

**RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS
GAS SERVICES DIVISION**

**GAS UTILITIES
INFORMATION BULLETIN**

No. 970



**RAILROAD COMMISSION
OF TEXAS**

**Barry Smitherman, Chairman
David Porter, Commissioner
Christi Craddick, Commissioner**

**William O. Geise
Director
Gas Services Division**

August 9, 2013

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August 9, 2013

SECTION 1

NEW APPEALS AND APPLICATIONS FILED

DOCKET NO. -- 10292
CAPTION -- Petition for Review of Municipal Rate Action of the City of El Paso regarding Texas Gas Service Company, a division of ONEOK, Inc.'s Interim Rate Adjustment for Calendar Year 2012.
DATE FILED -- 08/02/2013
FILED BY -- Dane McKaughan
EXAMINER -- Bill Geise
TECHNICAL -- Frank Tomicek

DOCKET NO. -- 10293
CAPTION -- Application filed by Atmos Pipeline – Texas 2013 Rider Rev Adjustment and Request for Renewal.
DATE FILED -- 08/09/2013
FILED BY -- Charles Yarbrough
EXAMINER --
TECHNICAL -- Mark Brock

August 9, 2013

SECTION 2

APPEALS AND APPLICATIONS SET FOR HEARING OR PREHEARING CONFERENCE

Office of General Counsel Weekly Hearing Schedules for 2013

BEFORE THE
RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS

STATEMENT OF INTENT OF	§	
TEXAS GAS SERVICE COMPANY	§	
TO INCREASE GAS UTILITY RATES	§	GAS UTILITIES DOCKET NO. 10285
WITHIN THE UNINCORPORATED	§	
AREAS OF THE RIO GRANDE	§	
VALLEY SERVICE AREA	§	

NOTICE OF HEARING

Summary of the Proceeding – On June 28, 2013, Texas Gas Service Company (TGS) filed with the Railroad Commission of Texas (“Commission”) a *Statement of Intent* to increase gas utility rates within the unincorporated areas of the company’s Rio Grande Valley Service Area (RGVSA). The environs of the RGVSA includes customers residing in the unincorporated areas of Alamo, Alton, Brownsville, Combes, Donna, Edcouch, Edinburg, Elsa, Harlingen, Hidalgo, La Feria, La Joya, La Villa, Laguna Vista, Los Fresnos, Lyford, McAllen, Mercedes, Mission, Palm Valley, Palmhurst, Palmview, Penitas, Pharr, Port Isabel, Primera, Progresso, Rancho Viejo, Raymondville, Rio Hondo, San Benito, San Juan, Santa Rosa, and Weslaco, Texas. The environs of the RGVSA also include the unincorporated cities of Bayview, Laguna Heights, Monte Alto, Olmito, and San Carlos and the unincorporated areas of Jim Hogg and Starr Counties.

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 the *Statement of Intent* for the environs of the Rio Grande Valley Service Area of Texas Gas Service Company. The issues that may be addressed at the hearing include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. The legality and effect of the *Statement of Intent* filed by Texas Gas Service Company;
2. The justness and reasonableness of all of the utility rates, operations, and services, including the operations of the various applicable tariffs of Texas Gas Service Company;
3. The safety, adequacy, efficiency, and reasonableness of services provided by Texas Gas Service Company;

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4. The company's compliance with all applicable statutes, rules, orders, duties, direction, or requirements of the Commission, enforced by the Commission, or imposed by the Commission;
5. Whether any changes should be imposed on any existing tariffs;
6. Whether the changes in rates and services proposed by Texas Gas Service Company, in these proceedings are unreasonably preferential, prejudicial, or discriminatory, are sufficient, equitable, and consistent in application to each class of customer, in compliance with applicable provisions of the Texas Utilities Code;
7. Whether all of the utility's rate base is reasonable and necessary to the provision of safe and reliable natural gas service and whether any amounts collected under an interim rate adjustment tariff or rates schedule filed pursuant to Section 104.301, not previously reviewed and approved, are just, reasonable, and prudent and whether they are subject to refund;
8. Any and all other issues raised in the pleadings, evidence, or argument that are necessary for the Commission to render a final decision on the merits of this case.

Legal Authority and Jurisdiction – The Commission has jurisdiction over Texas Gas Service Company, and the matters at issue in these proceedings pursuant to TEX. UTIL. CODE ANN. §§ 102.001, 103.051, 104.001, 121.051, 121.052, and 121.151 (Vernon 2007 and Supp. 2013). The Hearing Examiners and the Technical Examiner shall conduct the hearing pursuant to the requirements of TEX. GOV'T CODE, Chapter 2001, and TEX. REV. CIV. STAT. ANN. Art. 6447e (Vernon 2008 and Supp. 2013).

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

1. All sections of the TEXAS UTILITIES CODE, Chapters 101, 102, 103, 104, and 121;
2. All Commission rules in 16 TEX. ADMIN. CODE, Chapters 1, 7, and 8.

IT IS 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.

Time, Place, and Nature of Hearing – **IT IS FURTHER DIRECTED** that the hearing shall commence at **9:00 a.m., Monday, October 7, 2013**, at the Commission's offices in the William B. Travis Building, 1701 North Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas, in a room to be posted on the bulletin board in the first floor lobby of the Travis Building on the morning of the hearing. If the hearing is not concluded on the day it commences, the hearing will be continued from day to day, as the examiners announce until concluded.

Written Transcript of the Hearing – The record of the hearing will be made by stenographic transcription by the court reporter. Any party that desires a copy of the 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 TEX. GOV'T CODE § 2001.059 (Vernon 2008).

Auxiliary Aids or Services for Persons with a Disability – Any individual with a disability who needs auxiliary aids and services in order to have an equal opportunity to effectively communicate and participate in the hearing must request such aids or services by August 17, 2011, by notifying the Personnel Office of the Commission by mail at P.O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711 – 2967 or by telephone at (512) 463-6981 or TDD No. (512) 463-7284.

Contact for Additional Information – In accordance with Tex. Gov't Code Ann. §2001.061 and 16 Tex. Admin. Code § 1.6, ex parte communications with the Hearings Examiners and Commissioners are prohibited. Any persons or entities desiring additional information may contact the Commission by writing to Colin Lineberry at the Railroad Commission of Texas, 1701 North Congress Avenue, P. O. Box 12967, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711-2967, or by calling Mr. Lineberry at (512) 463-7033. 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, Loretta Howard, at (512) 463-7033.

Cecile Hanna
Hearing Examiner
Hearings Division

SECTION 3

STATUS OF PENDING CASES

None at this time.

SECTION 4

NOTICES OF DISMISSAL

None at this time.

SECTION 5

ORDERS OF THE COMMISSION

GUD No. 10238

Statement of Intent filed by Onalaska Water & Gas Supply Corporation to Change Rates in the Environs of the City of Onalaska.

SECTION 6
MISCELLANEOUS

WILLIAM O. GEISE, GAS SERVICES DIVISION DIRECTOR

1. OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

A. Publications

1. Texas Utilities Code Titles 3 and 4. Now available at the State of Texas' website at:

<http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us>

Special Rules of Practice and Procedure and Substantive Rules. Now available thru the Commission's Website at:

[http://info.sos.state.tx.us/pls/pub/readtac\\$ext.ViewTAC?tac_view=4&ti=16&pt=1&ch=7](http://info.sos.state.tx.us/pls/pub/readtac$ext.ViewTAC?tac_view=4&ti=16&pt=1&ch=7)

- 2.

- a. Annual Report for Fiscal Year – Now available via the Commission's website at:

<http://www.rrc.state.tx.us/data/gasservices/annualrpt/index.php>

3. Six MCF Monthly Residential Gas Bill Analysis for Twenty-five Texas Cities - Now available via the Commission's website at:

<http://www.rrc.state.tx.us/data/gasservices/sixmcf/index.php>

B. Interest Rate on Customer Deposits

We have been advised by the Public Utility Commission that the interest rate to be applied to customer deposits in calendar year 2013 is 0.12%. All gas utilities should use 0.12% for the calendar year 2012 and .19% for calendar year 2011.

2. UTILITY AUDIT SECTION

A. Maintains headquarters and three district offices as follows:

Headquarters - William B. Travis Building

1701 North Congress, P. O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78701

Ed Abrahamson, Director, Utility Audit Section

Pearl Rodriguez, Program Specialist

Irma Brower, Accounting Technician II

Telephone (512) 463-7022

Fax (512) 475-3180

Fort Worth - City Hall 13th Street Annex, 401 W. 13th St Suite B

Telephone (817) 882-8966

Fax (817) 882-8951

Josh Settle, Auditor

Yolandra Davis, Senior Auditor

Austin District - P. O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711-2967

Stephen Cooper, Advising Auditor

Telephone (512) 463-7119

Houston District - 1706 Seamist Drive, Suite 501
Houston, TX 77008-3135

Telephone (713) 869-8425
Fax (713) 869-3219

Margie Stoney, Project Auditor
Larry Alcorn, Auditor
Dale Francis, Senior Auditor
Konata Uzoma, Senior Auditor
Vonetta Jackson, Auditor

B. Gas Utility Tax, Annual Reports and Audit Reports

1. Questions relating to gas utility tax, call Pearl Rodriguez at (512) 463-7022.
2. Questions relating to annual reports, call Pearl Rodriguez at (512) 463-7022.
3. Inquiries relating to audit reports, call Pearl Rodriguez at (512) 463-7022.

C. Available Information

Copies of gas utility annual reports (2000 to present), as well as information relating to any of the above, A through C, are available for review at the William B. Travis Building, Gas Services Division, 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 seven to ten business days for completion of requests. Inquiries regarding copies should be directed to the Audit Section at (512) 463-7022, or Fax your request to (512) 475-3180.

3. MARKET OVERSIGHT

A. Maintains the following office to assist you:

Headquarters - William B. Travis Building
1701 North Congress, P.O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711
Mark Evarts, Director

Telephone (512) 463-7164

B. Gas Utilities Information Bulletin

Published on the Commission's web site at:
<http://www.rrc.state.tx.us/forms/newsletters/gasutilitybulletins/index.php>

C. Proposals For Decision

Published on the Commission's web site at: <http://www.rrc.state.tx.us/meetings/dockets/index.php>

D. Tariff Filings

Questions pertaining to the filing of tariffs and/or quality of service rules should be directed to Kathy Arroyo, Claudia Godoy, Yolanda Lovelace, or Ranissa Stewart at (512) 463-7167.

E. Curtailments

Curtailment questions should be referred to (512) 463-7167. Curtailment reports made Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., should be made to (512) 463-7167. Curtailment reports made during hours other than those specified above and holidays, should be made to (512) 463-6788.

F. Compliance Filings

Questions regarding gas utilities docket compliance filing requirements should be referred to Mark Evarts at (512) 463-7167.

G. Complaints and Inquiries

All complaints and inquiries relating to the gas utility industry should be directed to the Market Oversight Section at (512) 463-7164.

H. Pending RRC Rules and Regulations:

4. HEARINGS AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

A. Miscellaneous

Anyone wishing to obtain copies of appendices to Orders appearing in Section 5 of this Bulletin should contact the Legal Division at (512) 463-7017.

B. Status of Pending Cases

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 Legal Division at (512) 463-7017.