

1 PLACE: Dobbs Building, Raleigh, North Carolina
2 DATE: Tuesday, March 5, 2024
3 TIME: 9:01 a.m. - 9:06 a.m.
4 DOCKET: G-40, Sub 175
5 BEFORE: Commissioner Floyd B. McKissick, Jr.
6 Commissioner Kimberly W. Duffley
7 Commissioner William M. Brawley
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IN THE MATTER OF:
Application of
Frontier Natural Gas Company
for Annual Review of Gas Costs
Pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 62-133.4(c)
and Commission Rule R1-17(k) (6)

1 A P P E A R A N C E S:

2 FOR FRONTIER NATURAL GAS COMPANY:

3 Mason Maney, Esq.

4 McGuireWoods LLP

5 501 Fayetteville Street, Suite 500

6 Raleigh, North Carolina 27601

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8 FOR THE USING AND CONSUMING PUBLIC:

9 Elizabeth Culpepper, Esq.

10 Public Staff - North Carolina Utilities Commission

11 4326 Mail Service Center

12 Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4326

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P R O C E E D I N G S

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2 COMMISSIONER MCKISSICK: Good morning. Let
3 the record reflect it's now 9:01 a.m. Let us come to
4 need and go on record. I'm Commissioner Floyd B.
5 McKissick, Jr. I have been assigned to preside over
6 this hearing. With me this morning are Commissioners
7 Kimberly W. Duffley and William Brawley.

8 I now call for Hearing Docket Number G-40,
9 Sub 175, in the Matter of Application of Frontier
10 Natural Gas Company, hereinafter Frontier, for Annual
11 Review of Gas Cost Pursuant to North Carolina General
12 Statute § 62-133, Sub 4(c) and Rule 1-17(k) Subsection
13 6.

14 The purpose of the review is to compare
15 Frontier's prudently incurred gas cost with the gas
16 cost recovered from its customers served during the
17 test period in compliance with Rule R 1-17, Subsection
18 (k) 6.

19 In compliance with the State Ethics Act, I
20 remind all members of the Commission of our duty to
21 avoid conflicts of interest, and I inquire at this
22 time as to whether any member has any known conflict
23 of interest with respect to the matter before us this
24 morning.

1 (No response.)

2 COMMISSIONER McKISSICK: Please let the
3 record reflect that I have no such conflicts, nor were
4 any such conflicts identified.

5 On December 1st, '23, Frontier filed the
6 testimony and exhibits of Taylor B. Younger, and Jason
7 Lemmon, relating to this annual review proceeding.

8 On December 8, 2023, the Commission issued
9 an Order Scheduling Hearing, Requiring Filing of
10 Testimony, Establishing Discovery Guidelines, and
11 Requiring Public Notice. The Order scheduled this
12 hearing for today, March 5, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.

13 On December 21, 2023, Frontier filed the
14 supplemental testimony and exhibit of witness, Lemmon,
15 and on February 7, 2024, Frontier filed a corrected
16 exhibit of witness, Lemmon.

17 On February 12, 2024, Frontier filed
18 Affidavits of Publication evidencing the newspaper
19 publication of the public notice of today's hearing as
20 required by the Commission.

21 The intervention and participation of the
22 Public Staff is recognized pursuant to North Carolina
23 General Statute 62, Subsection 15(d), and Commission
24 Rule R1-19, Subsection E.

1 On February 19, 2024, the Public Staff filed
2 the testimony of Andrew R. S. Puglisi and Sonja R.
3 Johnson. No other parties intervened or filed
4 testimony in this docket.

5 On February 21, 2024, Frontier and the
6 Public Staff filed a joint motion requesting that
7 their expert witnesses be excused from attending the
8 hearing. Frontier and the Public Staff stated that
9 there does not appear to be any matters in dispute
10 between the parties. They have agreed to waive cross
11 examination of each other's witnesses, and they
12 consent to the introduction of the witnesses' prefiled
13 testimony and exhibits into evidence.

14 On February 26, 2024, the Commission issued
15 an Order excusing expert witnesses, admitting all
16 prefiled testimony and exhibits to evidence, canceling
17 the expert witness hearing, and requiring proposed
18 orders. That Order also stated that today's hearing
19 will be for the sole purpose of taking the testimony
20 of public witnesses, and that representatives of
21 Frontier and Public Staff were not required to attend
22 the hearing.

23 Are there any preliminary matters which need
24 to be addressed prior to the beginning of the hearing

1 today?

2 MS. CULPEPPER: No, sir.

3 MR. MANEY: No.

4 COMMISSIONER MCKISSICK: And would you
5 identify yourself for the record, please.

6 MR. MANEY: Good morning, Commissioners. My
7 name is Mason Maney. I'm standing in for Jim Jeffries
8 this morning on behalf of Frontier.

9 COMMISSIONER MCKISSICK: Very good.

10 MS. CULPEPPER: Good morning. Elizabeth
11 Culpepper with the Public Staff, appearing on behalf
12 of the Using and Consuming Public.

13 COMMISSIONER MCKISSICK: Very good. Are
14 there any members of the public present in the hearing
15 room who desire to provide testimony? If so, please
16 come forward.

17 (No response.)

18 COMMISSIONER MCKISSICK: Madam Court
19 Reporter, please let the record reflect that no public
20 witnesses came forward to testify.

21 Is there any additional business to come
22 before the Commission this morning?

23 MS. CULPEPPER: No, sir.

24 COMMISSIONER MCKISSICK: Hearing none and

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seeing none, this hearing is concluded, and we are
hereby adjourned.

Thank you.

(The proceedings were adjourned.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, KAYLENE CLAYTON, do hereby certify that the Proceedings in the above-captioned matter were taken before me, that I did report in stenographic shorthand the Proceedings set forth herein, and the foregoing pages are a true and correct transcription to the best of my ability.

Kaylene Clayton
Kaylene Clayton

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Mar 25 2024