COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

ELECTRONIC APPLICATION OF DELTA)NATURAL GAS COMPANY, INC. FOR AN)ADJUSTMENT OF ITS RATES AND A)CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND)NECESSITY)

CASE NO. 2021-00185

<u>O R D E R</u>

On June 6, 2021, Delta Natural Gas Company, Inc. (Delta) filed a motion for deviation from the notice requirements contained in 807 KAR 5:001, Section 17 and 807 KAR 5:011, Section 8. Those regulations require a utility to publish notice of a rate adjustment once a week, for three consecutive weeks, with the first publication to be made no later than the date the application is submitted to the Commission.

On May 28, 2021, Delta tendered an application requesting, among other things, a general rate adjustment based upon a forecasted test year. Delta's application indicated it had scheduled its notice to customers to be published in local newspapers for three consecutive weeks beginning May 24, 2021.¹ By letter dated June 3, 2021, the Commission notified Delta that its application had been rejected for filing deficiencies because its customer notice was inadequate in some respects. An informal conference was held on June 4, 2021, to allow Delta and the parties to this matter to discuss and clarify with Commission Staff the items in Delta's notice that were found to be deficient. On June 4, 2021, Delta tendered an adequate revised customer notice.

¹ Application, Tab 6, at 1.

In support of its motion for deviation, Delta states that the rates it published in its original notice were correct, and that the changes in the revised notice are textual only. Further, Delta asserts that republishing the notice in local newspapers is very costly. Delta states it has published the revised notice on its website and posted it in its offices that are open to customers.

Having reviewed the motion and being otherwise sufficiently advised, the Commission finds that Delta established good cause to permit a deviation from the notice requirement for the reasons that follow. Delta has acted with diligence in revising its notice and making it available to its customers. Delta filed an adequate revised notice with the Commission the day after being notified its previously filed notice was inadequate. Delta also made its revised notice available on its website and in its offices the day after it learned its original notice was inadequate. The rates Delta published in its original notice were correct. Delta's customers have received timely notice of the amount and percentage of the proposed rate adjustment, published at the frequency established by Commission regulation. The revisions to the notice are textual, pertain to service rules and regulations, do not affect the rates charged, and have been made available to Delta's customers on its website and in its offices.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Delta's motion to deviate from the notice requirements set forth in 807 KAR 5:001, Section 17(2)(b)(3) and 807 KAR 5:011, Section 8 is granted.

-2-

By the Commission



ATTEST:

6. Bidwell

Executive Director

Case No. 2021-00185

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