## MICHAEL STAFFORD

## 258 Preston Estate

Paintsville, Kentucky 41240

RECEIVED

JAN 2 8 2019

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

15 January 2019

Kentucky Public Service Commission P. O. Box 615 Frankfort, Kentucky 40602

## **RE: JOHNSON COUNTY GAS COMPANY, INC.**

Dear commission members:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide my thoughts on the requested rate increase for Johnson County Gas. I have been a customer for many years but if the increase is granted I will be forced to seek other means including converting to all electric or propane. However, many customers of Johnson County Gas are unable for various reasons that cannot make the conversion.

I received a notice of application of Johnson County Gas. The application has massive error in my opinion regarding the current rate and therefore the application is not accurate and is misleading for purposes of gaining an unjust economic advantage.

The application indicates the current rates structure contains a \$ 15.00 monthly minimum even if no national gas is consumed. My monthly bill indicates that is correct. Also, indicated in the application, Johnson County Gas maintains the current rate per MCF is \$ 8.60. However, my monthly bills indicate they are charging \$ 15.01 per MCF. They have been charging this excessive amount for many years. I have enclosed one copy of a monthly bill for the years 2016, 2017, and 2018. The area market indicates they charge the most.

Furthermore, the application for rate increase sets out they are currently paying \$ 6.4140 for the gas they are charging \$ 15.01 for mcf. More examination of the application sets out Johnson County Gas will continue to purchase at the same rate of \$ 6.4140 but wants to charge the customer a highly inflated amount.

After reviewing the application it is obvious and well known that figures can be manipulated to easily indicated a profit or a loss using acceptable accounting practices. I am not saying that is the case at hand but detailed investigation is warranted.

I have not observed any reinvestment in the gas lines or meters. Therefore they do not need to argue for recapture any expended capital.

Again, from my personal observation Johnson County Gas is performing minimal output for their economic enrichment. In my opinion if they are in dire straits and needs an increase in gas rates, in my opinion, is base wholly on miss-management and not on outside economic forces.

Therefore, I request and recommend you deny the requested rate increase and even ask you rollback their current pricing structure. Johnson County Gas is a cash cow in my opinion.

Sincerely,

Michael Stoffond

Michael Stafford

|                           | x 447            | 41605-04  | 47 <u>Phone</u><br>Servic | of bus<br>606-78<br>e ID | iness o<br>9-5481  | ved no later than the 10th of the 20th!  | FIRST (LASS MAIL<br>U.S. PC STAGE PAID<br>1 CUNCE<br>HAR DLD, KY<br>PER MIT NO. 5 |  |
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## NOTICE OF APPLICATION OF JOHNSON COUNTY GAS COMPANY TO ADJUST RATES FOR NATURAL GAS SERVICE BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISION OF KENTUCKY December 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Pursuant to the Kentucky Public Service Commission's regulation 807 KAR 5:076, Johnson County Gas Company, Inc. gives notice that an application has been filed on December 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018, with the Kentucky Public Service Commission seeking approval to adjust its rates for natural gas service. This rate adjustment will apply to all Johnson County Gas Company's customers. If Johnson County Gas Company's application is approved, monthly natural gas bills from Johnson County Gas Company will increase as follows:

|                              | <b>Current Residential and Commercial Charges</b> |                    |                             |  |  |  |  |  |
|------------------------------|---|--------------------|-----------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
|                              | <b>Base Rate</b>                                  | Gas Cost           | Total                       |  |  |  |  |  |
| Customer Charge<br>(Monthly) | \$15.00   |                    | \$15.00                     |  |  |  |  |  |
| All MCFs                     | \$8.6000  | \$6.4140           | \$15.0140                   |  |  |  |  |  |
|                              | Proposed Rates                                    |                    |                             |  |  |  |  |  |
|                              | Base Rate   | Amount of Increase | Percentage of<br>Increase % |  |  |  |  |  |
| Customer Charge              | \$15.00   | N/A                | 0%                          |  |  |  |  |  |
| (Monthły)<br>All MCFs        | \$17.7951   | \$9.1951           | 106.92%                     |  |  |  |  |  |
|                              |   | Gas Cost           |                             |  |  |  |  |  |

<sup>\$6,4140</sup> per MCF

The Johnson County Gas Company average customer monthly usage is 4 MCFs per month. In 2017 the customers of Johnson County Gas Company used an average 1240 MCFs per month. The average cost per customer was \$75.06 Based on average usage, the cost will increase \$36.78 per month if the proposed rates are approved by the Kentucky Public Service Commission. The rates contained in this notice are the rates proposed by Johnson County Gas Company, however, the Kentucky Public Service Commission may order rates to be charged that differ from the proposed rates contained in this notice.

Any person may submit a timely written request to intervene to the Kentucky Public Service Commission, 211 Sower Boulevard, P.O. Box 615, Frankfort, Kentucky 40602, establishing the grounds for the request and including the status and interest of the party. If the Kentucky Public Service Commission does not receive a request to intervene within thirty (30) days of the initial publication or mailing of this notice, the Kentucky Public Service Commission may take final action on the application. Any comments regarding this application may be submitted through the Commission's Web site at http://psc.ky.gov/ or by mail to P.O. Box 615, Frankfort, Kentucky 40602.

Copies of Johnson County Gas Company's application may be obtained or viewed from Johnson County Gas Company, at 497 George Road, Betsy Layne, KY 41605, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The application and all documents filed with the Kentucky Public Service Commission may be viewed and downloaded at the Kentucky Public Service Commission's Web site at http://psc.ky.gov/ or a copy can be obtained from the Kentucky Public Service Commission, 211 Sower Boulevard, P.O. Box 615, Frankfort, Kentucky 40602 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Bud Rife Johnson County Gas Company President