

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF:

ELECTRONIC INVESTIGATION INTO THE	)	CASE NO.
AFFORDABILITY OF ELECTRIC AND NATURAL	)	2026-00185
GAS UTILITY SERVICE AND RELATED	)	
MATTERS	)	

INITIAL COMMENTS OF COLUMBIA GAS OF KENTUCKY, INC.

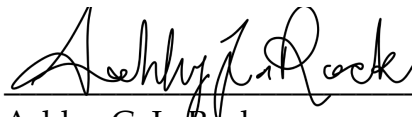
Columbia Gas of Kentucky, Inc. (“Columbia”), by counsel and pursuant to the Commission’s August 26, 2026 Order, respectfully submits these initial comments. The Commission’s Order identifies sixteen topics for consideration in this proceeding concerning the affordability of electric and natural gas utility service. Columbia does not propose any additional topics beyond the sixteen topics identified in the Order, but respectfully offers the following two comments concerning the scope and clarity of Topics 1 and 2.

With respect to Topic 1, Columbia suggests that the Commission further define the phrase “appropriate data and measures for evaluating affordability.” Additional guidance concerning the specific data, metrics, time periods, customer classifications, and level of detail the Commission seeks would help ensure that the parties provide relevant and comparable information and would promote an efficient development of the record.

With respect to Topic 2, Columbia recommends removing “rate design and cost allocation” from the listed factors contributing to affordability challenges. Those subjects are expressly addressed in Topic 6, which concerns the role of rate design, cost allocation, financial assistance programs, and other regulatory and nonregulatory measures in addressing affordability. Removing the duplicative language from Topic 2 would clarify the scope of the topics and avoid unnecessary overlap.

Subject to these two comments, Columbia believes the sixteen topics identified in the Order provide an appropriate framework for this proceeding.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Ashley G. LaRock", written over a horizontal line.

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that the foregoing electronic filing was transmitted to the Commission on September 30, 2026; that there are currently no parties that the Commission has excused from participation by electronic means in this proceeding; and that, pursuant to the Commission's July 22, 2021 Order in Case No. 2020-00085, no paper copies of the filing will be made.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Ashley J. Rock". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The first name "Ashley" is written in a larger, more prominent script, followed by "J." and "Rock". The signature is positioned above a horizontal line.

Attorney for Columbia Gas of Kentucky, Inc.