COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

ELECTRONIC PURCHASED GAS ADJUSTMENTCASE NO.FILING OF DELTA NATURAL GAS COMPANY,2021-00461INC.)

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

On December 16, 2021, Delta Natural Gas Company, Inc. (Delta) filed a petition, pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, Section 13, and KRS 61.878, requesting that the Commission grant confidential treatment for an indefinite period for the identity of Delta's gas suppliers, as well as the volume and cost of supplied gas, contained in its Gas Cost Recovery Rate Quarterly Report (Report).

In support of its petition, Delta argued that public disclosure of this information would result in competitive harm by adversely impacting Delta's ability to negotiate future gas supply contracts at favorable prices. Delta further stated that public disclosure would impact its ability to minimize the price of natural gas paid by Delta's customers. Delta contended that competitors could use the information to gain an advantage on gas supply contract bids, driving up the cost of gas for Delta and its customers. Delta stated that the Commission had previously granted confidential treatment to comparable information in Case No. 2019-00364.¹

¹ Case No. 2019-00364, *Electronic Purchased Gas Adjustment Filing of Delta Natural Gas Company, Inc.* (Ky. PSC Nov. 6, 2019), Order.

Having considered the petition and the material at issue, the Commission finds that the designated material is generally recognized as confidential or proprietary because public disclosure could ultimately result in a competitive disadvantage to Delta as it bids on and negotiates gas supply contracts; it therefore meets the criteria for confidential treatment and should be exempted from public disclosure pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, Section 13, and KRS 61.878(1)(c)(1).

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

1. Delta's petition for confidential treatment is granted.

2. The designated material granted confidential treatment by this Order shall not be placed in the public record or made available for public inspection for an indefinite period or until further Order of this Commission.

3. Use of the designated material granted confidential treatment by this Order in any Commission proceeding shall comply with 807 KAR 5:001, Section 13(9).

4. Delta shall inform the Commission if the designated material granted confidential treatment by this Order becomes publicly available or no longer qualifies for confidential treatment.

5. If a nonparty to this proceeding requests to inspect the material granted confidential treatment by this Order and the period during which the material has been granted confidential treatment has not expired, Delta shall have 30 days from receipt of written notice of the request to demonstrate that the material still falls within the exclusions from disclosure requirements established in KRS 61.878. If Delta is unable to make such demonstration, the requested material shall be made available for inspection. Otherwise, the Commission shall deny the request for inspection.

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6. The Commission shall not make the requested material available for inspection for 30 days from the date of service of an Order finding that the material no longer qualifies for confidential treatment in order to allow Delta to seek a remedy afforded by law.

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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Commissioner



ATTEST:



Executive Director

Case No. 2021-00461

*Emily Bennett Delta Natural Gas Company, Inc. 3617 Lexington Road Winchester, KY 40391

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