



GAS UTILITIES INFORMATION BULLETIN

No. 1165

Wayne Christian, Chairman

Christi Craddick, Commissioner

Jim Wright, Commissioner

OCTOBER 15, 2021
OVERSIGHT AND SAFETY DIVISION
Kari French, Director

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SECTION 1: NEW APPEALS AND APPLICATIONS FILED

CASE NO: 00007791
CAPTION Application Filed by CenterPoint Energy Entex to Show the City of Noonday, Texas, Texas Surrendered Municipal Jurisdiction to the Railroad Commission of Texas.
DATE FILED -- 10/01/2021
FILED BY -- Keith Wall
EXAMINER -- Tariq Usman
TECHNICAL --

CASE NO: 00007819
CAPTION Request of Texas Gas Service Company, a Division of One Gas, Inc., for Approval of Regulatory Asset Accounting Treatment.
DATE FILED -- 10/06/2021
FILED BY -- Kate W. Norman
EXAMINER -- Claudia Godoy
TECHNICAL --

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

[Office of General Counsel Weekly Hearing Schedules for 2021](#)

**RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS
HEARINGS DIVISION**

CONSOLIDATED APPLICATIONS FOR	§	
CUSTOMER RATE RELIEF AND RELATED	§	
REGULATORY ASSET DETERMINATIONS	§	OS-21-00007061
IN CONNECTION WITH THE	§	
FEBRUARY 2021 WINTER STORM	§	

NOTICE OF HEARING

Summary of the Proceeding and Factual Matters Asserted. After the 2021 Winter Storm Uri, the Texas Legislature passed a new law allowing affected utilities to recover through securitization financing their qualifying extraordinary costs incurred in connection with the storm. This law further requires the Railroad Commission, on application of an affected gas utility, to determine appropriate recoverable amounts, ensuring that securitization provides tangible and quantifiable benefits to customers greater than would have been achieved absent the issuance of customer rate relief bonds. Eleven gas utilities initially filed applications for such relief, with nine ultimately pursuing a hearing: Atmos Energy, Bluebonnet, CenterPoint, CoServ Gas, Corix, EPCOR, SiEnergy, TGS, and UniGas. These applications, initially docketed individually, have been consolidated into a single docket, captioned above, for administrative efficiency and because they involved common questions of fact and law.

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, these applications.

Legal Authority and Jurisdiction. The Railroad Commission has exclusive, original jurisdiction to consider and take lawful action on these applications pursuant to Texas Utilities Code Chapter 104, Subchapter I (Customer Rate Relief Bonds). The Commission has jurisdiction over these utilities otherwise—including over their books, records, and accounts—pursuant to Chapters 101, 102, 103, and 104 of the Texas Utilities Code. The presiding Administrative Law Judge (“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.

Particular Statutes and Rules Involved. The statutes and rules applicable to this proceeding may include the following:

1. Title 3 (Gas Regulation) of the Texas Utilities Code, including Chapter 104 (Rates and Services), Subchapter I (Customer Rate Relief Bonds);
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); and

3. Chapters 551 (Open Meetings) and 2001 (Administrative Procedure) of the Texas Government Code.

Time, Place, and Nature of Hearing. **IT IS DIRECTED THAT** the hearing for these consolidated applications shall commence at **9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, November 2, 2021**, in the William B. Travis Building, 1701 North Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas, Room 1-111 (first floor). If not concluded on the day it commences, the hearing will be continued from day to day, as announced, until concluded. All parties desiring to present sworn testimony, documentary and demonstrative evidence, and argument regarding any issue of law or fact at the hearing shall appear in person or by an attorney.

Public Comment. This hearing dually may qualify as an open meeting under the Texas Government Code, Chapter 551 (Open Meetings), should a quorum of Commissioners attend. Consistent with the Commission's Policy on Public Participation in Open Meetings, available online at <https://www.rrc.state.tx.us/general-counsel/open-meetings/open-meetings-public-policy/>, public comment for this proceeding **shall be in writing only and must be received by November 1st**—the day prior to the hearing—by mail or e-mail to:

Hearings Division (Docket OS-7061)
Attn: Sharon Koren
Railroad Commission of Texas
1701 N. Congress
Austin, Texas 78701
Sharon.Koren@rrc.texas.gov

Written comments may become part of the official record and published online. Accordingly, anyone wishing to submit advanced written comments are strongly discouraged from including private, personal information (such as account numbers and phone numbers) that are not intended to become viewable to the public.

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 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 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 Commission's Docket Services by mail at P. O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711-2967 or by telephone at (512) 463-6848 or TDD No. (800) 735-2989.

Contact for Additional Information. *Ex parte communications with the Commissioners, Administrative Law Judges, and Technical Examiners are prohibited. Clerical questions, such as questions regarding the number of copies of filings, the service list, or reviewing the record, may be directed to Docket Services at (512) 463-6848 or docketservices@rrc.texas.gov.*

Signed on October 14, 2021.

JOHN B. DODSON
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 <https://rrc.texas.gov/gas-services/publications-statistics/>.
2. Rate Review Handbook available at <https://rrc.texas.gov/gas-services/publications-statistics/>.
3. Gas Utilities Annual Statistics available at <https://rrc.texas.gov/gas-services/publications-statistics/>.
4. Gas Storage Statistics available at <https://rrc.texas.gov/gas-services/publications-statistics/>.
5. Six MCF Residential Gas Bill Analysis for Texas Cities available at <https://rrc.texas.gov/gas-services/publications-statistics/>.

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 2021 is 0.61%. All gas utilities should use 2.21% for the calendar year 2020 and 1.92% for calendar year 2019. This information can be found at: <https://www.puc.texas.gov/industry/electric/reports/HRates/HistRates.pdf>

Contact Information

2. 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:

Janeen Metcalf, Compliance Analyst II
Michael Martinez, Auditor
Telephone: 512-463-7022

Fort Worth District:

City Hall 13th Street Annex
401 West 13th Street, Suite B

Yolandra Davis, Director, Utility Audit Section
Josh Settle, Senior Auditor
Telephone: 817-882-8966

Houston District:

1706 Seamist Drive, Suite 50
Houston, Texas 77008

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

3. **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
Claudia Godoy, Financial Analyst III
Marzi Bolhassani, Financial Analyst III
Sarah Montoya-Foglesong, Financial Analyst
Tariq Usman, Financial Analyst
Alexis Larraga, Customer Service Representative IV
Andrea Maxwell, Research Specialist II, Team Lead
David Bauman, Customer Service Representative IV
Erik Gardner, Customer Service Representative IV
Janet Sims, Customer Service Representative IV
Telephone: 512-463-7167

C. Audit Forms

1. Gas Utility Tax and Annual Forms available at <https://rrc.texas.gov/gas-services/gas-services-forms/>.
2. Gas Utility Annual Reports available on Neubus at: https://rrcsearch3.neubus.com/esd3-rrc/index.php?_module=_esd&_action=_keysearch&profile=13.
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.

D. Market Oversight Section Forms

1. Annual Earnings and Monitoring Report available at <https://rrc.texas.gov/gas-services/gas-services-forms/>.
2. Interim Rate Adjustment Application (GRIP) and Customer Notice available at <https://rrc.texas.gov/gas-services/gas-services-forms/>.

E. Gas Utility Docket Information

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

F. 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, Erik Gardner or David Bauman at (512) 463-7167.
2. Natural Gas Tariffs and Rate Schedules available at <https://www.rrc.texas.gov/gas-services/natural-gas-tariffs-rate-schedules/>.

G. Common Carrier Pipeline Tariff Filings

1. Questions pertaining to the filing of common carrier pipeline tariffs should be directed to Janet Sims at 512-463-6779.
2. Common Carrier Pipeline Tariffs available at <http://www.rrc.texas.gov/gas-services/common-carrier-pipeline-tariffs/>.

H. Propane Distribution Systems

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

I. Curtailment Plan (Gas Utility Docket 489)

1. Curtailment questions should be referred to 512-463-7167 or by email at naturalgascurtailment@rrc.texas.gov.
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.

J. Compliance Filings

1. Questions regarding gas utilities docket compliance filing requirements should be referred to Claudia Godoy at 512-463-7118 or by email at GUD_Compliance@rrc.texas.gov.

K. Complaints and Inquiries

1. Residential and Commercial Propane and Natural Gas Complaints should be made at GasComplaints@rrc.texas.gov or by phone at 512-463-7164.
2. Informal Gas Purchasing, Selling, Transportation or Gathering Practice Complaints should be submitted online at <http://www.rrc.texas.gov/gas-services/complaint-filing/informal-gas-transportation-purchase-complaint-preliminary-information-online-form/> or at 512-463-7167.
3. Informal Complaint Preliminary Information form available at <https://www.rrc.texas.gov/gas-services/gas-services-forms/>.

L. 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 <http://www.rrc.texas.gov/gas-services/non-submetered-master-meter-disconnections/>.

M. Texas Utilities Codes

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

N. Texas Administrative Codes

1. Available at the State of Texas website at:
[http://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac\\$ext.ViewTAC?tac_view=4&ti=16&pt=1&ch=7](http://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac$ext.ViewTAC?tac_view=4&ti=16&pt=1&ch=7).

O. Pending RRC Rules and Regulations

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

P. Proposed Form Amendments (PFD):

1. PFDs available at <http://www.rrc.state.tx.us/forms/proposed-form-amendments/>.

Q. 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.

R. 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.