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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

August 28, 2020

In the Matter of an Investigation of Washington *
Gas and Light Company Regarding a Building * Case No. 9622
Explosion and Fire in Silver Spring, Maryland, on *
August 10, 2016 *

* * * * *

POSTPONEMENT OF EVIDENTIARY HEARINGS

On August 26, 2020, Washington Gas Light Company (“Washington Gas”) requested that the Commission continue the evidentiary hearings scheduled in this proceeding for August 31 and September 1, 2020 for 30 days, i.e., until September 30, 2020.¹ Washington Gas states that a continuance will provide it the opportunity to adduce additional relevant information for the Commission’s consideration and inclusion in the record of this matter, that the request for continuance is thus in the public interest, and that no party to this matter or interested person will be prejudiced by the continuance.² On August 27, 2020, the Commission’s Technical Staff (“Staff”) opposed Washington Gas’ motion, maintaining that Washington Gas has no justification for requesting a continuance to evaluate a recommendation for a civil penalty as it was notified months earlier that testimony would contain a civil penalty recommendation, that there is no basis for Washington Gas’ concerns that it will not be able to cross-examine Staff witnesses, and that a 30 day continuance may cause scheduling difficulties for the witnesses given the other current proceedings before the Commission.³

After considering the matter, the Commission hereby postpones the evidentiary hearings until a later, to-be-determined date, and directs Staff Counsel, in coordination with the Executive Secretary and the other parties, to determine new hearing dates based on the Commission’s schedule that allow reasonable time for additional discovery for the parties.⁴

By Direction of the Commission,
/s/ Andrew S. Johnston
Andrew S. Johnston
Executive Secretary

¹ Maillog No. 231617.
² *Id.* at 5.
³ Maillog No. 231633.
⁴ The Commission will issue a revised scheduling notice accordingly.