

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

ELECTRONIC APPLICATION OF COLUMBIA)	
GAS OF KENTUCKY, INC. FOR AN)	CASE NO.
ADJUSTMENT OF RATES; APPROVAL OF)	2024-00092
DEPRECIATION STUDY; APPROVAL OF TARIFF)	
REVISIONS; AND OTHER RELIEF)	

ORDER

On May 23, 2024,¹ Columbia Gas of Kentucky, Inc (Columbia Kentucky) filed its application for, among other things, an adjustment of its gas rates based on a forecasted test period. The application proposed that new rates become effective on July 1, 2024.

Pursuant to KRS 278.180(1), changes to any rate by any utility is prohibited except upon 30 days' notice to the Commission. Having reviewed Columbia Kentucky's application, the Commission finds that an investigation is necessary to determine the reasonableness of the proposed rates, and that an investigation cannot be completed by July 1, 2024. Therefore, pursuant to KRS 278.190(2), the Commission will suspend the effective date of the proposed rates for six months, up to and including January 1, 2025.

The Commission, on its own motion, further finds that a procedural schedule should be established for the orderly processing of this case. The procedural schedule is attached as an Appendix to this Order.

¹ Columbia Kentucky tendered its application on May 16, 2024. By letter dated May 22, 2024, the Commission rejected the application for filing deficiencies. Columbia Kentucky, by letter, requested that the date the application be deemed filed be May 15, 2024. The letter cured deficiencies, and the application is deemed filed as on May 23, 2024.

Additionally, any hearing scheduled in this matter shall be held on the designated day or days and continued until called from the bench by the presiding officer. Pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, Section 2, if the hearing is not concluded on the designated day, the hearing may be continued upon verbal announcement by the presiding officer. A verbal announcement made by the presiding officer shall be proper notice of the continued hearing. Hearings are held in the Richard Raff Hearing Room at the offices of the Public Service Commission at 211 Sower Boulevard, Frankfort, Kentucky. Witnesses who sponsor schedules, testimony, or responses to requests for information are expected to participate in person at a hearing.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

1. Columbia Kentucky's proposed rates are suspended for six months, up to and including January 1, 2025.
2. The procedural schedule set forth in the Appendix to this Order shall be followed.
3. Columbia Kentucky shall respond to all requests for information propounded by Commission Staff, whether identified on the procedural schedule or otherwise, as provided in those requests.
4. Any party filing a paper with the Commission shall file an electronic copy in accordance with the electronic filing procedures set forth in 807 KAR 5:001, Section 8. Electronic documents shall be in portable document format (PDF), shall be searchable, and shall be appropriately bookmarked. The Commission directs the parties to the

Commission's July 22, 2021 Order in Case No. 2020-00085² regarding filings with the Commission.

5. As set forth in 807 KAR 5:001, Section 4(11)(a), a person requesting permissive intervention in a Commission proceeding is required to demonstrate either (1) a special interest in the proceeding that is not adequately represented in the case, or (2) that the person requesting permissive intervention is likely to present issues or develop facts that will assist the Commission in fully considering the matter without unduly complicating or disrupting the proceedings. Therefore, any person requesting to intervene in a Commission proceeding must state with specificity the person's special interest that is not otherwise adequately represented, or the issues and facts that the person will present that will assist the Commission in fully considering the matter. A mere recitation of the quantity of utility service consumed by the movant or a general statement regarding a potential impact of possible modification of rates will not be deemed sufficient to establish a special interest.

6. Any motion to intervene filed after the date established in the procedural schedule shall also show good cause for being untimely. If the untimely motion is granted, the movant shall accept and abide by the existing procedural schedule.

7. Columbia Kentucky shall give notice of any scheduled hearing in accordance with the provisions set forth in 807 KAR 5:001, Section 9(2). In addition, the notice of hearing shall include the following statements: "This hearing will be streamed live and may be viewed on the PSC website, psc.ky.gov" and "Public comments may be

² 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).

made at the beginning of the hearing. Those wishing to make oral public comments may do so by following the instructions listing on the PSC website, psc.ky.gov.” At the time publication is requested, Columbia Kentucky shall forward a duplicate of the notice and request to the Commission.

8. At any public hearing in this matter, neither opening statements nor summarization of direct testimonies shall be permitted.

9. Any hearing scheduled in this matter shall be held on the designated day or days and continued until called from the bench by the presiding officer. Pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, Section 2, if the hearing is not concluded on the designated day, the hearing shall be continued upon verbal announcement by the presiding officer. A verbal announcement made by the presiding officer shall be proper notice of the continued hearing.

10. Witnesses who sponsor schedules, testimony, or responses to requests for information shall participate in person at any hearing scheduled in this matter.

11. Columbia Kentucky shall file a witness list at least seven days prior to the hearing date.

12. Pursuant to KRS 278.360 and 807 KAR 5:001, Section 9(9), a digital video recording shall be made of the hearing.

13. The Commission does not look favorably upon motions for continuance. Accordingly, motions for extensions of time with respect to the schedule herein shall be made in writing and will be granted only upon a showing of good cause.

14. The Commission does not look favorably upon motions to excuse witnesses from testifying at Commission hearings. Accordingly, motions to excuse a witness from

testifying at a Commission hearing or from testifying in person at a Commission hearing shall be made in writing and will be granted only upon a showing of good cause.

[REMAINDER OF PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK]

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION


Chairman


Vice Chairman


Commissioner

ENTERED
JUN 05 2024
rcs
KENTUCKY PUBLIC
SERVICE COMMISSION

ATTEST:


Executive Director

APPENDIX

APPENDIX TO AN ORDER OF THE KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION IN CASE NO. 2024-00092 DATED JUN 05 2024

Last day for intervention requests to be accepted..... 06/14/2024

All initial requests for information to Columbia Kentucky
shall be filed no later than 06/21/2024

Columbia Kentucky shall file responses to initial requests for
information no later than..... 07/10/2024

All supplemental requests for information to Columbia Kentucky
shall be filed no later than 07/24/2024

Columbia Kentucky shall file responses to supplemental requests
for information no later than 08/07/2024

Intervenor testimony, if any, in verified prepared
form shall be filed no later than 08/14/2024

All requests for information to Intervenors shall
be filed no later than 08/28/2024

Intervenors shall file responses to requests for
information no later than..... 09/11/2024

Columbia Kentucky shall file, in verified form, its rebuttal
testimony no later than 09/20/2024

Public Hearing to be held in the Richard Raff Hearing Room
at 9 a.m. Eastern Standard Time at the offices of
the Public Service Commission at 211 Sower Boulevard,
Frankfort, Kentucky, for the purpose of cross-examination
of witnesses of Columbia Kentucky and Intervenors To be determined

*L. Allyson Honaker
Honaker Law Office, PLLC
1795 Alysheba Way
Suite 6202
Lexington, KENTUCKY 40509

*Brittany H. Koenig
Honaker Law Office, PLLC
1795 Alysheba Way
Suite 6202
Lexington, KENTUCKY 40509

*Heather Temple
Honaker Law Office, PLLC
1795 Alysheba Way
Suite 6202
Lexington, KENTUCKY 40509

*Judy M Cooper
Director, Regulatory Services
Columbia Gas of Kentucky, Inc.
2001 Mercer Road
P. O. Box 14241
Lexington, KY 40512-4241

*John R. Ryan
Columbia Gas of Kentucky, Inc.
2001 Mercer Road
P. O. Box 14241
Lexington, KY 40512-4241

*Melissa Thompson
Columbia Gas of Kentucky, Inc.
200 Civic Center Drive
P.O. Box 117
Columbus, OHIO 43216-0117

*Columbia Gas of Kentucky, Inc.
290 W Nationwide Blvd
Columbus, OH 43215