Ernie Fletcher Governor

LaJuana S. Wilcher, Secretary Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet

Christopher L. Lilly Commissioner Department of Public Protection

Connie King Director - Rates & Treasury Delta Natural Gas Company, Inc. 3617 Lexington Road Winchester, KY 40391



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

April 4, 2006

Mark David Goss Chairman

> Teresa J. Hill Vice Chairman

Gregory Coker Commissioner

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

RE: Case No. 2006-00071 Delta Natural Gas Company, Inc.

I, Beth O'Donnell, Executive Director of the Public Service Commission, hereby certify that the enclosed attested copy of the Commission's Order in the above case was served upon the addressee by U.S. Mail on April 4, 2006.

Executive Director

BOD/jc Enclosure



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

THE APPLICATION OF DELTA NATURAL)	
GAS COMPANY, INC.'S REQUEST FOR)	CASE NO.
NATURAL GAS HEDGING PLAN TO BE)	2006-00071
EXTENDED UNTIL 3/31/2009)	

ORDER

On February 9, 2006, Delta Natural Gas Company, Inc. ("Delta") filed its report on the results of its natural gas price mitigation plan ("plan") for the 2004-2005 and the 2005-2006 winter heating seasons. Delta reports that it did not enter into any forward priced contracts during either of the plan years because of the high level of gas prices. Delta's report also includes a request to extend its plan through March 31, 2009.

DISCUSSION

While Delta did not employ any forward contracts during the past two heating seasons, its substantial storage facilities helped mitigate its customers' bills to a large degree. Delta's responses to Commission Staff's data request show that approximately 47 percent of its winter gas supply came from storage for the period November 2004 through March 2005 and approximately 33 percent of its winter gas supply came from storage for the period November 2005 through January 2006. In past years, Delta's use of forward contracts has had very little effect on the ultimate price to its consumers. However, as such contracts offer Delta an additional option in its portfolio of natural gas purchases, the Commission finds that the plan should be extended through March 31, 2009 in order to provide Delta with as many purchase options as possible.

FINDINGS AND ORDERS

Based on the evidence of record and being otherwise sufficiently advised, the Commission finds that:

- 1. Delta's request to extend its natural gas price mitigation plan through March 31, 2009 should be approved.
- 2. Included with its regular quarterly Gas Cost Adjustment filing, Delta should report to the Commission on any forward contracts it has executed, stating the price, volume, delivery date, and counter party contained in the contract.
- 3. Delta should file reports with the Commission, by no later than May 15 after each winter heating season through March 2009, detailing the effect of any forward contracts that Delta entered into for the approved period and an analysis of their impact on the price of gas to its customers.
- 4. To continue its program beyond March 31, 2009, Delta should file a request to do so at least 45 days before March 31, 2009, and provide the information contained in paragraph 3 to the extent that it is available at the time of filing.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

- 1. Delta's natural gas price mitigation plan is extended through March 31, 2009.
- 2. Delta shall comply with the requirements contained in Finding Paragraphs2, 3 and 4 as if same were individually so ordered.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 4th day of April, 2006.

By the Commission

Executive Director