

Melnykovich, Andrew (PSC)

From: Melnykovich, Andrew (PSC)
Sent: Wednesday, September 07, 2016 3:58 PM
To: 'Malcolm Ratchford'
Subject: Your comments in Case No. 2016-00107 - Columbia Gas of Kentucky WarmWise program

Dear Mr. Ratchford

The Kentucky Public Service Commission has received your comments in the above-referenced case. They will be placed into the case file for the commission's consideration as it deliberates in this matter.

Thank you for your interest.

Andrew Melnykovich

Director of Communications
Kentucky Public Service Commission
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Andrew.Melnykovich@ky.gov

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By Kentucky PSC at 4:23 pm, Sep 07, 2016

From: Malcolm Ratchford [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 5:12 PM
To: PSC - Public Information Officer
Subject: Case No. 2016-00107; Letter of Support from Community Action Council

Dr. Talina Matthews and the Public Service Commission,

Please accept this letter of support for Columbia Gas' application to the Public Service Commission regarding the WarmWise program.

Thank you,

Malcolm J. Ratchford, M.S., CCAP
Executive Director
Community Action Council
Office: [REDACTED]
Cell: 8 [REDACTED]
Fax: [REDACTED]



August 23, 2016

Dr. Talina Matthews
Executive Director
Kentucky Public Service Commission
211 Sower Boulevard
P.O. Box 615
Frankfort, KY 40602

Dear Dr. Matthews,

On behalf of Community Action Council for Lexington-Fayette, Bourbon, Harrison, and Nicholas Counties (the Council), I am pleased to support the application of Columbia Gas of Kentucky, Inc. to continue its Energy Efficiency Conservation Rider and Energy Efficiency Program, also known as WarmWise. The Council fully supports the proposed rate increase included in the application to a total cost of \$2800 per furnace.

WarmWise helps many households in Central Kentucky with low income, including those served by the Council, by replacing unsafe and malfunctioning furnaces with high-efficiency gas furnaces. This enables households to heat their homes safely, reliably and affordably when they might not otherwise be able to do so. The program is especially critical for households that include members of vulnerable populations such as children, elderly people, or people with disabilities. Safe and reliable home heating is essential for maintaining the health and well-being of families who are working to escape poverty and become self-sufficient.

Since the WarmWise program began in 2010, the Council has performed nearly 750 furnace replacements in qualifying households. Many of the furnaces were replaced due to serious safety concerns, including carbon monoxide emissions and fire hazards. Before receiving the replacement units, families often found their furnace too difficult or costly to operate and were using unsafe forms of heating, such as space heaters. Since a working heat source is required for households to receive DOE Weatherization services, the Council has also observed that receiving the replacement furnaces through WarmWise has enabled households to obtain these services, further increasing their home energy efficiency and reducing fuel costs.



The cost for replacing furnaces, including related supplies and contractor rates, has increased since 2010, and the Council has found it difficult to continue operating the program sustainably. Consequently, the Council's WarmWise operations have decreased in recent years and are projected to decrease further unless the current price structure is adjusted. Without WarmWise, the Council will have no program to which it can refer customers with low income who are in need of reliable gas heating for their homes.

The Council applauds Columbia Gas's service to the people of Central Kentucky through the WarmWise program. I gladly support Columbia Gas's application for continuation funding through 2021.

Sincerely,



Malcolm J. Ratchford, M.S., CCAP
Executive Director
Community Action Council
P.O. Box 11610
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