

**ORDER NO. 87501**

IN THE MATTER OF THE	*	BEFORE THE
APPLICATION OF COLUMBIA GAS	*	PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF MARYLAND, INC. FOR	*	OF MARYLAND
AUTHORITY TO INCREASE RATES	*	
AND CHARGES	*	
	*	
	*	
	*	CASE NO. 9417
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**Issue Date: April 20, 2016**

On April 15, 2016, Columbia Gas of Maryland, Inc. (“Company”) filed an application with the Maryland Public Service Commission (“Commission”) for authority to increase its base rates for the distribution of natural gas. The Company also filed supporting testimony, exhibits, and related tariff revisions. The proposed rates are designed to produce additional annual revenues of approximately \$6.5 million. Columbia Gas of Maryland, Inc. requests that the proposed rate increase becomes effective on May 15, 2016.

Pursuant to Public Utilities Article §4-204, *Annotated Code of Maryland*, the Commission concludes that the proposed rates should be suspended for a period of not more than 150 days from May 15, 2016. The suspension period is necessary to provide the Commission with an opportunity to determine the justness and reasonableness of the

proposal.

**IT IS THEREFORE**, this 20th day of April, in the year Two Thousand Sixteen by the Public Service Commission of Maryland,

**ORDERED:** (1) That the proposed rates filed by Columbia Gas of Maryland, Inc. on April 15, 2016 are suspended for a period of not more than 150 days from May 15, 2016;

(2) That proceedings as to the justness and reasonableness of the proposed rates are instituted by the Commission; and

(3) That this matter is hereby delegated to the Public Utility Law Judge Division.

By Direction of the Commission,

*/s/ David J. Collins*

David J. Collins  
Executive Secretary