

## GAS UTILITIES INFORMATION BULLETIN

## No. 1111

Wayne Christian, Chairman

Christi Craddick, Commissioner

Ryan Sitton, Commissioner

JULY 15, 2019 OVERSIGHT AND SAFETY DIVISION Kari French, Director

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## SECTION 1: NEW APPEALS AND APPLICATIONS FILED

DOCKET NO.: CAPTION DATE FILED FILED BY EXAMINER TECHNICAL	10861 10861 Application of EPCOR Gas Texas, Inc. for Test Year 2018 Annual Interim Rate Adjustment for the Environs Areas 07/02/2019 David Billinger Kari French Frank Tomicek
DOCKET NO.: CAPTION DATE FILED FILED BY EXAMINER TECHNICAL	<b>10862</b> Inquiry into the Failure of Houston Pipe Line Company LP to Comply with Safety Standards. 07/02/2019 Commission's Own Motion
DOCKET NO.: CAPTION DATE FILED FILED BY EXAMINER TECHNICAL	<ul><li>10863</li><li>Inquiry into the Failure of Texas Gas Service Company to Comply with Safety Standards.</li><li>07/02/2019</li><li>Commission's Own Motion</li></ul>
DOCKET NO.: CAPTION DATE FILED FILED BY EXAMINER TECHNICAL	<b>10864</b> Inquiry into the Failure of Enterprise Products Operating LLC to Comply with Safety Standards. 07/02/2019 Commission's Own Motion
DOCKET NO.: CAPTION DATE FILED FILED BY EXAMINER TECHNICAL	<b>10865</b> Inquiry into the Failure of Harvest Pipeline Company to Comply with Safety Standards. 07/02/2019 Commission's Own Motion
DOCKET NO.: CAPTION DATE FILED FILED BY EXAMINER TECHNICAL	<b>10866</b> Inquiry into the Failure of Atmos Pipeline - Texas to Comply with Safety Standards. 07/02/2019 Commission's Own Motion

DOCKET NO.: CAPTION DATE FILED FILED BY EXAMINER TECHNICAL	<b>10867</b> Inquiry into the Failure of Enterprise Products Operating LLC to Comply with Safety Standards. 07/02/2019 Commission's Own Motion
DOCKET NO.: CAPTION DATE FILED FILED BY EXAMINER TECHNICAL	<b>10868</b> Inquiry into the Failure of Centurion Pipeline Company, LP to Comply with Safety Standards. 07/02/2019 Commission's Own Motion
DOCKET NO.: CAPTION DATE FILED FILED BY EXAMINER TECHNICAL	<b>10869</b> Inquiry into the Failure of Enterprise Crude Pipeline LLC to Comply with Safety Standards. 07/02/2019 Commission's Own Motion
DOCKET NO.: CAPTION DATE FILED FILED BY EXAMINER TECHNICAL	<b>10870</b> Inquiry into the Failure of Kinder Morgan Liq. Terminals, LLC to Comply with Safety Standards. 07/02/2019 Commission's Own Motion
DOCKET NO.: CAPTION DATE FILED FILED BY EXAMINER TECHNICAL	<b>10871</b> Inquiry into the Failure of Formula Midstream Partners LLC to Comply with Safety Standards. 07/02/2019 Commission's Own Motion
DOCKET NO.: CAPTION DATE FILED FILED BY EXAMINER TECHNICAL	<b>10872</b> Inquiry into the Failure of Harvest Midstream Company to Comply with Safety Standards. 07/02/2019 Commission's Own Motion

DOCKET NO .:	10873
CAPTION	Rate Case Expenses Severed from GUD No. 10855, Petition of Atmos Energy Corp., Mid-Tex Division, for De Novo Review of the Denial by the City of Dallas of the Dallas Annual Rate Review (DARR) Tariff
DATE FILED	07/08/2019
FILED BY	Commission's Own Motion
EXAMINER	John Dodson
<b>TECHNICAL</b>	Rose Ruiz
DOCKET NO.:	10874
CAPTION	Application of Texas Gas Service Company for Test Year 2018 Annual Interim Rate Adjustment for the Unincorporated Areas of the Rio Grande Service Area
DATE FILED	07/08/2019
FILED BY	Stephanie G. Houle
EXAMINER	Kari French
<b>TECHNICAL</b>	Claudia Godoy
DOCKETNO	10055
DOCKET NO.:	
CAPTION	Application of Texas Gas Service Company for Test Year 2018 Annual Interim
	Rate Adjustment for the Unincorporated Areas of the North Texas Service Area
DATE FILED	07/12/2019
FILED BY	Stephanie G. Houle
EXAMINER	Kari French
<b>TECHNICAL</b>	Sarah Montoya-Foglesong

### SECTION 2: APPEALS AND APPLICATIONS SET FOR HEARING OR PREHEARING CONFERENCE

Office of General Counsel Weekly Hearing Schedules for 2018

## BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS

STATEMENT OF INTENT OF TEXAS§GAS SERVICE, A DIVISION OF ONE§GAS, INC. (TGS), TO INCREASE§RATES TO RECOVER HURRICANE§HARVEY RESPONSE COSTS WITHIN§THE GULF COAST SERVICE AREA§

GAS UTILITIES DOCKET NO. 10844

## **NOTICE OF HEARING**

**Summary of the Proceeding and Factual Matters Asserted**. On April 16, 2019, Texas Gas Service, a division of ONE Gas, Inc. ("TGS"), filed with the Commission a statement of intent to increase rates to recover Hurricane Harvey response costs within the Gulf Coast Service Area (the "SOI"). The SOI was docketed as GUD No. 10844. As part of its rate filing, TGS requests that the Commission: (1) implement a Hurricane Harvey Surcharge ("Rate Schedule HARV-RIDER") to recover over a two-year period TGS's costs related to Hurricane Harvey response costs within the Gulf Coast Service Area ("GCSA") and (2) authorize TGS to recover all reasonable rate case expenses incurred in connection with its SOI through an addition to the approved surcharge amount.

Contemporaneously with its SOI, TGS filed statements of intent to change rates with the municipalities retaining original jurisdiction in the GCSA (together with the SOI, and to the extent the Commission acquires jurisdiction over these actions, the "Consolidated Requested Relief").

On May 7, 2019, the Commission suspended the effective date for TGS's rate change for 150 days, pursuant to Section 104.107 (Rate Suspension; Deadline) of the Gas Utility Regulatory Act ("GURA") of the Texas Utilities Code.

On July 1, 2019, the parties notified the presiding Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ") that a settlement had been reached.

**Parties.** Participating parties in this docket include TGS (Applicant), Staff of the Railroad Commission (Intervenor), the City of Galveston (Intervenor), and the Cities of Groves, Nederland, Port Arthur, and Port Neches (Intervenor).

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT** a public hearing will be held, at the time and place set out below, to consider all issues of fact and law raised in—or relevant

to—TGS's Consolidated Requested Relief. The scope of the hearing may be limited to the parties' settlement.

**Legal Authority and Jurisdiction**. The Commission has, or may have, jurisdiction over TGS and the matters at issue in this proceeding pursuant to GURA Sections 102.001 (Railroad Commission Jurisdiction), 103.003 (Surrender of Municipal Jurisdiction to Railroad Commission; Reinstatement of Jurisdiction), 103.051 (Appeal by Party), 103.052 (Appeal by Residents), 103.053 (Appeal by Ratepayers Outside Municipality), and 104.001 (Authorization to Establish and Regulate Rates), and pursuant to GURA Sections 121.051 (Gas Utility: Public Interest and Jurisdiction of Railroad Commission), 121.052 (Pipelines: Monopolies Subject to Railroad Commission), and 121.151 (Railroad Commission Regulation of Gas Pipelines).

The presiding ALJ shall conduct the hearing pursuant to the requirements of Chapter 2001 (Administrative Procedure) of the Texas Government Code and pursuant to Title 16, Part 1 (Railroad Commission of Texas), of the Texas Administrative Code, and other applicable authority.

**Particular Statutes and Rules Involved**. The statutes and rules applicable to this proceeding may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 1. All sections in GURA Chapters 101 (General Provisions and Office of Public Utility Counsel), 102 (Jurisdiction and Powers of Railroad Commission and Other Regulatory Authorities), 103 (Jurisdiction and Powers of Municipality), 104 (Rates and Services), and 121 (Gas Pipelines); and
- 2. Title 16, Part 1 (Railroad Commission of Texas), of the Texas Administrative Code, including Chapters 1 (Practice and Procedure) and 7 (Gas Services Division).

*Time, Place, and Nature of Hearing*. **IT IS DIRECTED** that the hearing on the merits shall commence at **10:00 a.m. on Thursday, August 1, 2019**, in the William B. Travis Building, located at 1701 North Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas. Please check with Docket Services (Room 12-123) the morning of the hearing for the room location. If the hearing is not concluded on the day it commences, the hearing will be continued from day to day, as announced, until concluded.

**IT IS FURTHER DIRECTED** that all parties desiring to present sworn testimony, documentary and demonstrative evidence, and argument regarding any issue of law or fact at the final hearing on the merits shall appear in person or by an attorney. For good cause shown, the ALJ may permit part of the proceeding to be conducted telephonically pursuant to Commission Rule § 1.112 (Proceedings by Telephony).

*Written Transcript of the Hearing*. The record of the hearing will be made by recording device or by stenographic transcription by the court reporter. Any party

that desires a written transcript of the hearing should contact the court reporter at (512) 282-0313. The Commission may assess the cost of the transcript or expedited transcript to one or more parties pursuant to Section 2001.059 (Transcript) of the Texas Government Code.

**Auxiliary Aids or Services for Persons with a Disability**. Any individual with a disability who needs auxiliary aids and services to have an equal opportunity to effectively communicate and participate in the hearing must request such aids or services at least two weeks prior to the hearing by notifying the Human Resources Department of the Commission by mail at P.O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711-2967 or by telephone at (512) 463-6981 or TDD No. (800) 735-2989.

**Contact for Additional Information** – In accordance with Tex. Gov't Code §2001.061 and 16 Tex. Admin. Code § 1.6, ex parte communications with the Administrative Law Judges, Examiners, and Commissioners are prohibited. Any persons or entities desiring additional information may contact the Commission by writing to the Director, Hearings Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, 1701 North Congress Avenue, P. O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711-2967. Any persons or entities having clerical questions, such as questions regarding the number of copies of filings, the service list, or reviewing the record, may contact Docket Services at (512) 463-6848.

Signed on July 10, 2019.

DEE MARLO CHICO ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE

#### SECTION 3: STATUS OF PENDING CASES

None currently.

#### SECTION 4: NOTICES OF DISMISSAL

None currently.

#### **SECTION 5: ORDERS OF THE COMMISSION**

#### None currently.

#### **SECTION 6: MISCELLANEOUS**

#### A. Gas Services Department Publications and Statistics

- 1. Gas Utilities Information Bulletins available at <u>http://www.rrc.state.tx.us/gas-services/publications-statistics/gas-utilities-information-bulletins/</u>.
- 2. Rate Review Handbook available at <u>http://www.rrc.state.tx.us/media/41964/rate-review-handbook-2017.pdf</u>.
- 3. Gas Utilities Annual Statistics available at <u>http://www.rrc.state.tx.us/gas-</u> services/publications-statistics/2017-gas-utility-annual-statistical-reports/.
- 4. Gas Storage Statistics available at <u>http://www.rrc.state.tx.us/gas-services/publications-statistics/gas-storage-statistics/</u>.
- 5. Six MCF Residential Gas Bill Analysis for Texas Cities available at <u>http://www.rrc.state.tx.us/gas-services/publications-statistics/six-mcf-report/</u>.

#### **B.** Interest Rate on Customer Deposits

1. We have been advised by the Public Utility Commission of Texas that the interest rate to be applied to customer deposits in calendar year 2018 is 0.91%. All gas utilities should use 0.42% for the calendar year 2017 and 0.11% for calendar year 2016. This information can be found at: <a href="https://www.puc.texas.gov/industry/electric/reports/HRates/HistRates.pdf">https://www.puc.texas.gov/industry/electric/reports/HRates/HistRates.pdf</a>

#### C. Contact Information

1. Audit Section's Headquarter and District Offices:

Headquarter Location: William B. Travis Building 1701 North Congress Avenue Austin, Texas 78701

Mailing Address: P. O. Box 12967 Austin, Texas 78711 Telephone 512-463-7167 Fax 512-475-3180 Austin District:

Ed Abrahamson, Director, Utility Audit Section Stephen Cooper, Advising Auditor Pearl Rodriguez, Program Specialist Janeen Metcalf, Accounting Technician II Mary Anderson, Compliance Analyst Telephone: 512-463-7022

#### **Fort Worth District:**

City Hall 13<sup>th</sup> Street Annex 401 West 13<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite B

Josh Settle, Senior Auditor Yolandra Davis, Senior Auditor Telephone: 817-882-8966 **Houston District:** 

1706 Seamist Drive, Suite 50 Houston, Texas 77008

Margie Stoney, Project Auditor Larry Alcorn, Auditor Dale Francis, Senior Auditor Konata Uzoma, Senior Auditor Vonetta Jackson, Auditor Telephone: 713-869-8425

#### 2. Market Oversight Section

William B. Travis Building 1701 North Congress Avenue Austin, Texas 78701

Mailing Address: P. O. Box 12967 Austin, Texas 78711 Mark Evarts, Director Amy Bruce, Financial Analyst Christina Poole, Financial Analyst Claudia Godoy, Financial Analyst Frank Tomicek, Financial Analyst Sarah Montoya-Foglesong, Financial Analyst Andrea Maxwell, Research Specialist Team Lead Janet Sims, Customer Service Representative IV Sheila Mendoza, Research Specialist Telephone: 512-463-7167

### **D.** Audit Forms

- 1. Gas Utility Tax and Annual Forms available at http://www.rrc.state.tx.us/gas-services/forms/.
- 2. Copies of Gas Utility Annual Reports available on Neubus at: <u>https://rrcsearch3.neubus.com/esd3-</u> <u>rrc/index.php? module\_=esd&\_action\_=keysearch&profile=13.</u>

- 3. Information relating to any of the above, are available for review at the William B. Travis Building, Gas Services Department, 9th Floor, 1701 North Congress. All requests for copies must be made in writing and should be addressed to the Audit Section. Copies will be provided for a fee, depending on the volume of copy work desired, allow a minimum of ten business days for completion of requests.
- 4. Inquiries regarding copies should be directed to the Audit Section at (512) 463-7022 or fax your request to 512-475-3180.

## E. Market Oversight Section Forms

- 1. Annual Earnings and Monitoring Report available at <u>http://www.rrc.texas.gov/media/6085/annualearningsmonitoringreport.pdf</u>
- 2. Interim Cost Recovery and Rate Adjustment Report available at <u>http://www.rrc.texas.gov/media/6084/newinfrastructure.pdf</u>.

## F. Gas Utility Docket Information

- 1. Orders and Proposals for Decision published on the Commission's web site at: <u>http://www.rrc.texas.gov/hearings/dockets/gas-utility-dockets/</u>
- 2. Gas Utility Dockets available on Neubus at <u>https://rrcsearch3.neubus.com/esd3-</u> rrc/index.php?\_module\_=esd&\_action\_=keysearch&profile=14.

## G. Natural Gas Tariff Filings

- 1. Questions pertaining to the filing of tariffs and/or quality of service rules should be directed to Andrea Maxwell, Janet Sims, Sheila Mendoza or Virgie Frausto at (512) 463-7167.
- 2. Natural Gas Tariffs and Rate Schedules available at <u>http://www.rrc.texas.gov/gas-services/natural-gas-tariffs-and-rate-schedules/</u>.

## H. Common Carrier Pipeline Tariff Filings

- 1. Questions pertaining to the filing of common carrier pipeline tariffs should be directed to Sheila Mendoza at 512-463-7023.
- 2. Common Carrier Pipeline Tariffs available at <u>http://www.rrc.texas.gov/gas-</u> services/common-carrier-pipeline-tariffs/.

## I. Propane Distribution Systems

1. Propane distribution price cap information is available at: <u>http://www.rrc.texas.gov/gas-services/propane-distribution-systems/</u>.

## J. Curtailment Plan (Gas Utility Docket 489)

- 1. Curtailment questions should be referred to 512-463-7167 or by email at <u>naturalgascurtailment@rrc.texas.gov</u>.
- 2. Curtailment reports made during normal business hours, Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., should be made to 512-463-7167.
- 3. Curtailment reports made after hours or during holidays, should be made to 512-463-6788.

## K. Compliance Filings

1. Questions regarding gas utilities docket compliance filing requirements should be referred to Christina Poole at 512-463-7167 or by email at <u>GUD\_Compliance@rrc.texas.gov</u>.

## L. Complaints and Inquiries

1. Residential and Commercial Propane and Natural Gas Complaints should be made at <u>GasComplaints@rrc.texas.gov</u> or by phone at 512-463-7167.

- 2. Informal Gas Purchasing, Selling, Transportation or Gathering Practice Complaints should be submitted online at <u>http://www.rrc.texas.gov/gas-services/complaint-filing/informal-gas-transportation-purchase-complaint-preliminary-information-online-form/</u> or at 512-463-7167.
- 3. Informal Complaint Preliminary Information form available at <u>http://www.rrc.texas.gov/media/5671/informal-complaint-preliminary-information.pdf</u>.

## M. Non-Submetered Master Meter Disconnections

1. Municipalities wishing to opt in receiving notice from utilities when non-submetered master metered multifamily property is subject to disconnection of service due to non-payment can do so at <a href="http://www.rrc.texas.gov/gas-services/non-submetered-master-meter-disconnections/">http://www.rrc.texas.gov/gas-services/non-submetered-master-meter-disconnections/</a>.

### N. Texas Utilities Codes

1. Available through the State of Texas website at <u>http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us</u>.

## **O.** Texas Administrative Codes

1. Available at the State of Texas website at: <u>http://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac\$ext.ViewTAC?tac\_view=4&ti=16&pt=1&ch=</u> <u>7</u>.

## P. Pending RRC Rules and Regulations

1. Pending rules and regulations available at http://www.rrc.state.tx.us/general-counsel/rules/.

## Q. Proposed Form Amendments (PFD):

1. PFDs available at <u>http://www.rrc.state.tx.us/about-us/resource-center/forms/proposed-form-changes/</u>.

### **R.** Hearings and Legal Analysis

1. Anyone wishing to obtain copies of appendices to Orders appearing in Section 5 of this Bulletin should contact the General Counsel Division at 512-463-7149.

### S. Status of Pending Cases

1. The status of all pending cases listed in Section 3 of this Bulletin is for informational purposes only and is complete up to the time of printing of this Bulletin. For a more accurate status of pending cases, please call the General Counsel Division at 512-463-7149.