

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

ELECTRONIC TARIFF FILING OF COLUMBIA)	
GAS OF KENTUCKY, INC. TO EXTEND ITS)	CASE NO.
SMALL VOLUME GAS TRANSPORTATION)	2021-00386
SERVICE)	

COMMISSION STAFF'S POST-HEARING REQUEST FOR INFORMATION
TO COLUMBIA GAS OF KENTUCKY, INC.

Columbia Gas of Kentucky, Inc. (Columbia Kentucky), pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, shall file with the Commission an electronic version of the following information. The information requested is due no later than August 18, 2023. The Commission directs Columbia Kentucky to the Commission's July 22, 2021 Order in Case No. 2020-00085¹ regarding filings with the Commission. Electronic documents shall be in portable document format (PDF), shall be searchable, and shall be appropriately bookmarked.

Each response shall include the question to which the response is made and shall include the name of the witness responsible for responding to the questions related to the information provided. Each response shall be answered under oath or, for representatives of a public or private corporation or a partnership or association or a governmental agency, be accompanied by a signed certification of the preparer or the person supervising the preparation of the response on behalf of the entity that the

¹ Case No. 2020-00085, *Electronic Emergency Docket Related to the Novel Coronavirus COVID-19* (Ky. PSC July 22, 2021), Order (in which the Commission ordered that for case filings made on and after March 16, 2020, filers are NOT required to file the original physical copies of the filings required by 807 KAR 5:001, Section 8).

response is true and accurate to the best of that person's knowledge, information, and belief formed after a reasonable inquiry.

Columbia Kentucky shall make timely amendment to any prior response if Columbia Kentucky obtains information that indicates the response was incorrect or incomplete when made or, though correct or complete when made, is now incorrect or incomplete in any material respect.

For any request to which Columbia Kentucky fails or refuses to furnish all or part of the requested information, Columbia Kentucky shall provide a written explanation of the specific grounds for its failure to completely and precisely respond.

Careful attention shall be given to copied and scanned material to ensure that it is legible. When the requested information has been previously provided in this proceeding in the requested format, reference may be made to the specific location of that information in responding to this request. When applicable, the requested information shall be separately provided for total company operations and jurisdictional operations. When filing a paper containing personal information, Columbia Kentucky shall, in accordance with 807 KAR 5:001, Section 4(10), encrypt or redact the paper so that personal information cannot be read.

1. For the NiSource, Inc. affiliates in other jurisdictions that offer unbundled natural gas services, provide a discussion of the information provided on utility web sites. The information should include how many steps or "clicks" the customer must make to access a relevant comparison of their bills between the utility gas cost rate, if applicable, or the rates of all competitive providers if the utility has exited the merchant function. The response should be sufficient to indicate whether there are direct links to customer

specific usage and marketer rate offers. Also include the location of customer information on commodity pricing and the location and functionality of rate comparison calculators.

2. The presentation involving customer bills during the July 26, 2023 hearing in this matter showed a Message Board on a customer bill that included information on the Customer Choice program. Provide the date the CHOICE program information was added to the Message Board, and whether it is currently included on all customer bills for non-Choice customers.

3. Provide properly redacted copies of the CHOICE program participant and full-requirements customer bills displayed during the presentation made by Columbia Kentucky at the July 26, 2023 hearing.

4. Provide the steps necessary for CHOICE program customers to move service to a new location, including the retention of their chosen gas supplier and/or contract. If the process of moving CHOICE program customers and retaining the marketer information has changed, provide the details of the change, when and why it was made, and an explanation of the original process. If the current process causes customers to be disconnected with their chosen supplier or their current contractual arrangement, explain why this is the case.

5. Provide the amount of incremental Performance-Based Rate (PBR) sharing that Columbia Kentucky would have realized over the last five years if CHOICE program volumes had been Columbia Kentucky commodity sales volumes.

6. Explain the impact that CHOICE program customers returning to Columbia Kentucky commodity sales would have on Columbia Kentucky's sharing through the PBR

mechanism. The explanation should include any estimated impact in the savings calculated under the individual Gas Cost Incentive (GCI) and Transportation Cost Incentive (TCI) PBR components. If the response is that there is no impact on the calculation of PBR savings and therefore no impact on Columbia Kentucky's sharing portion, explain why an increase in commodity sales volumes would not impact the PBR savings results.

7. With regard to the (\$74,321,995) savings from the CHOICE program discussed in the hearing and reported in Columbia Kentucky's 2023 Annual Report on the CHOICE program, which is the amount that CHOICE customers paid over and above Columbia Kentucky's gas cost over the duration of the program:

a. Explain whether this could be considered the amount customers would be willing to pay to hedge their gas bills against fluctuations in the gas commodity market.

b. Provide an estimate of what Columbia Kentucky would have paid, on a per Mcf basis, to hedge its gas cost during a period commensurate with that used to calculate the (\$74.3) million referenced above.

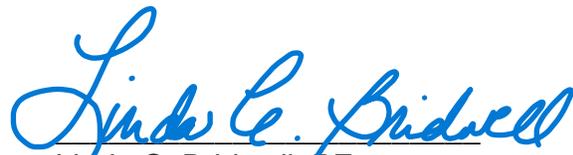
c. Provide an annual breakdown of the (\$74.3) million savings, including the volumes served under the CHOICE program and total sales volumes.

8. Describe all changes to Columbia Kentucky's CHOICE program from the time it was first approved in Case No. 1999-00165² up to and including the Commission's

² Case No. 1999-00165, *The Tariff Filing of Columbia Gas of Kentucky, Inc. to Implement a Small Volume Gas Transportation Service, to Continue Its Gas Cost Incentive Mechanisms, and to Continue Its Customer Assistance Program* (Ky. PSC May 19, 2000).

approval of its revised CHOICE program in Case No. 2004-00462.³

9. State whether any natural gas fired electric generators served by Columbia Kentucky are transportation customers. The response should include the number of generators served and the tariffs under which they are served.



Linda C. Bridwell, PE
Executive Director
Public Service Commission
P.O. Box 615
Frankfort, KY 40602

DATED JUL 31 2023

cc: Parties of Record

³ Case No. 2004-00462, *Application of Columbia Gas of Kentucky, Inc. to Implement a New Small Volume Gas Transportation Service, a Gas Price Hedging Plan, an Off-System Sales and Capacity Release Revenue Sharing Mechanism, and a Gas Cost Incentive Mechanism* (Ky. PSC Mar. 29, 2005).

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