

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION
AT RICHMOND, DECEMBER 9, 2024

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APPLICATION OF

VIRGINIA NATURAL GAS, INC.

CASE NO. PUR-2024-00048

For a general rate increase and for authority
to revise the terms and conditions applicable
to natural gas service

ORDER SCHEDULING STATUS CONFERENCE

On August 1, 2024, Virginia Natural Gas, Inc. ("VNG" or "Company"), filed with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") an application pursuant to Chapter 10 of Title 56 (§ 56-232 *et seq.*) of the Code of Virginia ("Code"), and in accordance with the Rules Governing Utility Rate Applications and Annual Informational Filings of Investor-Owned Gas Utilities,¹ requesting authority for a general increase in rates and to revise the terms and conditions applicable to its provision of natural gas service ("Application").² The Company requested authorization to implement its proposed rates and charges on an interim basis, subject to refund, effective January 1, 2025.³

On September 19, 2024, the Commission issued an Order for Notice and Hearing ("Procedural Order"). Among other things, the Procedural Order provided an opportunity for any interested person or entity to participate as a respondent in this proceeding; suspended VNG's proposed rates for a period of 150 days, and established a schedule for any respondent

¹ 20 VAC 5-205-5 *et seq.*

² Application at 1. VNG made errata filings on August 6, 2024, August 27, 2024, and September 4, 2024.

³ Application at 9.

and Staff of the Commission ("Staff") to file testimony on the Application and for the Company to file rebuttal testimony.

Notices of participation have been filed in this proceeding by the Department of the Navy, Virginia Industrial Gas Users' Association, the Office of the Attorney General's Division of Consumer Counsel, and Appalachian Voices, New Virginia Majority, and Virginia Organizing, Inc.

On December 4, 2024, Staff filed a Motion to Dismiss and Request for Expedited Consideration ("Motion"). In its Motion, Staff requested that the Commission dismiss the Application before the expiration of the suspension period of the proposed rates on January 1, 2025.⁴

On December 5, 2024, VNG filed a letter with the Clerk of the Commission ("Request for Status Conference") requesting "a status conference be convened before the Hearing Examiner, including Staff and all parties to the proceeding."⁵

NOW THE COMMISSION, upon consideration of the foregoing, finds that VNG's Request for Status Conference should be granted, and a status conference should be scheduled.

Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED THAT:

- (1) VNG's Request for Status Conference is granted.
- (2) The Commission will convene a status conference at 11:00 am on December 11, 2024, in the Commission's courtroom in the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219. Attorneys for VNG and Staff shall attend. Respondents will also be afforded an opportunity to participate.

⁴ Motion at 14.

⁵ Request for Status Conference at 1.

(3) This matter is continued.

A COPY hereof shall be sent electronically by the Clerk of the Commission to all persons on the official Service List in this matter. The Service List is available from the Clerk of the Commission.