobbs Building, 430 North Salisbury Street, Raleigh, North Carolina, will be held as scheduled for the sole purpose of receiving testimony of public witnesses, if any such witnesses appear and desire to testify. However, counsel and representatives of Frontier and the Public Staff are not required to attend the public witness hearing.

Finally, the Presiding Commissioner finds good cause to require Frontier to file verified answers to the Commission Questions attached hereto as Attachment A on or before Tuesday, March 21, 2023.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED as follows:

- 1. That Frontier's and the Public Staff's witnesses are excused from testifying at the hearing on Tuesday, March 14, 2023, and the witnesses' prefiled testimony and exhibits are hereby admitted into evidence;
- 2. That the expert witness hearing scheduled for Tuesday, March 14, 2023, at 2:00 p.m., is hereby canceled;
- 3. That the public hearing scheduled for March 7, 2023, at 10:00 a.m., in Commission Hearing Room 2115, Dobbs Building, 430 North Salisbury Street, Raleigh, North Carolina, shall be held as scheduled for the sole purpose of receiving testimony of public witnesses;
- 4. That on or before March 21, 2023, Frontier shall file verified answers to the Commission Questions attached hereto as Attachment A; and
- 5. That on or before April 14, 2023, Frontier and the Public Staff shall file proposed orders, or a joint proposed order, and may file briefs if they so desire.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 2nd day of March, 2023.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

A. Shonta Dunston, Chief Clerk

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ATTACHMENT A

COMMISSION QUESTIONS

- 1. The Total Gas Cost Adjustment on Frontier witness Bell's Schedule 4, \$2,838.00, is not the same as the Total Gas Cost Adjustment on witness Bell's Schedule 8, \$2,368.98. Explain the reason(s) for this discrepancy.
 - 2. With reference to Frontier witness Bell's Schedule 8, provide:
 - (a) The calculations and supporting documentation (work papers) used to calculate the Interest amounts from April 2022 to September 2022.
 - (b) The calculations and supporting documentation used to calculate the Gas Cost True-Up from March 2022 to September 2022.
 - (c) The calculations and supporting documentation used to calculate the Transportation Balancing True-Up from March 2022 to September 2022.

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