

## Gas Commodity Fact Sheet March 2011

### Actual Utility Gas Commodity Rates

The following table shows the gas commodity rates of the major gas utilities in Maryland for the current and three prior years. Additional utility specific information is provided elsewhere in this fact sheet.

	Baltimore Gas and Electric Company				Columbia Gas of Md.				Washington Gas Light Company			
	Gas Commodity Service GCF \$ per Therm Sold				Gas Cost * \$ per CCF Sold				Purchased Gas Charge (PGC*) \$ per Therm Sold			
Calendar Year	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
January	0.6304	0.7259	1.0371	0.9364	0.58245	0.68045	0.93284	0.90672	0.7253	0.8157	1.0797	1.0472
February	0.6276	0.6585	0.8971	0.9360	0.58245	0.68045	0.93284	0.90672	0.7315	0.8526	0.9990	1.0939
<u>March</u>	0.5726	0.6615	0.8460	0.9917	0.58245	0.68045	0.93284	0.90672	0.7440	0.7889	0.6411	1.0890
April		0.5583	0.5792	1.0891		0.61298	0.78265	1.09993		0.7178	0.9381	1.0339
May		0.6078	0.5297	1.2950		0.61298	0.78265	1.09993		0.7178	0.7893	1.2430
<u>June</u>		0.5914	0.5705	1.3894		0.61093	0.78265	1.09993		0.7795	0.7739	1.3376
July		0.6720	0.6171	1.5763		0.58609	0.84577	1.44350		1.0019	0.7703	1.6315
August		0.6589	0.5561	1.1240		0.58609	0.84577	1.44350		1.0019	0.7703	1.3428
<u>September</u>		0.5608	0.4989	1.0155		0.58609	0.80560	1.44350		0.7397	0.7699	1.1219
October		0.5698	0.5905	0.9309		0.58331	0.83590	0.96526		0.7377	0.7884	1.1219
November		0.5623	0.6299	0.9634		0.58331	0.83590	0.96526		0.7377	0.8343	1.1219
<u>December</u>		0.6371	0.6500	1.0460		0.58331	0.83590	0.96526		0.6781	0.7360	1.1980

**NOTE:** \*Balancing charges are included. Columbia's June commodity rate adjusted under Order No. 83396 in Case No. 9219.

## Gas Choice

Baltimore Gas and Electric ("BGE"), Columbia Gas ("CG") and Washington Gas ("WG") customers have the option of shopping for their gas commodity (the GCF, PGA or PGC charge on their bills) with a gas supplier. There is a good chance a customer can mitigate this year's high winter gas prices by shopping with a gas supplier. Currently, almost 225,000 customers statewide buy their gas from a gas supplier rather than from the utility. A current list of gas suppliers can be obtained by calling your gas utility or by going to the following websites:

BGE: <http://www.bge.com/cmp/CDA/topic/0,1667,235,00.html>

WGL: <http://www.washgas.com> Then look under Customer Choice, Maryland, Questions and Answers

CG: [http://www.columbiagas.com/products\\_services/md\\_price\\_to\\_compare.htm](http://www.columbiagas.com/products_services/md_price_to_compare.htm)

## Gas Utilities in Maryland

With the exception of the Baltimore Gas and Electric Company, every gas utility in Maryland charges an adjustment factor for the cost of purchased gas, which is based on the actual cost of gas. For the Baltimore Gas and Electric Company, the monthly factor is calculated on a market-based rate. All adjustment factors are reconciled to actual costs on an annual basis. Every utility using an adjustment calculation is subject to a formal hearing before the Commission annually.

Major Gas Utilities	Billing Cycle
Baltimore Gas and Electric Company	Monthly
Columbia Gas of Maryland	Quarterly
Washington Gas Light Company	Quarterly

Minor Gas Utilities	Billing Cycle
Chesapeake Utilities	Quarterly
Easton Utilities Commission	Monthly
Elkton Gas – NUI	Monthly
Emmitsburg Gas District – PPL	Monthly

### Baltimore Gas and Electric Company

Gas adjustment factor is referred to as a Gas Commodity Price Factor and varies based on the applicable tariff rate. Rates are calculated on a monthly basis and are reviewed by the Commission on an annual basis. The unadjusted commodity price calculation is based on a City Gate Index Price.

### Columbia Gas of Maryland

Gas adjustment factor is called a purchased gas adjustment. The cost of gas is based on actual cost of gas adjusted for a reconciliation of prior cost recovery. That prior cost recovery mechanism is called an actual cost adjustment. Rates are submitted quarterly. Rates are based on MCF and are broken out by rate schedules on the quarterly filings provided to the Commission. The Commission on an annual basis reviews all rates in a formal hearing established for that purpose.

## Washington Gas Light Company

Gas adjustment clause is called a purchased gas charge and is assessed on a quarterly basis to customers. There have been times when the quarterly factor is updated for a specific billing month. The cost of gas is adjusted yearly to reconcile actual costs and actual recovery through an actual cost adjustment clause. The Commission on an annual basis reviews all rates in a formal hearing established for that purpose.

## Other Gas Companies

The other gas companies under this Commission's jurisdiction are considered minor in size. These companies have a purchased gas adjustment charge, which is subject to an annual actual cost adjustment to reconcile actual costs incurred with actual revenues received. Each company calculates its factor based on actual costs, and is subject to a formal review of their adjustment factor annually.

Gas Utility	Billing Period
Chesapeake Utilities	Quarterly
Easton Utilities Commission	Monthly
Elkton Gas – NUI	Monthly
Emmitsburg Gas District – PPL	Monthly