

ORDER NO. 90513

Baltimore Gas and Electric Company's *
 Application for an Electric and Gas Multi-Year *
 Plan *

BEFORE THE
 PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
 OF MARYLAND

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 CASE NO. 9692

Issue Date: February 21, 2023

**ORDER INITIATING DOCKET, SUSPENDING TARIFF REVISIONS, AND
 SCHEDULING PREHEARING CONFERENCE**

On February 17, 2023, Baltimore Gas and Electric Company (“BGE”) submitted to the Commission an application for authority to adjust its retail rates for the distribution of electric energy and natural gas and to implement a second Multi-Year Plan (“MYP”) in its Maryland service territory pursuant to *Annotated Code of Maryland*, Public Utilities Article (“PUA”) §§ 4-203 and 4-204 (“Application”). In support of its Application, BGE also filed supporting testimony, exhibits, data required by the Commission’s general filing requirements, and proposed rate schedules to be effective January 1, 2024; January 1, 2025; and January 1, 2026.

BGE proposes a MYP covering the three-year period January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2026. The proposed MYP states that it covers electric revenue deficiencies of \$160.5 million, \$66.1 million, and \$77.9 million in 2024, 2025, and 2026, respectively, and gas revenue deficiencies of \$178.0 million, \$55.9 million, and \$53.9 million in 2024,

2025, and 2026, respectively.¹ BGE’s proposal also includes the acceleration of remaining electric tax benefits in 2024 and 2025, and remaining gas tax benefits in 2024. After applying the accelerated benefits, the electric revenue deficiencies become \$84.8 million, \$103.3 million, and \$125.0 million in 2024, 2025, and 2026, respectively, and the gas revenue deficiencies become \$158.3 million, \$77.0 million, and \$54.0 million in 2024, 2025, and 2026, respectively – for a total of \$602.4 million. This request would lead to an overall electric rate increase of 1.7 percent and an overall gas rate increase of 6.1 percent – an average annual increase of \$10.36 per month (or about 5.0%) to the bills of residential customers receiving both electric and gas service.

A virtual prehearing conference in this matter is hereby set for Wednesday, March 15, 2023, beginning 10 minutes after the conclusion of the regularly scheduled Administrative Meeting, which begins at 10:00 AM. The purpose of the hearing is to set a procedural schedule for this proceeding, consider any petitions to intervene that have been filed, and consider any other preliminary matters requested by the parties. BGE included a tentatively agreed-upon schedule and discovery rules in its proposed MYP. Petitions to intervene shall be filed by Monday, March 13, 2023. Furthermore, discovery commences immediately for BGE, the Commission’s Technical Staff, and the Maryland Office of People’s Counsel.

IT IS, THEREFORE, this 21st day of February in the year Two Thousand Twenty-Three, by the Public Service Commission of Maryland,

¹ The revenue deficiencies assume a 10.4 percent return on equity and 7.39 percent, 7.45 percent, and 7.56 percent rate of return for BGE’s electric and gas operations in 2024, 2025, and 2026, respectively.

ORDERED: (1) That proceedings to consider the Application and the justness and reasonableness of Baltimore Gas and Electric Company's Multi-Year Plan, proposed rates, terms, and conditions of its tariff revisions are hereby instituted by the Commission;

(2) That, pursuant to PUA § 4-204(b)(2), the tariff revisions filed by Baltimore Gas and Electric Company are suspended for an initial period of 270 days from February 17, 2023, with rate effective dates of January 1, 2024;² January 1, 2025; and January 1, 2026;

(3) That discovery commences immediately for Baltimore Gas and Electric Company, the Commission's Technical Staff, and the Maryland Office of People's Counsel;

(4) That interested parties shall file petitions to intervene by March 13, 2023;

(5) That Baltimore Gas and Electric Company is hereby directed to cause a display advertisement to be published in a newspaper(s) in general circulation throughout its service area at least two times prior to March 10, 2023, that includes a description of the matter on which the prehearing conference is being held and the time, date, method, and purpose of the prehearing conference scheduled for March 15, 2023. The notice shall also advise persons who seek to intervene in this proceeding that any petition to intervene shall be filed³ by March 13, 2023, with Andrew S. Johnston, Executive Secretary, Maryland Public Service Commission, William Donald Schaefer Tower, 6 St. Paul Street, 16th Floor, Baltimore, Maryland 21202;

² In accordance with BGE's filing, the Commission will issue an order on the MYP by December 14, 2023.

³ The Commission requests that parties use the Commission's E-file system, which eliminates the need to submit paper copies. Details of the E-file system are on the Commission's web page, www.psc.state.md.us (Online Services or Tools).

(6) That Baltimore Gas and Electric Company shall file a proof of publication on or before the date of the prehearing conference;

(7) That Baltimore Gas and Electric Company also shall place on its home page a notice of the prehearing conference and the date by which petitions to intervene in the matter must be filed in a manner that a customer need not click the link to determine the date, time, method, and purpose of the prehearing conference or the date by which a petition to intervene must be filed; and

(8) That Baltimore Gas and Electric Company is directed to employ any routinely used social media platforms, such as Twitter or Facebook, and any other means of communication at its disposal to further notify its customers of the prehearing conference, as appropriate.

By Direction of the Commission,

/s/ Andrew S. Johnston

Andrew S. Johnston
Executive Secretary