

ORDER NO. 87956

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF
WASHINGTON GAS LIGHT COMPANY
FOR APPROVAL OF REVISED TARIFF
PROVISIONS TO FACILITATE ACCESS
TO NATURAL GAS IN THE COMPANY'S
MARYLAND FRANCHISE AREA
CURRENTLY WITHOUT NATURAL GAS
SERVICE

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BEFORE THE
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF MARYLAND

CASE NO. 9433

Issue Date: December 22, 2016

On December 7, 2016, the Washington Gas Light Company ("WGL" or "Company") filed with the Maryland Public Service Commission ("Commission") a Petition for Approval of Revised Tariff Provisions that will Facilitate Access to Natural Gas in Areas within the Company's Maryland Franchise Area that are Currently without Natural Gas Service ("Petition"). The Company also filed supporting testimony and exhibits which included applicable proposed tariff revisions for natural gas service with a proposed effective date of February 15, 2017. In its Petition, the Company asks the Commission to approve three proposed service initiatives, i.e., Contribution Payment Plan, Targeted Conversion Plan, and Gas Access Program, described in the Petition and accompanying testimony. Pursuant to the provisions of § 4-204 of the Public Utilities Article, *Annotated Code of Maryland*, the Commission concludes that all of the proposed tariff revisions should be suspended for a period of 150 days from February 15, 2017. The suspension period is necessary to provide the Commission with an opportunity to

determine the justness and reasonableness of the proposed service initiatives and associated tariff revisions.

Petitions to intervene shall be filed by 5 p.m., Wednesday, January 18, 2017. Furthermore, discovery commences immediately for WGL, the Commission's Technical Staff ("Staff") and the Office of People's Counsel ("OPC").

Finally, no pre-hearing conference will be held in this matter. The Commission will issue a procedural schedule for this proceeding in a subsequent order.

IT IS, THEREFORE, this 22nd day of December in the year Two Thousand Sixteen, by the Public Service Commission of Maryland,

ORDERED: (1) That proceedings as to the justness and reasonableness of the proposed service initiatives and associated tariff revisions are instituted by the Commission;

(2) That the proposed tariff revisions filed by Washington Gas Light Company on December 7, 2016 are suspended for a period of 150 days from February 15, 2017.

(3) That discovery commences immediately for Pepco, Staff, and OPC; and

(4) That Washington Gas Light Company is hereby directed to cause a display advertisement to be published in a newspaper(s) in general circulation throughout its service area prior to January 18, 2016, that includes a description of the matter on which this proceeding is being held. The notice shall also advise persons who seek to intervene in this proceeding that an original and 17 copies, plus one electronic copy,¹ of any petition to intervene, shall be filed with David J. Collins, Executive Secretary, Maryland

¹ The Commission encourages parties to use the Commission's "e-file" system for filing the electronic copy. Details of the "e-file" system are on the Commission's web page, www.psc.state.md.us. Additionally, five paper copies of the petition shall be three-hole punched.

Public Service Commission, William Donald Schaefer Tower, 6 St. Paul Street, 16th Floor, Baltimore, Maryland 21202, by Wednesday, January 18, 2017. In addition, Washington Gas Light Company shall place on its home page a notice by which petitions to intervene in the matter must be filed.²

By Direction of the Commission,

/s/ David J. Collins

David J. Collins
Executive Secretary

² Persons are reminded that if the “e-file” system is used, the original and required paper copies of the filing must be delivered to the Commission’s docket room by noon, the next business day after the e-filing is made to retain the filing date of the e-filed document. In the event the paper copies are received after noon of the next business day, the date on which the paper copies are received becomes the official filing date.