

ORDER NO. 88756

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION *
 OF WASHINGTON GAS LIGHT *
 COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF A NEW *
 GAS SYSTEM STRATEGIC *
 INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT *
 AND ENHANCEMENT PLAN AND *
 ACCOMPANYING COST RECOVERY *
 MECHANISM *

BEFORE THE
 PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
 OF MARYLAND

 CASE NO. 9486

Issue Date: June 21, 2018

On June 15, 2018, Washington Gas Light Company (“WGL” or “Company”) filed an application for approval by the Public Service Commission (“Commission”) of the Company’s new gas system strategic infrastructure development and enhancement (“STRIDE”) plan and accompany cost recovery mechanism to become effective on January 1, 2019 (“Application”). The Company also filed supporting testimony and exhibits, which included proposed tariff page revisions (“STRIDE Rider”) and calculations of the STRIDE Rider “current factor” for calendar year 2019. In its Application, the Company asks the Commission to approve a new STRIDE plan to invest in eligible accelerated gas system infrastructure replacements (with an estimated cost of the initial five-year period (2019-2023) of approximately \$393.6 million) as well as a cost-recovery mechanism that includes a surcharge on customer bills to recover the reasonable and prudent costs associated with its proposed infrastructure replacements.

A prehearing conference in this matter is hereby set for Wednesday, July 25, 2018, in the Commission’s 16th Floor Hearing Room, William Donald Schaefer Tower, 6

St. Paul Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202, beginning at 1:00 p.m. 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. Petitions to intervene shall be filed by 5 p.m., Monday, July 23, 2018. Furthermore, discovery commences immediately for WGL, the Commission's Technical Staff, and the Office of People's Counsel.

IT IS, THEREFORE, this 21st day of June in the year Two Thousand Eighteen, by the Public Service Commission of Maryland,

ORDERED: (1) That proceedings to consider the Application and the justness and reasonableness of the proposed terms and conditions of the STRIDE Rider are instituted by the Commission;

(2) That, pursuant to Public Utilities Article, *Annotated Code of Maryland*, § 4-204, the proposed STRIDE Rider terms and conditions filed by Washington Gas Light Company are suspended for an initial period of 150 days from July 15, 2018;

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

(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 at least two times prior to July 19, 2018, that includes a description of the matter on which the prehearing conference is being held and the time, date, place, and purpose of the prehearing conference scheduled for July 25, 2018. 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 Terry J Romine, Executive Secretary, Maryland Public Service Commission, William Donald Schaefer Tower, 6 St. Paul Street, 16th Floor, Baltimore, Maryland 21202, by Monday, July 23, 2018;²

(5) That Washington Gas Light Company shall file a proof of publication on or before the date of the prehearing conference;

(6) That Washington Gas Light Company shall also 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, location, and purpose of the prehearing conference or the date by which a petition to intervene must be filed; and

(7) That Washington Gas Light 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/ Terry J. Romine

Terry J. Romine
Executive Secretary

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.

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.