Steven L. Beshear Governor

Leonard K. Peters Secretary Energy and Environment Cabinet



Commonwealth of Kentucky Public Service Commission 211 Sower Blvd. P.O. Box 615 Frankfort, Kentucky 40602-0615 Telephone: (502) 564-3940 Fax: (502) 564-3460 psc.ky.gov

November 5, 2013

David L. Armstrong Chairman

James W. Gardner Vice Chairman

> Linda Breathitt Commissioner

PARTIES OF RECORD

Re: Case No. 2013-00167 Application of Columbia Gas of Kentucky, Inc. for an Adjustment of Rates for Gas Service

Attached is a copy of the memorandum which is being filed in the record of the above-referenced case. If you have any comments you would like to make regarding the contents of the informal conference memorandum, please do so within five days of receipt of this letter. If you have any questions, please contact Aaron Ann Cole, Staff Attorney, at 502-782-2591.

Sincerel rðuen

Executive Director

AAC/kar Attachment

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INTRA-AGENCY MEMORANDUM

KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

TO: Case File

FROM: Aaron Ann Cole, Staff Attorney

DATE: November 5, 2013

RE: Case No. 2013-00167 Application of Columbia Gas of Kentucky, Inc. for an Adjustment of Rates for Gas Service

At the request of Columbia Gas of Kentucky, Inc. ("Columbia Gas"), an informal conference was conducted on October 29, 2013 at the Commission Offices in Frankfort, Kentucky. A list of the attendees is attached hereto, which includes parties participating telephonically.

The purpose of the conference was to discuss the unanimous settlement agreement and stipulation ("Stipulation") reached in principle among all the parties. Columbia Gas's representative began by explaining that Columbia Gas and the intervenors had met several times and developed a document agreeable to the parties and noted that the agreement reached represents a black-box settlement regarding its rate increase, tariffs, and other monetary matters except for: (1) Columbia Gas will withdraw its proposed Revenue Normalization Adjustment tariff; (2) for purposes of its Accelerated Main Replacement Program, Columbia Gas will have a specified Return on Equity of 10.125% and will use an 8.0% weighted cost of capital grossed-up for federal and state income taxes; (3) Columbia Gas will withdraw the depreciation study filed as part of its application and will continue to use its current depreciation rates until such time as it submits a new study that is accepted by the Commission; (4) Columbia Gas will defer and amortize its actual rate case expense over three years; (5) it will recover over five years the amortization of a regulatory asset of \$294,734 related to Other Post-Retirement Benefits at a rate of \$58,947 annually; and (6) Columbia Gas will guarantee an additional \$10,000 annually in Wintercare contributions above its current funding of approximately \$50,000.

Columbia Gas provided copies of draft documents which were reviewed and discussed. The parties indicated that the executed documents in final form along with testimony of a Columbia witness in support of the Stipulation should be filed with the Commission by November 5, 2013. The parties indicated that they will not file rebuttal and surrebuttal testimony as provided for in the procedural schedule, but that they reserve the right to do so in the event the Commission does not approve the Stipulation. When asked about the anticipated timeframe for the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Council's approval of the Stipulation, its counsel stated that the Stipulation would be

given two readings the week of November 4, 2013, and that final approval is expected before the November 13, 2013 hearing date.

There being no further discussions, the informal conference was adjourned. Attachment

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

APPLICATION OF COLUMBIA GAS OF) CASE NO. KENTUCKY, INC. FOR AN ADJUSTMENT OF) 2013-00167 RATES FOR GAS SERVICE

October 29, 2013

Please sign in:

NAME Ċ din Coope ut Owizia Innis M NN GARY GLOVER Matthew Bren WAGNER rrol AMES RICE

REPRESENTING <u>PSC - logd</u> <u>CK4 atta</u> <u>Columbia Has</u> <u>Columbia Gas</u> <u>TGS atty</u> <u>NAG</u> <u>OAG</u> <u>CAC</u> <u>PSC - FA</u> <u>PSC - FA</u> <u>PSC - FA</u> <u>PSC - FA</u> <u>PSC - FA</u>

PSC

Case No. 2013-00167 October 29, 2013

NAME REPRESENTING h Will ()[>]SC-7 Ku 7 ngineer Ann Lole BC: liga Joron David KIUC < BN I FUGG 2100 10 A R IGS