

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. G-100, SUB 97

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of		
Joint Petition of Piedmont Natural Gas)	ORDER AMENDING RULE AND
Company, Inc. and Public Service Company)	EXTENDING TIME FOR
of North Carolina, Inc. to Amend Commission)	COMMENTS ON OTHER
Rule R6-25(1)c.)	POTENTIAL RULE CHANGES

BY THE COMMISSION: On July 5, 2022, Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc. and Public Service Company of North Carolina, Inc. (Joint Petitioners), filed a petition requesting that the Commission initiate a proceeding to amend Commission Rule R6-25(1)c, which states:

No meter shall be installed if it has been tested as required in subdivision (1)a and held for a period longer than 270 days without retesting.

In summary, Joint Petitioners stated that Rule R6-25(1)c is outdated because it is based on meter technology that is no longer utilized and, therefore, the rule is no longer necessary to preserve the operational integrity of gas meters. As a result, Joint Petitioners requested that the 270 day retesting requirement be amended to a three year retesting requirement.

On July 19, 2022, the Commission issued an Order that, among other things, requested comments and reply comments on Joint Petitioners' proposed rule change by August 10, 2022, and August 24, 2022, respectively. In addition, the Commission requested that the parties include in their comments and reply comments any suggestions for changes to other Commission rules on gas meters.

On August 11, 2022, in response to a motion by the Public Staff, the Commission issued an Order extending the dates for comments and reply comments to August 31, 2022, and September 14, 2022, respectively.

On August 31, 2022, Joint Petitioners, Toccoa Natural Gas, Cardinal Pipeline Company, LLC, and the Public Staff (Movants), filed a joint motion requesting that the Commission approve a revised amendment to Rule R6-25(1)c, and extend the date to December 30, 2022, for the parties to file comments on other potential changes to gas meter rules. In support of their motion Movants stated that the Public Staff has concluded its evaluation of the 270-day rule and recommends that the Commission modify the 270-day period to 30 months, rather than the three years requested by the Joint Petitioners. The motion stated that the Joint Petitioners agree with this modification.

Further, the motion stated that the Movants agree that a review of the other gas meter rules is appropriate because the current rules do not fully address the use of new metering technologies, such as ultrasonic meters. Moreover, Movants stated that they have identified several rules that might be revised but they need more time to fully evaluate new meter technologies, which evaluation will assist them in proposing revisions to the rules.

Based on the foregoing and the record, the Commission finds good cause to amend Rule R6-25(1)c by changing the meter inventory retesting requirement from the present 270 days to meters held in inventory longer than 30 months. The amended subsection (1)c is attached hereto as Attachment A, with changes shown in a strike-through and underlined version, and in a clean version of the final subsection. The amended rule shall be effective prospectively on the date of this Order.

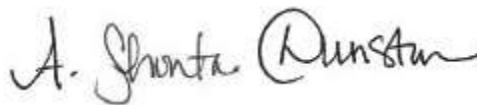
In addition, the Commission finds good cause to extend to December 30, 2022, the date for the parties to file suggestions for changes to other Commission rules on gas meters, and to set February 1, 2023, as the date for parties to file reply comments on such suggested rule changes.

IT IS, THEREFORE, SO ORDERED.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 17th day of October, 2022.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "A. Shonta Dunston". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "A." and last name "Dunston" clearly legible.

A. Shonta Dunston, Chief Clerk

ATTACHMENT A

Rule R6-25 UILITY INSPECTIONS AND TESTS

(1)c. No meter shall be installed if it has been tested as required in subdivision (1)a and held for a period longer than ~~270 days~~ 30 months without retesting.

Rule R6-25 UILITY INSPECTIONS AND TESTS

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